

## Robert McCaughan

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**Subject:** FW: Renaming of NW 4th Street Pompano Beach

**From:** Betty Lawson-Ingram [<mailto:lawsoningram@yahoo.com>]

**Sent:** Friday, January 3, 2020 11:11 AM

**To:** Greg Harrison <[Greg.Harrison@copbfl.com](mailto:Greg.Harrison@copbfl.com)>

**Cc:** Rex Hardin <[Rex.Hardin@copbfl.com](mailto:Rex.Hardin@copbfl.com)>

**Subject:** Renaming of NW 4th Street Pompano Beach

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This letter is being written in recognition of the outstanding service rendered by Mr. Harold L. Abel to the city of Pompano Beach, Florida for over 70 years. This letter is also written to petition the city officials of Pompano Beach to rename 4<sup>th</sup> Street to Harold L. Abel Street in honor of the great legacy of Mr. Abel.

Mr. Abel's service to the community started during the floods in 1947 and 1948 as he was instrumental with getting assistance to residents for clearance of storm drains during the floods. Mr. Abel played a role in establishing the Junior Chamber of Commerce in the Black community in 1949; and he helped reorganize the Chamber of Commerce in the northwest community. Mr. Abel served his county during the Korean War. After his tour of duty in Korea, he returned home to spearhead the efforts in improving streets in Pompano, also with getting school zone signs installed and traffic lights on Hammondville Road. Mr. Abel was also active in the pursuit of school integration. Mr. Abel fought for fair hiring practices for the Black community.

As owner of Abel's Shamrock Service Station; becoming one of the first Blacks to own a business, he served many individuals and families by providing a services even if finances were not readily available. Mr. Abel worked for Broward County Schools for 44 years and he provided financial services to the many without concerns of being repaid. He served his community well. Harold said many times that **"God put me here to help others."**

As a dedicated and hardworking citizen of Pompano Beach, Florida, throughout Mr. Abel's life, he was an inspiration to all who were blessed to encounter him. He imparted knowledge, wisdom and resources to the multitude of Pompano Beach, Florida. Mr. Harold L. Abel, a legendary pioneer of Pompano Beach, Florida, leaving such a great and impactful legacy, it is befitting to honor this great man by renaming 4<sup>th</sup> street, where he resided until his death for over 70 years, and was the last person residing on that portion of 4th street. to Harold L. Abel Street.

Humbly and Respectfully Submitted,

Betty Lawson-Ingram