

Rev. Mayor Thurman Bill Bartie

Mayor Thurman Bill Bartie is a native of Port Arthur, Texas and a graduate of Lincoln High School, Class of 1972. He matriculated at Prairie View A & M University, where he sang as the featured Male Soloist with the A' Capella Choir under the direction of the late Dr. H. Edison Anderson and majored in Political Science. He later transferred to Lamar University and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science. He furthered his education by enrolling in Commonwealth College of Mortuary Science in Houston, Texas, graduating with honors and being licensed by the State of Texas as a Funeral Director and Embalmer at Hannah Funeral Home in Port Arthur Home in Port Arthur, Texas. Rev. Bartie relocated to Chattanooga, Tennessee, where he matriculated at Tennessee Temple University – Temple Baptist Seminary and earned a Master of Ministry Degree with an emphasis in Theological Applications. Additionally, he served as Pastor of First Sixth Street Baptist Church from 2012 to 2015.

Judge Bartie was elected in 1994 as the “first” African American Justice of the Peace for Precinct 8, Jefferson County, Texas, and served proudly for nine years. During his tenure on the bench, he instituted programs to help students and their families become more academically astute and have unblemished school attendance.

Mayor Bartie, as he is presently known, was elected by the citizens of Port Arthur on June 22, 2019, to serve as Mayor of the City of Port Arthur. He is the father of Ms. Thurvonne Bartie, an educator in Houston, Texas; Rev. Brandon S. Bartie, who serves as President of the PAISD Board of Trustees; Mrs. Ashley Turner, a Biologist employed at Valero; and Mr. Jeffery Joseph, a Computer Technology Engineer and Stand-Up Comic in Houston, Texas. Mayor Bartie is the grandfather of seven: Tierra, a May 2021 graduate of The University of North Texas with a BA in Journalistic Communication; Koryn, Addisyn, Ashlyn, Ainsley, Brenden and Airen. He is the son of the late Wilson Roy and Joyce “Lady Mae” Roy.