



**Black Political Caucus of Charlotte-Mecklenburg**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Charlotte, NC – May 26, 2022. Black Political Caucus of Charlotte-Mecklenburg (BPC) Statement on the Passing of Commissioner Ella Scarborough.** The BPC joins the community in mourning the passing of Commissioner Ella Butler Scarborough. Commissioner Scarborough was many things including, a child of Sumter, South Carolina; civil rights activist; trail blazer; leader; inspiration; friend to many; and of utmost importance mother. Commissioner Scarborough came into this world fighting as she was born premature in a time where Black premature babies simply had little chance of surviving. Her fighting spirit continued, even when she was jailed as a teen for standing up for civil rights. Despite being faced in what most would deem insurmountable challenges, she spent her life fighting for justice and equality for Black citizens as evidenced in her life's work. She was the first Black woman elected to Charlotte city council (1987-1997); Mecklenburg County Commissioner (2014-2022); past president of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Tau Theta Zeta Chapter; former president of Black Women's Caucus of Charlotte Mecklenburg "Blackberry Bunch"; and long-time active member of the BPC who received our highest award, Legacy of Service. While this represents many activities; it only represents a microcosm of her endeavors. Commissioner Scarborough will undoubtedly leave a void in the BPC, community and in her family. However, the BPC is committed to continuing her life's work and legacy.

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