

INTRODUCED: December 9, 2019

A RESOLUTION No. 2019-R070

To request that the Mayor propose a Fiscal Year 2020-2021 General Fund Budget that provides for a non-departmental appropriation of \$5,000 to the Honor the 14 Foundation for the purpose of funding a portion of the start-up costs for the erection of a monument to the 14 Medal of Honor recipients from the United States Colored Troops at the Battle of New Market Heights, and to request that the Chief Administrative Officer cause the City’s Administration to develop and implement a plan to erect the monument upon the donation to the City of the necessary funds collected by the Honor the 14 Foundation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patron – Ms. Gray  
\_\_\_\_\_

Approved as to form and legality  
by the City Attorney  
\_\_\_\_\_

PUBLIC HEARING: JAN 13 2020 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, the City’s Monument Avenue Commission recommended in its report entitled “2018 Monument Avenue Commission Report,” that the City provide for a new monument on Monument Avenue honoring the service of the United States Colored Troops and especially the 14 Medal of Honor recipients among the United States Colored Troops who participated in the Battle of New Market Heights; and

WHEREAS, according to its articles of incorporation, the Honor the 14 Foundation was incorporated for the purpose of “making distributions to organizations described in section

AYES:            9            NOES:            0            ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTED:    JAN 27 2020    REJECTED: \_\_\_\_\_    STRICKEN: \_\_\_\_\_

501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and honoring the 14 African American soldiers who were awarded the Medal of Honor for their heroism and victorious leadership at the September 29, 1864 Battle of New Market Heights;” and

WHEREAS, the Council wishes to support the goal of the Honor the 14 Foundation by a \$5,000 appropriation for the purposes of covering a portion of the Foundation’s start-up costs for fundraising efforts; and

WHEREAS, upon completion of the Honor the 14 Foundation’s fundraising efforts, the Council anticipates that the funds so collected will be used to cover the costs of the erection of a monument on Monument Avenue honoring the service of the 14 Medal of Honor recipients among the United States Colored Troops who participated in the Battle of New Market Heights; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes it is in the best interest of the citizens of the City of Richmond that the Council request that the Mayor propose a General Fund Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021, that provides for a non-departmental appropriation of \$5,000 to the Honor the 14 Foundation for the purpose of funding a portion of the start-up costs for the erection of a monument to the 14 Medal of Honor recipients from the United States Colored Troops at the Battle of New Market Heights; and

WHEREAS, the Council also believes it is in the best interests of the citizens of the City of Richmond that the Council request that the Chief Administrative Officer cause the City’s Administration to develop and implement a plan to erect the monument on Monument Avenue honoring the service of the 14 Medal of Honor recipients among the United States Colored Troops who participated in the Battle of New Market Heights upon the donation to the City of the necessary funds collected by the Honor the 14 Foundation;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND:

That the Council requests that the Mayor propose a General Fund Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021, that provides for a non-departmental appropriation of \$5,000 to the Honor the 14 Foundation for the purpose of funding a portion of the start-up costs for the erection of a monument on Monument Avenue to the 14 Medal of Honor recipients from the United States Colored Troops at the Battle of New Market Heights.

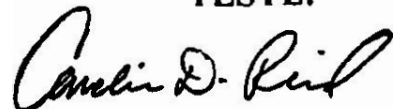
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Council requests that the Chief Administrative Officer cause the City's Administration to develop and implement a plan to erect the monument on Monument Avenue honoring the service of the 14 Medal of Honor recipients among the United States Colored Troops who participated in the Battle of New Market Heights upon the donation to the City of the necessary funds collected by the Honor the 14 Foundation, and that such plan include the following:

1. Criteria for an appropriate site for the monument and selection of the site.
2. Authorization for the Chief Administrative Officer to accept the completed monument and responsibility for its maintenance on behalf of the City.
3. A requirement that approval of the monument design shall be subject to City procedures and final approval by the Council.
4. A requirement that all affected City departments and agencies shall participate in the design, planning, and implementation of the erection of the monument.

**A TRUE COPY:**

**TESTE:**



**City Clerk**



# Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

## Office of the Council Chief of Staff

### Ordinance/Resolution Request

**TO** Allen Jackson, Richmond City Attorney  
Richmond Office of the City Attorney

**THROUGH** Lawrence R. Anderson *LR*  
Council Chief of Staff

**FROM** William E. Echelberger, Jr., Council Budget Analyst *WE*

**COPY** Kimberly B. Gray, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Representative  
Haskell Brown, Deputy City Attorney  
Craig K. Bieber, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Liaison  
Meghan K. Brown, Deputy Council Chief of Staff *MCB*

**DATE** November 27, 2019

**PAGE/s** 1 of 2

**TITLE** Monument to the United States Colored Troops at the Battle of New Market Heights

RECEIVED

NOV 27 2019

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

This is a request for the drafting of an  Ordinance  Resolution

**REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON**

Kimberly B. Gray, 2nd District Representative

**SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE**

Land Use, Housing, and Transportation

**ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY**

The Patron requests a resolution to:

1. Express Council's recognition of the Honor the 14 Foundation as the primary, not-for profit entity for development of, and fund raising for, the erection of a monument to the United States Colored Troops and their service at the Battle of New Market Heights on September 29, 1864,
2. Express Council's Intent:
  - a. To make a suitable site on Monument Avenue available for erection of the Monument.
  - b. That the City accept the completed monument, with responsibility for future maintenance.
  - c. That final approval of the design shall be subject to normal City procedures, and final approval by City Council, and
3. Request the Mayor and the Chief Administrative Officer to:
  - a. Ensure the cooperation of City Departments, and

- b. Include a limited non-departmental appropriation of \$5,000 to the Honor the 14 Foundation in the FY20-21 budget to be used as seed money for initiation of fund raising.

## BACKGROUND

### Summary:

- The Monument Avenue Commission in its July 2018 Report, page 33, paragraph G, recommended that the City of Richmond provide for a new monument on Monument Avenue honoring the Civil War service of the United States Colored Troops. (attached)
- Approximately 200,000 African Americans served as United States Colored Troops during the Civil War and were essential to Union victory.
- Fourteen of these United States Colored Troops, including 7 Virginians, received the Medal of Honor for valor at the Battle of New Market Heights on September 29, 1864. These include:
  1. Barnes, William H.
  2. Beaty, Powhatan
  3. Bronson, James H.
  4. Fleetwood, Christian A.
  5. Gardiner, James
  6. Harris, James H.
  7. Hawkins, Thomas R.
  8. Hilton, Alfred B.
  9. Holland, Milton M.
  10. James, Miles
  11. Kelly, Alexander
  12. Pinn, Robert
  13. Ratcliff, Edward
  14. Veal, Charles
- The Honor the 14 Foundation has been established to serve as the primary, not-for profit entity for development of, and fund raising for, the erection of a monument to the United States Colored Troops and their service at the Battle of New Market Heights. An application for tax exempt status has been submitted.

## FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Fiscal Impact Yes  No

Budget Amendment Required Yes  No

Estimated Cost or Revenue Impact

An appropriation of \$5,000 is requested for the Honor the 14 Foundation. Additional resources may be required for efforts by City Departments to cooperate with the foundation, however, the fiscal impact cannot be estimated at this time.

Attachment/s Yes  No

Richmond City Council Ordinance/Resolution Request Form/updated 10/5/2012.rss

- G. Commission a monument that commemorates the resilience of the formerly enslaved. However, the Commission suggests taking the concept further by creating a work dedicated to soldiers of the United States Colored Troops. These troops were predominately formerly enslaved men who seized the opportunity to free themselves, their families and millions of others by shouldering arms. The juxtaposition to the Confederate Statues could be a powerful statement. In particular, many respondents strongly suggested honoring the 14 Medal of Honor winners noted for their bravery at New Market Heights- seven of whom were Virginians. Individuals recommended in large numbers for new monuments include Maggie L. Walker (a statue was installed at Broad and 2<sup>nd</sup> in July 2017), Doug Wilder, Elizabeth Van Lew, Gabriel, John Mitchell, Jr. and Oliver Hill.
- H. Partner with Initiatives of Change to submit the next phased proposal to the Kellogg Foundation's Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation (TRHT) program. Richmond is one of only ten cities/regions across the nation to be chosen for this major funding and programmatic opportunity. At the core of the TRHT is a charge to dismantle notions of a hierarchy of race and white supremacy through substantial narrative change. TRHT's commitment acknowledges modern social, political, education and economic disparity and injustice are rooted in these supremacist notions which have built into the virtually every institution. Kellogg funding could be used to support a number of the options presented. This goal is more long term, but reflects aspirational goals expressed best by Mayor Stoney:  
 "... the legacy that will endure, are the people we build, the minds we enlighten and the hearts we open on both sides. When we do that, we will not just have a few new monuments. We will have thousands – LIVING monuments to understanding, inclusiveness, equality and promise.
- I. The Commission strongly recommends the City take a proactive and holistic approach to Richmond's monuments and statuary in order to rectify the historical silences in the city's landscape. The memorialization and historical interpretation of Shockoe Bottom are key to an honest reckoning with this aspect of the city's past. Many citizens urged us to support efforts to create a robust and thorough telling of Richmond's key role in the domestic slave trade. The Commission agrees that this should be a priority for our community.

**To include an examination of the removal and/or relocation of some or all of the monuments.**

- J. Pending litigation or changes in state law- which the City may choose to initiate or support- remove the Jefferson Davis Monument. Of all the statues, this one is the most unabashedly Lost Cause in its design and sentiment. Davis was not from Richmond or Virginia. The statue of Davis was created by Edward Virginius Valentine at his studio on Clay St which is part of the Valentine Museum. The Vindicatrix statue which sits at the very top can be relocated to a cemetery- perhaps with Davis's grave at Hollywood Cemetery. The plaques adorning the columns may be held in storage or returned to the United Daughters of the Confederacy which is the organization that raised funds to construct the piece. The remaining pedestals and mounts could be repurposed for a new monument or artistic work.

## USCT Monument

As recommended by the by the Monument Avenue Commission in its July 1918 Report, page 33, paragraph G, the City of Richmond should adopt an ordinance providing for a new monument at the intersection of Monument Avenue and North Meadow Street honoring the Civil War service of the United States Colored Troops (“USCTs”), of whom 14 (including 7 Virginians) received the Medal of Honor for valor at the nearby Battle of New Market Heights.

Approximately 200,000 African Americans served as USCTs during the Civil War and were essential to Union victory. This included an estimated 40,000 Virginians, most of whom were escaped slaves who enlisted after crossing Union lines in Tidewater and Northern Virginia, areas occupied by the Union Army during most of the war.

On September 29, 1864, at the Battle of New Market Heights, a short distance southwest of today’s Richmond airport, USCTs won an important victory that white troops had failed to achieve on two earlier attempts. The victory was celebrated at the time and helped Lincoln win reelection. The New York Herald reported the battle on its front page the day after it occurred, including a map of the area. <https://www.worthpoint.com/worthopedia/1864-newspaper-map-battle-market-104303320>



Confederate sharpshooters had killed or wounded all of the white Union officers. African American sergeants assumed command and rallied the black troops to victory. Medals of Honor were awarded to 14 of these men, including 7 Virginians. One of those men, Powhatan Beaty,

had been born into slavery in Richmond on October 8, 1837 and became a celebrated Shakespearean actor after the war:

By September 29, 1864, Beaty had risen to the rank of first sergeant in Company G. His regiment was among a division of black troops assigned to attack the center of the Confederate defenses at New Market Heights. The defenses consisted of two lines of abatis and one line of palisades manned by Brigadier General John Gregg's Texas Brigade. The attack was met with intense Confederate fire and was turned back after reaching a line of abatis. During the retreat, Company G's color bearer was killed; Beaty returned through about 600 yards of enemy fire to retrieve the flag and return it to the company lines. The regiment had suffered severe casualties in the failed charge. Of Company G's eight officers and eighty-three enlisted men who entered the battle, only sixteen enlisted men, including Beaty, survived the attack unwounded. With no officers remaining, Beaty took command of the company and led it through a second charge at the Confederate lines. The second attack successfully drove the Confederates from their fortified positions, at the cost of three more men from Company G. By the end of the battle, over fifty percent of the black division had been killed, captured, or wounded. For his actions, Beaty was commended on the battlefield by General Benjamin Butler and seven months later, on April 6, 1865, awarded the Medal of Honor.  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Powhatan\\_Beaty](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Powhatan_Beaty)

The ordinance for the USCT Monument should provide for the following:

1. The commissioning of a monument honoring the Civil War service of the USCTs, including the large number of black Virginians and the 14 Medal of Honor recipients at the Battle of New Market Heights.
2. The placement of the USCT Monument at the intersection of Monument Avenue and North Meadow Street and adaptation of the intersection by the City of Richmond for that purpose.
3. The requirement that the monument have a dignified and honorific character and display the same level of quality as the Lee Monument.
4. The naming of a committee to select the artist and approve the design of the monument.
5. The establishment of a foundation to raise private funds as need to pay the costs of the monument.



**Medal of Honor Recipients  
Battle of New Market Heights  
September 29, 1864**

**Barnes, William H.**

**RANK/UNIT:** Private, Co. C, 38th U.S. Colored Troops.

**CITATION:** "Among the first to enter the enemy's works, although wounded."

**MEDAL PRESENTED:** 6 April 1865.

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:** Born: St. Marys County, MD. 1830 or 1831.

**ENTERED SERVICE:** Ridge, MD. 11 February 1864.

**PHOTOGRAPH/SKETCH:** N/A

**OTHER:** William Barnes was a 33-year-old farmer when he enlisted in the U.S. Army. He stood 5'11" tall. Barnes was promoted to Sergeant in January 1865, but never left the service alive. He died of tuberculosis at Indianola, Texas on Christmas Eve 1866.

**Beaty, Powhatan**

**RANK/UNIT:** First Sergeant, Co. G, 5th U.S. Colored Troops.

**CITATION:** "Took command of his company, all the officers having been killed or wounded, and gallantly led it."

**MEDAL PRESENTED:** 6 April 1865.

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:** Born: Richmond, VA. 1839.

**ENTERED SERVICE:** Medal says Delaware County, OH. Bearss says Cincinnati, OH. 7 June 1863.

**PHOTOGRAPH/SKETCH:** Yes.

**OTHER:** Powhatan Beaty was a 24-year-old farmer when he enlisted. He stood 5'7" tall. He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on 9 June 1863 at Camp Delaware, OH. (Two days after enlisting).

**Bronson, James H.**

**RANK/UNIT:** 1st Sergeant, Co. D, 5th U.S. Colored Troops.

**CITATION:** "Took command of his company, all the officers having been killed or wounded, and gallantly led it."

**MEDAL PRESENTED:** 6 April 1865.

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:** Born: Medal says Delaware County, OH. Bearss says Indiana, PA. 1838.

**ENTERED SERVICE:** Medal says Indiana County, PA. Bearss says Trumbull County, OH. 4 July 1863.

**PHOTOGRAPH/SKETCH:** N/A

**OTHER:** James Bronson was a 25-year-old barber when he joined Uncle Sam's army. He stood 5'9" tall. Although promoted to 1st Sergeant on August 22, 1863, Bronson later requested to be reduced to the ranks and reassigned to the regimental band. His request was granted on November 30, 1864. Bronson was mustered out of service at Carolina City, NC, on September 20, 1865.

**Fleetwood, Christian A.**

**RANK/UNIT:** Sergeant Major, 4th U.S. Colored Troops.

**CITATION:** "Seized the colors, after two color bearers had been shot down, and bore them nobly through the fight."

**MEDAL PRESENTED:** 6 April 1865

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:** Born: Baltimore, MD. 1840.

**ENTERED SERVICE:** Baltimore, MD. 11 August 1863.

**PHOTOGRAPH/SKETCH:** Attached.

**OTHER:** Christian Fleetwood was a 23-year-old clerk when he enlisted in the U.S. Army. He stood 5'4 and 1/2" tall. He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant Major on August 19, 1863. Fleetwood described the act which won him the Medal of Honor citation as follows, "Saved the regimental colors after eleven of the twelve color guards had been shot down around it." The rank of Sergeant Major was at the time the highest rank a black soldier could attain in the U.S. Army.

**Gardiner, James**

**RANK/UNIT:** Private, Co. I, 36th U.S. Colored Troops.

**CITATION:** "Rushed in advance of his brigade, shot a rebel officer who was on the parapet rallying his men, and then ran him through with his bayonet."

**MEDAL PRESENTED:** 6 April 1865.

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:** Born: Gloucester, VA. 1843 or 1844

**ENTERED SERVICE:** Yorktown, VA. 15 September 1863.

**PHOTOGRAPH/SKETCH:** Yes.

**OTHER:** Gardiner was a 19-year-old oysterman from Gloucester, VA, when he signed on for three years service in the U.S. Army. He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on September 30, 1864, as a result of his gallantry the day before. Sergeant Gardiner was reduced to the ranks on July 13, 1863, and mustered out of service at Brazos de Santiago, Texas on September 20, 1866.

**Harris, James H.**

**RANK/UNIT:** Sergeant, Co. B, 38th U.S. Colored Troops.

**CITATION:** "Gallantry in the assault."

**MEDAL PRESENTED:** 18 February 1874.

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:** Born: St. Mary's County, MD. 1828. Died: Washington, D.C., 28 January 1898.

**ENTERED SERVICE:** 14 February 1864, Great Mills (St. Mary's County), MD.

**PHOTOGRAPH/SKETCH:** Yes.

**OTHER:** Sgt. Harris spent nine months in the hospital after being wounded at New Market Heights. He was mustered out of service on January 25, 1867 at Indianola, TX. Although no reason is given in his records, he left the army as a private. Harris was a farmer before he joined the U.S. Army and spent his later years as a carpenter in Washington D.C., receiving an army pension of \$12.00 a month at the time of his death. He is buried at the Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, VA (Section 27, Grave 985-H).

**Hawkins, Thomas R.**

**RANK/UNIT:** Sergeant Major, 6th U.S. Colored Troops.

**CITATION:** "Rescue of regimental colors."

**MEDAL PRESENTED:** 8 February 1870.

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:** Born: Cincinnati, OH.

**ENTERED SERVICE:** Philadelphia, PA.

**PHOTOGRAPH/SKETCH:** Yes.

**OTHER:** Badge has Sgt. Major Hawkins earning his medal at Deep Bottom, Va., on 21 July 1864. The citation is the same, however.

**Hilton, Alfred B.**

**RANK/UNIT:** Sergeant, Co. H, 4th U.S. Colored Troops.

**CITATION:** "When the regimental color bearer fell, this soldier seized the color and carried it forward, together with the national standard, until disabled at the enemy's inner line."

**MEDAL PRESENTED:** 6 April 1865 (Posthumous).

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:** Born: Harford County, MD. 1842.

**ENTERED SERVICE:** Baltimore, MD. 11 August 1863.

**PHOTOGRAPH/SKETCH:** N/A

**OTHER:** Alfred Hilton was a 21-year-old farmer when he enlisted in the U.S. Army. He stood 5'10 and 1/2" tall. Sergeant Hilton was severely wounded in the fierce fighting of September 29th, and his right leg had to be amputated below the knee. He died in the hospital at Fort Monroe on October 21st. He is buried at Hampton, VA.

**Holland, Milton M.**

**RANK/UNIT:** Sergeant Major, 5th U.S. Colored Troops.

**CITATION:** "Took command of Company C, after all the officers had been killed or wounded, and gallantly led it."

**MEDAL PRESENTED:** 6 April 1865.

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:** Born: Austin, TX. 1844.

**ENTERED SERVICE:** Athens, Ohio.

**PHOTOGRAPH/SKETCH:** Yes.

**OTHER:** Holland was an 18-year-old shoemaker when he enlisted in the U.S. Army. He stood 5'8" tall. Holland and the 5th were present at the famous "Battle of the Crater" in Petersburg, VA on 30 July 1864, but were not used in the disastrous Union charge. At Chaffin's Farm (Fort Harrison), Holland and the 5th suffered heavy casualties during the assault and subsequent hand-to-hand combat. "But, with a courage that knew no bounds, the men stood like granite figures. They routed the enemy and captured the breastworks. The courage displayed by young Holland's regiment on this occasion called for the highest praise from Gen. Grant, who personally rode over the battlefield in company with Generals Butler and Draper."

By order of General Butler, Holland was promoted to Captain, but because of his color was refused the commission by the War Department. Holland was later present when General Joseph

E. Johnston C.S.A. surrendered to General William T. Sherman. Sergeant-Major Holland was mustered out of service at Carolina City, NC, on September 20, 1865.

#### **James, Miles**

**RANK/UNIT:** Corporal, Co. B, 36th U.S. Colored Troops.

**CITATION:** "Having had his arm mutilated, making immediate amputation necessary, he loaded and discharged his piece with one hand and urged his men forward; this within 30 yards of the enemy's works."

**MEDAL PRESENTED:** 6 April 1865.

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:** Born: Princess Anne County, VA.

**ENTERED SERVICE:** Norfolk, VA.

**PHOTOGRAPH/SKETCH:** N/A

**OTHER:** Corporal James was one of the 14 black soldiers who won the Medal of Honor for bravery in the assault on Fort Harrison. At this time, however, I have not been able to find as much information on him as I have on his comrades. Hopefully, this will change in the near future.

#### **Kelly, Alexander**

**RANK/UNIT:** First Sergeant, Co. F, 6th U.S. Colored Troops.

**CITATION:** "Gallantly seized the colors, which had fallen near the enemy's lines of abatis, raised them and rallied the men at a time of confusion and in a place of the greatest danger."

**MEDAL PRESENTED:** 6 April 1865.

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:** Born: Saltsburg, PA. April 7, 1840.

**ENTERED SERVICE:** Allegheny City, PA. 19 August 1863.

**PHOTOGRAPH/SKETCH:** Yes.

**OTHER:** Kelly enlisted as a substitute for a man named Joseph Kelly. He was a 23-year-old coal miner who stood 5 feet 3 and one-half inches in height. On September 3rd, 1863, he was appointed First Sergeant of his unit, at that time stationed at Camp William Penn, Chilton Hills, PA. Although Kelly was reduced in rank to private on July 12th, 1865, he was promoted back to Sergeant on August 1st 1865. Kelly was mustered out of the U.S. Army at Wilmington, NC, on September 20, 1865.

#### **Pinn, Robert**

**RANK/UNIT:** 1st Sergeant, Co. I, 5th U.S. Colored Troops.

**CITATION:** "Took command of his company after all the officers had been killed or wounded and gallantly led it in battle."

**MEDAL PRESENTED:** 6 April 1865.

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:** Born: Stark County, Ohio. 1 March 1843.

**ENTERED SERVICE:** Massillon, OH. (Camp Delaware), September 5, 1863.

**PHOTOGRAPH/SKETCH:** Yes.

**OTHER:** Sergeant Pinn was a 20-year-old farmer when he joined the army. According to the records he stood six feet in height. Pinn was promoted to Sgt. on October 18, 1863 and to 1st Sgt. on September 1, 1864. On the same day that he won his medal for gallantry at Fort Harrison,

Pinn was wounded in action at nearby Fort Gilmer. He was subsequently hospitalized at Portsmouth, VA. First Sergeant Pinn was mustered out of service at Carolina City, NC, on September 20, 1865.

### **Ratliff, Edward**

**RANK/UNIT:** 1st Sergeant, Co. C, 38th U.S. Colored Troops.

**CITATION:** "Commanded and gallantly led his company after the commanding had been killed; was the first enlisted man to enter the enemy's works."

**MEDAL PRESENTED:** 6 April 1865.

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:** Born: James County, VA. 1835.

**ENTERED SERVICE:** Yorktown, VA. January 1, 1864.

**PHOTOGRAPH/SKETCH:** N/A

**OTHER:** Ratliff was a 29-year-old laborer when he enlisted for three years service in the U.S. Army. He stood five feet eleven inches tall. Private Ratliff was transferred from Company I to Company C of the 38th U.S. Colored Troops and promoted to the rank of 1st Sergeant on February 1, 1864. For his gallantry at the battle of Fort Harrison he was promoted to Sergeant-Major on December 24, 1864. Ratliff was mustered out of service at Indianola, Texas on January 25, 1867.

### **Veal Charles**

**RANK/UNIT:** Private, Co. D, 4th U.S. Colored Troops.

**CITATION:** "Seized the national colors, after 2 color bearers had been shot down close to the enemy's works, and bore them through the remainder of the battle."

**MEDAL PRESENTED:** 6 April 1865.

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:** Born: Portsmouth, VA. 1838.

**ENTERED SERVICE:** Baltimore, MD. 28 July 1863.

**PHOTOGRAPH/SKETCH:** N/A

**OTHER:** Charles Veal was a 25-year-old fireman at the time of his enlistment. He stood five-foot-three and one-quarter inches tall. While he is listed as a private in the medal of honor records, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on November 12, 1863. Veal was later wounded at Fort Fisher in North Carolina in January, 1865 and spent a week in the hospital. His medal of Honor was personally pinned on his chest by Major General Benjamin Butler. He died July 27, 1872. Veal is buried in the Hampton National Cemetery, Hampton, VA.

Numerous sources of additional information are listed at the link below.

[https://www.google.com/search?source=hp&ei=SNMp.XYbwIqSP9PwPl5W2iAQ&q=battle+of+new+market+heights+medal+of+honor+recipients&oeq=battle-of-New+Market-Heights+medal-of+&gs\\_l=psv-ab.1.1.33i299l3.7004272.7014079..7017421..0.0.0.74.1949.38...0...1..gws-wiz.....0..0j0i131j0i22i30j33i160.F228ydzF4RY](https://www.google.com/search?source=hp&ei=SNMp.XYbwIqSP9PwPl5W2iAQ&q=battle+of+new+market+heights+medal+of+honor+recipients&oeq=battle-of-New+Market-Heights+medal-of+&gs_l=psv-ab.1.1.33i299l3.7004272.7014079..7017421..0.0.0.74.1949.38...0...1..gws-wiz.....0..0j0i131j0i22i30j33i160.F228ydzF4RY)