



# City of Columbus

Office of City Clerk  
90 West Broad Street  
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columbuscitycouncil.org

## Legislation Text

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To Present Branden Jones and Bruce Jones with the Reese Neader Memorial Award for Entrepreneurship and Social Change

**WHEREAS**, Reese Neader was a staple of the Columbus community who rallied entrepreneurs to create their own small businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, Reese founded organizations that connect startups to capital and networking with a long-term goal of creating jobs and improving neighborhoods; and

**WHEREAS**, Reese passed away on December 14th, 2016 at the age of 34; and

**WHEREAS**, to carry on the legacy of Reese Neader and recognize entrepreneurs working towards the common good, Columbus City Council established the Reese Neader Memorial Award for Entrepreneurship and Social Change; and

**WHEREAS**, the Reese Neader Memorial Award is presented quarterly by the Create Columbus Commission to a small business or entrepreneur working to improve neighborhoods, create jobs, and boost the quality of life for the people of Columbus; and

**WHEREAS**, this quarter's Reese Neader Memorial Award goes to Branden and Bruce Jones; and

**WHEREAS**, the Jones brothers have displayed their entrepreneurial spirits since their childhood on the South Side, where they worked a newspaper route; and

**WHEREAS**, in March 2016, the duo launched Blk Hack, an educational and inspirational monthly event series designed to help African-Americans get into the tech industry and startup space; and

**WHEREAS**, Blk Hack helps African American entrepreneurs and people of color grow, nurture, and scale their businesses by providing access to an engaged and supportive entrepreneurial ecosystem; now, therefore

### **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:**

That this Council does hereby present Branden Jones and Bruce Jones with the Reese Neader Memorial Award for Entrepreneurship and Social Change.