WHEREAS, YWCA Greater Pittsburgh is hosting the 28th annual Racial Justice Awards on Friday, November 22, 2019 at the Omni William Penn Hotel, where individuals and organizations that have demonstrated their commitment to racial equity through their efforts to build community, conduct research, shift policies, raise awareness and empower people of color and immigrants are being honored; among this year’s honorees is Reverend Nicol Porter; and

WHEREAS, YWCA Greater Pittsburgh is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all; it envisions a community that advances education, opportunity, and equity regardless of gender, race, or background; the organization’s programs serve more than 60,000 women, children, and families each year; and

WHEREAS, YWCA Greater Pittsburgh selected Reverend Porter as a recipient of the Common Ground Award; the award recognizes an individual or group that has launched a grassroots effort to engage people of different racial backgrounds through outreach, community conversations and coalition building; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Porter conducts cross-cultural work as an ordained minister and musical director at Eastminster Presbyterian Church; some recent activities include co-presenting on “Racial Justice and Reconciliation in Worship” and participating in the video documentary ‘A Conversation with Sybrina Fulton’ who is the mother of Trayvon Martin; and

WHEREAS, we are extremely thankful to all of the awardees for showing a significant commitment to eradicating inequality and creating an even more vibrant and welcoming Allegheny County; their tremendous efforts stand as markers of change and examples for all of us to follow.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby congratulate Reverend Nicol Porter for being named a 2019 Racial Justice Award recipient, and commend YWCA Greater Pittsburgh for recognizing local leaders who work collaboratively to make a profoundly positive difference in the lives of people of color and immigrants.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 22nd day of November, 2019.

Rich Fitzgerald