

## **PROCLAMATION**

## Recognizing NBA YoungBoy (Kentrell DeSean Gaulden) for His Contributions to Music, Culture, Criminal Justice Awareness, and Community Empowerment

WHEREAS, Kentrell DeSean Gaulden, known globally as NBA YoungBoy, has emerged as one of the most influential musical voices of his generation, using his art to share stories of struggle, resilience, and perseverance; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gaulden has faced significant challenges in his personal life, including legal struggles, but through dedication to his family, his craft, and his community, has demonstrated the possibility of growth, transformation, and redemption; and

WHEREAS, on May 28, 2025, Mr. Gaulden received a presidential pardon, an extraordinary act of clemency which lifted longstanding legal burdens, underscoring the values of forgiveness, second chances, and criminal justice reform; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gaulden has used his platform to champion peace through his widely recognized 'Stop the Violence' campaign, calling for an end to cycles of crime and retaliation, and encouraging young people to choose positivity, education, and opportunity; and WHEREAS, during his national tour, Mr. Gaulden has committed to giving back to local communities, including charitable donations, outreach programs, and supporting youth-focused initiatives, demonstrating the impact artists can make beyond the stage; and WHEREAS, Mr. Gaulden's journey reflects the realities of many individuals impacted by the justice system, and his story brings much-needed visibility to ongoing conversations about probation, re-entry, and the barriers that people face as they rebuild their lives; and WHEREAS, NBA YoungBoy's performance in Kansas City on Sunday, September 21, 2025, is more than a concert — it is a celebration of cultural expression, unity, and resilience, bringing together thousands of fans while generating meaningful economic and social impact for our city; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Kansas City recognizes the importance of highlighting redemption stories as powerful tools to inspire hope, encourage reform, and foster stronger communities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, as Mayor of the City of Kansas City, Missouri, I, Quinton D. Lucas, on behalf of the citizens of this great city, do

hereby proclaim Sunday, September 21, 2025 as National "NBA YoungBoy Day".

Quinton D. Lucas

Mayor of Kansas City, Missouri