



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
CITY OF SCHENECTADY  
NEW YORK

**Gary R. McCarthy**  
Mayor

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**PRESS ADVISORY**

***Mayor Gary R. McCarthy Orders Flags at City Hall to  
Half Staff in Honor of Councilmember Joseph Allen***

**Schenectady, NY** – Schenectady Mayor Gary McCarthy ordered the Flags at City Hall to be displayed at Half Staff in memoriam of former City Councilmember Joseph Allen. A lifelong Schenectady resident, in November 1995 Joseph L. Allen became the first African-American to be elected to the Schenectady City Council and later served as City Council President.

“I had the privilege to know Joe Allen for well over 30 years,” said Mayor Gary McCarthy. “He cared about his neighborhood, he wanted the best for his city, he loved his family, and we are all better for having known Joe.”

In addition to his service on the City Council, Allen was involved with the Albany Alumni chapter of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., President of the Schenectady Chapter of the NAACP, President of the Hamilton Hill Neighborhood Association, Chairman of the Youth Advisory Board at the Carver Community Center, a member of the Human Services Planning Council of Schenectady County and Hamilton Hill Task Force, on the Board of the Minority Contractors Technical Assistance Program and the Schenectady IDA, and served as a trustee of the Duryee Memorial AME Zion Church.

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