

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 07-0763  
(First Reader)**

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Introduced by: Councilmembers Middleton, Welch, Young, Kraft, Holton, Crider, Clarke,  
Reisinger, Harris, President Rawlings-Blake, Councilmembers D’Adamo, Curran, Spector,  
Conaway, Mitchell

Introduced and read first time: August 13, 2007

Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

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REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Planning Commission, Fire  
Department, Department of Real Estate

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **City Property – Naming Squad 40 Truck 12 BC 5 RA44 Fire Station, located at**  
3 **3906 Liberty Heights Avenue, the Marion C. Bascom Fire Station**

4 FOR the purpose of naming Squad 40 Truck 12 BC 5 RA44 Fire Station, located at 3906 Liberty  
5 Heights Avenue, the Marion C. Bascom Fire Station.

6 BY authority of

7 Article 5 - Finance, Property, and Procurement

8 Section 20-2

9 Baltimore City Code

10 (Edition 2000)

11 **Recitals**

12 Reverend Dr. Marion C. Bascom was appointed Baltimore City’s first African  
13 American Fire Commissioner, in 1968. In 1946, Reverend Bascom earned his  
14 college degree in English, from Florida Memorial College. He also served as  
15 pastor of Shiloh Baptist and First Baptist Church, both in Pensacola, Florida. In  
16 1948, he earned his Bachelor’s of Divinity degree from Howard University, and  
17 the following year he began his 46-year tenure at Douglas Memorial Community  
18 Church, in Baltimore.

19 While at Douglas, Reverend Bascom demonstrated his strong leadership skills in  
20 the pulpit, as well as in the community. In 1962, he created “Camp Farthest Out,”  
21 an overnight summer camp for underprivileged children. In 1963, he participated  
22 in the Gwyn Oak Park Demonstration, a protest that led to the desegregation of  
23 Baltimore’s amusement parks, and under his leadership and direction, calm was  
24 restored to the City after the disturbances that followed Martin Luther King’s  
25 assassination. In 1970, he received an honorary Doctorate of Divinity degree  
26 from his alma mater, Florida Memorial College. Reverend Bascom also founded  
27 the Association of Black Charities, an umbrella organization of the United Way.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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1 His commitment to the community includes the development of Douglas Village,  
2 a 49-unit apartment complex, the Douglas Memorial Federal Credit Union, and a  
3 “Meals-on-Wheels” program for the sick and elderly.

4 After his retirement from Douglas Memorial, in 1995, Reverend Bascom served  
5 as the interim Director of Morgan University’s Christian Center. He has received  
6 numerous awards for his civic and community leadership and is a member of the  
7 Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, the National Council of Community  
8 Churches, and the Baltimore Hospitals Commission Board.

9 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That  
10 Squad 40 Truck 12 BC 5 RA44 Fire Station, located at 3906 Liberty Heights Avenue, is named  
11 the Marion C. Bascom Fire Station.

12 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30<sup>th</sup> day  
13 after the date it is enacted.