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CAMDEN CELEBRATES 5TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

CAMDEN, NJ – Mayor Dana L. Redd and the City of Camden Department of Human Services hosted Camden's 5th Annual Women's History Month celebration on March 29th at Adventure Aquarium along the Camden Waterfront. The event entitled, "Women of Purpose" Ladies Tea, was a celebration of local women of prominence who have left enduring imprints on their community. The participants included a list of local honorees, with opening remarks by Mayor Redd and comments by Camden City Council President Frank Moran, Camden Councilwoman, Dana Burley, presentations by Dare 2 Dance, a musical selection by Benita Farmer and Crystal Cosme, and a spoken word tribute by Caitlin Fair.

The events featured keynote speaker Congresswoman, Bonnie Watson Colman who represents the 12th Congressional District of New Jersey. Congresswoman Coleman is the daughter of legendary state legislator John S. Watson. Watson Coleman shattered racial and gender barriers to become the first African American woman to serve as Majority Leader of the New Jersey General Assembly, and the first African American woman to serve as the Chair of the New Jersey Democratic State Committee. Her election to the House of Representatives makes her the first African American woman to represent New Jersey in Congress.

"It's so important that we celebrate women trailblazers who have led the way: not to mention women who are leading the way," said Mayor Dana Redd, "The individuals here today are all testaments that women can achieve and excel at the highest of levels. They are the benchmarks for the young women who will become our future leaders."

About Women's History Month

Women's History Month had its origins as a national celebration in 1981 when Congress passed Pub. L. 97-28 which authorized and requested the President to proclaim the week beginning March 7, 1982 as "Women's History Week." Throughout the next five years, Congress continued to pass joint resolutions designating a week in March as "Women's History Week." In 1987 after being petitioned by the National Women's History Project, Congress passed Pub. L. 100-9 which designated the month of March 1987 as "Women's History Month." Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the President to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month. Since 1995, Presidents Clinton, Bush and Obama have issued a series of annual proclamations designating the month of March as "Women's History Month."

“Throughout history, extraordinary women have fought tirelessly to broaden our democracy's reach and help perfect our Union. Through protest and activism, generations of women have appealed to the values at the heart of our Nation and fought to give meaning to the idea that we are all created equal. As today's women and girls reach for new heights, they stand on the shoulders of all those who have come before and carry forward their legacy of proud achievement. This month, we celebrate countless pioneering women and the victories they won, and we continue our work to build a society where our daughters have the same possibilities as our sons.” Proclamation by Barack Obama, President of the United States of America

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