BOARD OF TRUSTEES
UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

UDC Resolution 2016-——

SUBJECT: Conferral of Honorary Degree upon Earl Stafford, Jr., Chief Executive Officer and President, The Wentworth Group, LLC

WHEREAS, pursuant to D.C. Code §38-1202.06(3), the Board of Trustees has authority to award degrees and to establish policy with respect to the award of degrees; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 8 DCMR §315.2, the President, upon consultation with the Faculty Senate, has recommended that Earl W. Stafford, Sr., be awarded an honorary degree based on his impressive accomplishments as a technology innovator and successful businessman; for his twenty years of public service in the military’s U.S. Air Force; and for his philanthropic endeavors on behalf of the underprivileged; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 8 DCMR §315.3, the Board of Trustees must approve the recommendation of Earl W. Stafford, Sr., by an affirmative vote of three-fourths (¾) of the members present at the meeting of the Board following the meeting at which the recommendation was made;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia hereby approves the recommendation of the awarding of the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, with all the honors, privileges, and duties pertaining thereto.

Approved by the Executive Committee: March 22, 2016

Ratified by the Board of Trustees:

April 26, 2016

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Elaine A. Crider
Chairperson of the Board
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

TO: The Board of Trustees

FROM: Donald L. Rickford, Chief Financial Officer
       Office of the Chief Financial Officer (UDC)

DATE: March 14, 2016

SUBJECT: Conferral of Honorary Degree upon Earl Stafford, Jr., Chief Executive Officer and President, The Wentworth Group, LLC

Conclusion
The Office of the Chief Financial Officer at the University of the District of Columbia approves this request based on the information provided. We do not anticipate any fiscal impact.

Background
The President, upon consultation with the Faculty Senate, has recommended that Earl W. Stafford, Sr., be awarded an honorary degree based on his impressive accomplishments as a technology innovator and successful businessman for his twenty years of public service in the military’s U.S. Air Force; and for his philanthropic endeavors on behalf of the underprivileged.

Mr. Stafford is best known for "The People’s Inaugural Project," which brought more than 300 disadvantaged and underserved individuals to Washington, D.C., for a three-day, deluxe celebration of President Barack Obama’s inauguration. Mr. Stafford is the founder of The Stafford Foundation and was inducted into the Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans in 2010. On February 5, 2015, President Barack Obama appointed Stafford to serve as a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

Mr. Stafford currently serves on the Boards of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, Drexel University, Wesley Theological Seminary, Venture Philanthropy Partners, and Business Executives for National Security.

Mr. Stafford received a B.A. in Business from the University of Massachusetts (Amherst) and an M.B.A. from Southern Illinois University. In addition, he is a graduate of the OPM Executive Program at Harvard Business School.
Mr. Stafford is being recognized for his impressive accomplishments as a technology innovator and successful businessman, his 20 years of military service in the U.S. Air Force, and his philanthropic endeavors on behalf of the underprivileged. Upon retiring from public service, he launched a new training and simulation technology-solutions business and then established a foundation through which he collaborates with and invests in capacity-building efforts that equip the underserved through programs that provide health, education, and training (in the U.S.A. and Africa). Mr. Stafford’s public service, business expertise and innovation, entrepreneurship, and philanthropic efforts serve as an outstanding example and source of inspiration for the University’s students. For representing UDC’s values so well, we are proud to honor his achievements.

Earl W. Stafford, Sr., is a DC area entrepreneur and philanthropist. Stafford is best known for “The People’s Inaugural Project,” which brought more than 300 disadvantaged and underserved individuals to Washington, D.C., for a three-day, deluxe celebration of President Barack Obama’s inauguration. Stafford is the founder of The Stafford Foundation and was inducted into the Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans in 2010. He is the chief executive officer of The Wentworth Group, LLC, a consulting firm headquartered in Reston, Virginia. On February 5, 2015, President Barack Obama appointed Stafford to serve as a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

Before entering the corporate world, Mr. Stafford had a 20-year distinguished career in the U.S. military that included service as the assistant Air Force Liaison Officer to the Federal Aviation Administration. He retired from the Air Force in 1987 and the following year founded Unitech, an award-winning training and simulation technology solutions company, headquartered in Northern Virginia. Producers of “Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement Systems,” Mr. Stafford served as its chairman and chief executive officer until 2009.

Mr. Stafford currently serves on the Boards of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, Drexel University, Wesley Theological Seminary, Venture Philanthropy Partners, and Business Executives for National Security. He has been recognized for his philanthropic contributions, investing in the underprivileged, through the Stafford Foundation.

Stafford received a B.A. in Business from the University of Massachusetts (Amherst) and an M.B.A. from Southern Illinois University. In addition, he is a graduate of the OPM Executive Program at Harvard Business School.