



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Cook County Building, Board Room,  
118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois**

**Consent Agenda**

**Thursday, January 25, 2024, 10:00 AM**

[24-1152](#)

**Sponsored by:** TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA, TARA S. STAMPS and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**CELEBRATING THE 193RD ANNIVERSARY OF COOK COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, Cook County was founded by an act of the Illinois legislature on January 15, 1831; and

**WHEREAS**, originally part of the commonwealth of Virginia, the area which comprises modern day Cook County was also part of the Northwest Territory and then a part of 10 separate counties as the territory was formed into states, including Illinois. The 10 counties are Knox (1790), St. Clair (1801), Madison (1812), Edwards (1814), Crawford (1816), Clark (1819), Pike (1819), Fulton (1823), Peoria (1825), Putnam (1826); and

**WHEREAS**, when formed in 1831, Cook County's original boundaries included all of McHenry, Lake, DuPage and parts of Kane and Will. The other counties were separately created between 1836 and 1839, leading to Cook County's current boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County was named for Daniel Pope Cook (1794 - October 16, 1827). Originally from Kentucky, Cook moved to Illinois and became a lawyer, newspaper publisher, politician and one of the early advocates of statehood for Illinois. An anti-slavery advocate, he was the state's first Attorney General, and then congressman. It is believed Cook never visited the area which would be named in his honor; and

**WHEREAS**, the first Cook County Board of Commissioners was elected on March 7, 1831, taking office and holding their first meeting the following day. Three (3) commissioners-Gholson Kercheval, Samuel Miller and James Walker-convened a meeting at Fort Dearborn on the Chicago Settlement lakeshore, in the magazine (powder room). The first County Board meeting would last for two (2) days; and

**WHEREAS**, also elected on March 7 were Sheriff James Kinsey and Coroner John K. Clark. County Clerk William See, County Treasurer Archibald Clybourn, were appointed March 8 and Jedediah Wooley, Jr was recommended as County Surveyor to the Governor and Legislature; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the first acts of the new board was approval of a Resolution asking Illinois for 10 acres of land including the corner of Clark and Randolph for the location of a new County Courthouse. This building would be completed in 1835 and included a small stockade which served as the first County Jail and later added an Almshouse which was the forerunner of the County Hospital. Since the land was granted to the County, the corner of Clark and Randolph Streets in Chicago has been the headquarters of Cook County Government; and

**WHEREAS**, the official population of Cook County at the time of its founding was 100 (a count of settlers, not including Native Americans forcibly removed from the local area). The Chicago settlement (Chicago was not incorporated as a town until 1833) had 50 to 60 residents; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County would become a leader in growing the region, the state and the nation; blazing trails in the fields of transportation, food processing, public health, education, juvenile justice, art and music. The dynamic and diverse county population would swell the county population to 350,000 in 1870, over 1.1 million 20 years later and 1.8 million at the turn of the 20th Century. By 1910, Cook County had 2.4 million residents, surpassing three million residents by 1920. By 1940, Cook County grew to four million residents. In 1960, Cook County population totaled 5.1 million; and

**WHEREAS**, the history of Cook County Government contributed directly to the development of the region and the State of Illinois, with many projects and initiatives of several County departments directly impacting the economic and political direction of the region for years to come; and

**WHEREAS**, in December 2019, the Cook County Board of Commissioners determined that, in celebration of the County's bicentennial anniversary, a new flag would be created to be representative of the bountiful geography, history, culture and diversity of Cook County; and

**WHEREAS**, the new Cook County Flag, which was approved and adopted on June 16, 2022, symbolically represents many of these initiatives including: the provision of health services to all as an essential County mission and the creation over time of institutions to fulfill that mission including John H. Stroger, Jr., Provident and Oak Forest Hospitals; the Ruth M. Rothstein CORE Center, the Ambulatory Care Network and the Cook County Department of Public Health; the protection of individual rights and voting rights through County ordinances and the conduct of free and fair elections for the entire jurisdiction of Cook County; the protection and preservation of the environment including natural lands and open spaces primarily through the establishment of the Forest Preserves in 1914; the establishment of the world's first juvenile court system, which separated children from adults with an emphasis on individualized treatment instead of rigid adherence to due process, and probation over incarceration, and; the spirit of intergovernmental cooperation with all local governments as partners for progress through the work of county offices and agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, as Cook County approaches its 200th anniversary-and having developed a unique and extensive collection of public documents and records that contain historical significance-establishing an initiative to archive historically significant documents and records is imperative to County Government history; and

**WHEREAS**, fundamental to capturing the history of Cook County is a thorough and complete documentation of the history of Cook County Government; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners created a County Historic Archives and Records Office (CARO) to affirmatively coordinate efforts across all departments and with all officials to determine the historical value of various county documents and records and make recommendations to the Board of Commissioners regarding access and promotion of the County's history; and

**WHEREAS**, looking forward to Cook County's Bicentennial in 2031, and building upon the previous years' work, CARO seeks to establish a Cook County Archives Center to continue to manage, promote, document, and preserve said materials, activate its collections; and to engage exploratory initiatives to establish sustainable external fiscal support through the development of a foundation to support the ongoing growth of CARO.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and the members of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County does hereby celebrate the 193rd anniversary of the founding of Cook County, Illinois; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the President and the members of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County are contributing to the preservation of Cook County Government; and encourages all County agencies under all elected and appointed officials to work closely with the Manager of Archives and the Cook County Historic Archives and Records Office (CARO) to preserve the history of their offices, to include all formats of physical and electronic documents, photographs, maps, films, other media and artifacts towards that purpose.

[24-0690](#)

**Sponsored by:** TARA S. STAMPS, Cook County Board of Commissioners

#### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

##### **PRESERVATION OF THE HOME OF DR. PERCY L. JULIAN**

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Percy L. Julian was born in Montgomery, Alabama in 1899; and,

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Julian's parents prized education, but there were few opportunities for him to pursue his education in the South; and,

**WHEREAS**, he went to DePauw University for college, where he was not allowed to live in the dormitories because he was Black; and,

**WHEREAS**, his work in the scientific field led him to file more than 130 patents, and he was pivotal in the development of drugs to treat glaucoma, reproductive issues, and arthritis; and,

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Julian's wife, Anna, overcame similar racial barriers in her pursuit of an education. Born in Baltimore in 1902, she attended the University of Pennsylvania and became the first Black woman to earn a Ph.D. in sociology in the United States; and,

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Julian was a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and his wife Anna was a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., both Black Greek Letter Organizations with membership consisting of black college educated individuals; and,

**WHEREAS**, after their marriage, the Julians lived in Maywood. When the family outgrew their house,

the couple bought a home in nearby Oak Park; and,

**WHEREAS**, as they were preparing to move into the home at 515 N. East Ave. in 1950, an arsonist set fire to their home. In 1951, someone threw dynamite at the house. The Julians hired security guards to protect their family; and,

**WHEREAS**, despite Julian's professional success, Oak Park was not always welcoming to the family. Percy Jr., Faith, and Rhoddy were the only Black children enrolled in their schools throughout their education in Oak Park, and the family received threats throughout the children's time in school; and,

**WHEREAS**, an elementary school was named in his honor in Oak Park, Illinois; and,

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Julian passed away in 1975 and Anna died in 1994. Percy Julian Jr. became a noted civil rights attorney. He passed away in 2008, leaving Faith the sole member of the family living in the family's East Avenue house.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, it is the vision and the request of Faith Julian that the family home receive historic status and become a learning center for children and adults to learn about her parents and how to be humanitarians with the support of the Cook County Board of Commissioners.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this Resolution be tendered to Faith Julian, as a token of the esteem in which she is held by the President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners and the Cook County Board of Commissioners.

[24-0707](#)

**Sponsored by:** TARA S. STAMPS, Cook County Board of Commissioners

#### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING THE 111th YEAR FOUNDERS DAY OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.**

**WHEREAS**, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is a Black Greek-lettered sorority founded on January 13, 1913, by 22 collegiate women at Howard University, established to promote academic excellence, provide assistance to those in need, and address social issues; and,

**WHEREAS**, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was founded by educated women dedicated to public service with an emphasis on programs that assist the African American community using three basic principles: Sisterhood, Scholarship, and Service; and,

**WHEREAS**, The Sorority currently has over 350,000 members and over 1,000 chapters located in the Bahamas, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, Bermuda, Canada, England, Germany, Jamaica, Japan, West Africa and South Africa, South Korea, United Kingdom, and the United States; and,

**WHEREAS**, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. as a whole displays an exemplary commitment to public service withstanding the test of time through its Five-Point Programmatic Thrusts: Economic Development, Educational Development, International Awareness and Involvement, Physical and Mental Health, and Political Awareness and Involvement (Social Action); and,

**WHEREAS**, the first public act of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was participation in the Women's Suffrage March in Washington, D.C., March 3, 1913 and has since expanded to programming to improve political, education, and social and economic conditions, particularly within black communities; and,

**WHEREAS**, of its ever-growing membership, some of the few notable members include: journalists April Ryan and Joy Reid, civil rights activists Dorothy I. Height and Mary McLeod Bethune, former mayor of Atlanta, Georgia Keisha Lance Bottoms, Secretary of HUD Congresswoman Marcia L. Fudge, Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown, dancer, choreographer; and artistic director of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Judith Jamison, Soprano opera singer, awarded the United States Medal of Freedom by President Lyndon B. Johnson Leontyne Price, UCLA gymnast Nya Reed, locally, former Clerk of the Circuit Court Dorothy Brown, State Representative Camille Y. Lilly, State Senator Kimberly Lightford, Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx, MRWD President Kari K. Steele, Emmy Award-winning news anchor at WLS-TV Cheryl Burton, the first African American woman Senator and former Ambassador of New Zealand and Samoa Carol Mosley Braun, and Cook County Commissioner Tara Stamps; and,

**WHEREAS**, Cook County is home to nine total collegiate and alumnae chapters: Chicago Alumnae, Chicago Metropolitan Alumnae, Evanston-North Shore Alumnae, Glen Ellyn Area Alumnae, Joliet Area/South Suburban Alumnae, Schaumburg-Hoffman Estates Alumnae, Lambda, Theta Alpha, Upsilon Upsilon which are a part of the 125 chapters that make up the "Mighty" Midwest Region; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, offers congratulations to Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. on its 111th Founders Day and celebrate its legacy of public service; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution be tendered to the local alumnae chapters, as a token of the esteem in which the Sorority is held by the President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners and the Cook County Board of Commissioners.

[24-0933](#)

**Sponsored by:** TARA S. STAMPS, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING THE 104th YEAR FOUNDERS DAY OF ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY, INC.**

**WHEREAS**, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. is a Black Greek-lettered sorority founded on January 16, 1920 on the campus of Howard University; and,

**WHEREAS**, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. was founded from a vision that would directly affect positive change, chart a course of action for the 1920s and beyond, raise people's consciousness, encourage the highest standards of scholastic achievement, and foster a greater sense of unity among its members; and,

**WHEREAS**, Since its inception, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. has continued its steady climb into the national spotlight with programs designed to demonstrate concern for the human condition both nationally and internationally; and,

**WHEREAS**, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. chartered hundreds of chapters worldwide and has a membership of over 100,000; and,

**WHEREAS**, Zeta's national and local programs include the endowment of its National Educational Foundation community outreach services and the support of multiple affiliate organizations. Its chapters and auxiliaries have given numerous hours of voluntary service to educate the public, assist youth, provide scholarships, support organized charities, and promote social and civic change legislation; and,

**WHEREAS**, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. has a mission to support, inform, educate, and offer resources about Autism Spectrum-Disorder (ASD) with special emphasis on children of color; and,

**WHEREAS**, some of the Sorority's notable members include: Actress, comedian, and 23rd National President Cheryl Underwood, actress Vivica A. Fox, singer Chaka Khan, lawyer, educator, and author Anita Hill, locally, Debra Vines, CEO and founder of The Answer Inc., a Forest Park based organization founder to support minorities with Autism; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, offers congratulations to Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. on its 104th Founders Day and celebrate its legacy of public service.

[24-0972](#)

**Sponsored by:** JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA, TARA S. STAMPS and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**IDA RUFFOLO, IN MEMORIAM**

**WHEREAS** Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Ida Ruffolo from our midst, and

**WHEREAS** Ida Ruffolo was the beloved wife of the late Orlando Ruffolo, and

**WHEREAS** Ida Ruffolo was the loving mother of Frank (Jeanine), Sam (Tricia), Carmine (Kim) and Renato (Kelly) Ruffolo, and

**WHEREAS** Ida Ruffolo was the devoted grandmother of Frankie (Natalie), Michaelina (Trent) Hayes, Mario, Samantha, Nicholas, Luca and Orlando, and

**WHEREAS** Ida Ruffolo was the cherished sister and aunt of many, and

**WHEREAS** all who knew her will attest that Ida Ruffolo was a kind and compassionate woman, virtuous of character and gentle in spirit, admired and respected by her many friends and neighbors, and dearly loved by her family, now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County that the Board does hereby extend its deepest condolences and most heartfelt sympathy to the family and many friends of Ida Ruffolo and joins them in sorrow at this time of loss, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and an official copy of same be presented to the family of Ida Ruffolo that her memory may be so honored and ever cherished.



[24-0974](#)

**Sponsored by:** JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA, TARA S. STAMPS and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**RALPH G. AMELIO, IN MEMORIAM**

**WHEREAS** Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Ralph Amelio from our midst, and

**WHEREAS** Ralph Amelio was the beloved husband of Mary J. nee Kozicki, and

**WHEREAS** Ralph Amelio was the loving father of Gerald (Emily) Amelio, and Michelle (Russell) Scalise, and

**WHEREAS** Ralph Amelio was the fond grandfather of Dominic, Giancarlo, Jack and the late Ava, Hudson, and Vivienne, and

**WHEREAS** Ralph Amelio was the devoted son of the late Gerald and the late Mary Amelio, and

**WHEREAS** Ralph Amelio was the fond uncle to many nieces and nephews, and

**WHEREAS** all who knew him will attest that Ralph Amelio was a kind and compassionate man, virtuous of character and gentle in spirit, admired and respected by his many friends and neighbors, and dearly loved by his family, now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County that the Board does hereby offer its deepest condolences and most heartfelt sympathy to the family and many friends of Ralph Amelio and joins them in sorrow at this time of loss, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and a suitable copy of same be tendered to the family of Ralph Amelio that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[24-0975](#)

**Sponsored by:** JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA, TARA S. STAMPS and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**ANTHONY “TONY” SMITHY, IN MEMORIAM**

**WHEREAS** Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Anthony Smithy from our midst, and

**WHEREAS** Anthony Smithy was the beloved husband of Roslyn nee Sarkisian, and

**WHEREAS** Anthony Smithy was the loving father of Michael (Krissy Rolland), and

**WHEREAS** Anthony Smithy was the cherished brother of Sandra (Mark) Balazs, and

**WHEREAS** Anthony Smithy was the devoted son of Walter and Marie Joya Smithy, and

**WHEREAS** Anthony Smithy was the adored uncle of Nicolina Balazs, and

**WHEREAS** Anthony Smithy was the best friend of Phillip Giella, and

**WHEREAS** all who knew him will attest that Anthony Smithy was a kind and compassionate man, virtuous of character and gentle in spirit, admired and respected by his many friends and neighbors, and dearly loved by his family, now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County that the Board does hereby offer its deepest condolences and most heartfelt sympathy to the family and many friends of Anthony Smithy and joins them in sorrow at this time of loss, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and a suitable copy of same be tendered to the family of Anthony Smithy that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

24-1001

**Sponsored by:** JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA, TARA S. STAMPS and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION****ROBERT M. VANECKO, M.D., IN MEMORIAM**

**WHEREAS**, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Robert M. Vanecko, M.D. from our midst; and

**WHEREAS**, Robert M. Vanecko, M.D. was the beloved husband of Mary Carol (nee Daley) for 59 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Robert M. Vanecko, M.D. was the devoted father of Robert G (Jamie), Mark (Kimberly), R.J., and Mary Claire (Oscar) Hickman; and

**WHEREAS**, Robert M. Vanecko, M.D. was the adored grandfather of Bobby, Mary Kate, Danny, Meg and Ellie Vanecko; Luke and Henry Vanecko; Mary Alana and Eleanor Hickman; and,

**WHEREAS**, Robert M. Vanecko, M.D. was the loving brother of Richard (Barbara) Vanecko, Fr. William Vanecko; in-laws Patricia Daley Martino, Richard M. Daley, Michael (Nancy) Daley, John (Mary Lou) Daley and William (Bernie) Daley; and many nieces and nephews; and

**WHEREAS**, Robert M. Vanecko, M.D. is preceded in death by his parents Michael and Raphael Vanecko, brother James Vanecko, in-laws Peter (Patricia) Martino, Margaret “Maggie” (Richard M.) Daley, Barbara (Michael) Daley and Eleanor Daley; and

**WHEREAS**, Robert M. Vanecko, M.D. grew up in Chicago. He attended Christ the King grammar school and was a graduate of Leo High School where he played football as a running back. Dr. Vanecko graduated from Georgetown University and Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. Dr. Vanecko trained at Cook County Hospital and the Chicago VA Hospital serving as a medical doctor in the U.S. Air Force at Homestead Air Force Base in Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, Robert M. Vanecko, M.D. worked at Northwestern Memorial Hospital for over 50 years and served as Chair of the Department of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery and Chief of Staff at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Dr. Vanecko also served on the faculty at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. In 2018 Dr. Vanecko took on professor emeritus status at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine which noted at the time “Dr. Vanecko has made myriad contributions to the academic and scholarship domains of Northwestern University and the broader medical and surgical community”; and

**WHEREAS**, Robert M. Vanecko, M.D. was an active member on numerous medical organizations, serving as President of the Chicago Medical Society, Chair of the Illinois State Medical Licensing Board and was a Trustee of the Institute of Medicine; and

**WHEREAS**, Robert M. Vanecko, M.D. was a proud veteran committed to national service and worked for many years at the veterans hospitals of Chicago; and

**WHEREAS**, Robert M. Vanecko, M.D. loved boating in Grand Beach, Michigan with friends and family, sailing in the Chicago to Mackinac Race, fishing, gourmet food and wine and was always available to help others in their time of need; and

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County that the Board does hereby extend its deepest condolences and most heartfelt sympathy to the family and many friends of Dr. Robert M. Vanecko and joins them in sorrow at this time of loss, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and a suitable copy of the same be tendered to the family of Dr. Robert M. Vanecko so that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[24-1004](#)

**Sponsored by:** JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA, TARA S. STAMPS and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**LOUIS J. PHILLIPS, SR., IN MEMORIAM**

**WHEREAS** Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Louis Phillips from our midst, and

**WHEREAS** Louis Phillips was the beloved husband of Nancy nee Pascente, and

**WHEREAS** Louis Phillips was the loving father of Robert Phillips, Stephanie (Lupe) Rodriguez, Louis Phillips Jr., and

**WHEREAS** Louis Phillips was the adored papa of John and Isabella Rodriguez, and

**WHEREAS** Louis Phillips was the beloved son of the late Sarah and the late Bob “Balbo” Phillips, and

**WHEREAS** Louis Phillips was the dear brother of Darlene (James) Smith, Diane “Dee Dee” (the late Anthony) Valentino, Marianne (Vincent) Scarlata, and the late Michael J. Phillips, and

**WHEREAS** Louis Phillips was the dear brother-in-law of Toni (Bill) Windt and Bill (Judy) Pascente,

and son-in-law of the late Bill and the late Lena Pascente, and

**WHEREAS** Louis Phillips was the cherished uncle of many nieces and nephews; devoted godfather, nephew, cousin and friend of many, and

**WHEREAS** all who knew him will attest that Louis Phillips was a kind and compassionate man, virtuous of character and gentle in spirit, admired and respected by his many friends and neighbors, and dearly loved by his family, now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County that the Board does hereby offer its deepest condolences and most heartfelt sympathy to the family and many friends of Louis Phillips and joins them in sorrow at this time of loss, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and a suitable copy of same be tendered to the family of Louis Phillips that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[24-1077](#)

**Sponsored by:** DONNA MILLER, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BILL LOWRY, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA, TARA S. STAMPS and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

#### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

#### **HONORING THE LIFE OF WALTER LEE BROOKS**

**WHEREAS**, Walter Lee Brooks was born June 2, 1941 in Greenville, Mississippi to Amelia and Donald Brooks, and like many blacks at that time, they migrated to the westside of Chicago, where he attended Bryant Elementary school and eventually graduated from Harrison High School in 1960; and

**WHEREAS**, Walter was baptized at New Jerusalem MB Church under the late Rev. Lloyd Johnson, where he sang in the church choir and later served as a Deacon; and

**WHEREAS**, after graduating high school, Walter enlisted in the US Army and was stationed in Norfolk, Virginia; During his time in the Army, Walter served as the head cook, and provided security detail during the Korean War; and

**WHEREAS**, after leaving the Army, Walter returned to Chicago, and began work at the Black Giant. Over the next few years, he would use his leadership skills to become the first black chef kitchen manager of Jewel, and eventually the first black general manager of Jack in the Box; and

**WHEREAS** always striving to further himself and other people of color, Walter opened his first grocery store, The Mad Butcher, in the early 70's on the west side of Chicago. His visionary and pioneering spirit eventually led to opening Eat & Run restaurant next to his grocery store, and in the

early 80's he relocated to the Southside of Chicago, where he was able to place both businesses under one roof; and

**WHEREAS**, Walter always focused on training, teaching, and uplifting the black community. He had a statement that said "No One Will Help Us, But Us, the answer is Black Businesses means Black Jobs." This moto served as a driving force in his constant desire to expand and grow his business, while training the youth and hiring many of those who were considered unemployable; and

**WHEREAS**, in the early 90's, Walter was selling more chicken than "The Colonel," so he self-proclaimed himself "The General." The General would go on to successfully open Eat & Run Restaurants throughout the Southside of Chicago, Ohio, St. Lucia, Belize, Ghana, and a couple of franchises, and led the way to the creation of As Good As Mothers, the famous chicken and fish seasoning which was sold throughout the Midwest to various grocery stores and used in several restaurants; and

**WHEREAS**, "The General" could often be seen expressing his economic views on "Straight Talk" with W.L Lillard, where he was a proud member and active participant of the Straight Talk Economic Round Table, and he also was a regular guest on the "Munir Muhammad" show; and

**WHEREAS**, some of Walter's accomplishments include organizing the first and only Expo for Today's Black Man, implementing the Most Improved Student Award at several schools, and various recognitions from local businesses, churches, and organizations for his dedication and commitment to the community; and

**WHEREAS**, Walter also LOVED Black history. He took a trip to Africa with WVON and several trips with Africa Travel Advisors to places such as Dubai, Vera Cruz Mexico and Zanzibar to name a few. These trips focused on the history of blacks in these countries. In his final week he even asked about his passport; and

**WHEREAS**, Walter was always known for his Classic Cadillac cars, stylish clothes, and listening to music, and became affectionately known as the Music Man at Prairie Green Senior Lifestyle. He could always be found "Jammin The Box," in his room, the hallway, at breakfast, lunch, dinner, and of course The Juke Joint; and

**WHEREAS**, Walter transitioned into eternity on December 30, 2023, and was proceeded in death by his mother, father and grandson Dontae, and

**WHEREAS**, Walter's legacy will live on in his four children : Kim Young (Bonnie), Sherlanda Brooks (Jackie), Walter Brooks Jr (Felicia) and Leatrice Brooks (Leatha); Six grandchildren; Delvon Barnett, Patrick Young, Daniel Young, Jhaniya Brooks, Makayla Brooks, Walter Brooks III; Only sibling: Dorothy Lee Brooks; one sister-in-love Vera Brooks; Nieces and nephew; James, Angela and Wanda Howard, Sharon Brooks; 5 great nieces and nephews, cousins, extended family and friends. He will truly be missed by all;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and Members of the Cook County Board

of Commissioners does hereby honor the life of Walter Lee Brooks as a distinguished member of the community; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and a suitable copy be presented to the family of Walter Lee Brooks so that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[24-1078](#)

**Sponsored by:** DONNA MILLER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING EQUAL HOPE AND RECOGNIZING JANUARY AS CERVICAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH IN COOK COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress designated January as Cervical Health Awareness Month; and

**WHEREAS**, cervical cancer is the fourth most common cancer in women globally with an estimated 604, 000 new cases and 342,000 deaths in 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Cancer Society's estimates for cervical cancer in the United States for 2023 are approximately 13,960 new cases of invasive cervical cancer will be diagnosed and about 4,310 women will die as a result of this diagnosis, but the disease is preventable with vaccination and appropriate screening such as Pap and HPV tests; and

**WHEREAS**, like many diseases, racial disparities are troubling for cervical cancer, where the death rate is 65% higher in Black women than in White women, even though both groups self-report similar screening efforts, accordingly in Illinois, cervical cancer incidence and mortality rates are highest in Black and Hispanic women and lowest in White women; and

**WHEREAS**, human papillomavirus (HPV) is the #1 cause of cervical cancer; however, HPV vaccines can help prevent infection from both high-risk HPV types that can lead to cervical cancer and low risk types that cause genital warts; and

**WHEREAS**, the CDC recommends all boys and girls get the HPV vaccine at age 11 or 12, but vaccination is available through age 26; and

**WHEREAS**, the vaccine produces a stronger immune response when taken during the preteen years, and it is for this reason that up until age 14, only two doses of the vaccine are required; and

**WHEREAS**, young women and men can get the vaccine up to age 26, but for those 15 and older, a full three-dose series is needed; and

**WHEREAS**, it's important to recognize outstanding work being done here in Illinois and Cook County by our community partners such as Equal Hope; and

**WHEREAS**, Equal Hope is a not-for-profit organization originally set up in 2008 as the Metropolitan Chicago Breast Cancer Task Force after the publication of disturbing research that showed that Chicago had large and growing racial disparities in breast cancer mortality; and

**WHEREAS**, women of color are disproportionately affected by cervical cancer with Black and Latina women nearly three times more likely to die of cervical cancer than white women in Chicago, as a result Equal Hope launched the Nix the Risk campaign to underscore their commitment to eradicating cervical cancer in Chicago by 2040; and

**WHEREAS**, Equal Hope's mission is to save women's lives by eliminating health disparities in Illinois, originally through the lens of breast cancer and now expanded to cervical cancer and other women's cancers; addressing women's health holistically by helping women establish medical homes with the goal of eliminating inequities in prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, and survivorship for all women; and

**WHEREAS**, this Honorable Body wishes to promote and raise awareness of National Cervical Health Awareness Month in Cook County and to recognize the good work of Equal Hope in combatting this "silent killer" of women;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the more than 5.2 million residents of Cook County, do hereby take this opportunity to acknowledge National Cervical Health Awareness Month; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that in conjunction with National Cervical Health Awareness Month, that the month of January be hereby declared Cervical Cancer Awareness Month in the County of Cook; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that a suitable copy be presented to Equal Hope in recognition of National Cervical Cancer Awareness Month.

[24-1079](#)

**Sponsored by:** DONNA MILLER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

#### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

#### **RECOGNIZING JANUARY 23rd AS MATERNAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY IN COOK COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, in 2018, New Jersey became the first state to recognize January 23rd as Maternal Health Awareness Day through the work of the New Jersey Section of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecologists (ACOG), Tara Hansen Foundation, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, and other vital organizations that work to help spread awareness and stop maternal mortality; and



**WHEREAS**, the theme for this year's Maternal Health Awareness Day is "Access in Crisis" as maternal care access is becoming more and more challenging, with more than one-third of U.S. counties considered maternity care deserts, according to a 2022 March of Dimes report; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 2.2 million women aged 15-44 live in counties considered maternity care deserts, with no access to obstetric care, birth centers, ob-gyns or certified perinatal practitioners; and

**WHEREAS**, many people, including those in the postpartum period, are losing Medicaid coverage following the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency, and the 12 months immediately after delivery can be critical because that is when some of the deadliest pregnancy-related complications occur; and

**WHEREAS**, Health and Human Services officials and stakeholders reported that the Covid-19 pandemic worsened factors contributing to maternal health disparities, like access to care, cardiovascular problems and other underlying conditions, which contributed to a 78% overall increase in maternal mortality rates in the U.S. between 2000-2020. The maternal death rate for Black or African American (not Hispanic or Latina) women was 44.0 per 100,000 live births in 2019, then increased to 55.3 in 2020, and 68.9 in 2021. In contrast, White (not Hispanic or Latina) women had death rates of 17.9, 19.1, and 26.1, respectively; and

**WHEREAS**, these results are unacceptable and occur regardless of income or education levels. A person's race should never determine their health outcomes, and pregnancy and childbirth should be safe for all; and

**WHEREAS**, as the wealthiest nation in the world, the U.S. should also be the safest place in the world to be pregnant and give birth; however, we are consistently among the least safe, with rates of maternal mortality and serious injury continuing to grow at an alarming rate; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021, the U.S. had one of the worst rates of maternal mortality in the country's history going back to 1965. 1,205 people died of maternal causes in the U.S. in 2021, which represents a 40% increase from the previous year, and the U.S. rate for 2021 was 32.9 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births, which is more than ten times the estimated rates of some other developed countries, including Australia, Austria, Israel, Japan and Spain which all reported between 2 and 3 deaths per 100,000 in 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the CDC, cardiovascular conditions such as pulmonary embolisms, uncontrolled bleeding and problems emanating from hypertension are the leading cause of pregnancy-related deaths in the U.S. and most, up to 91% are preventable and more than half of such deaths occur 60 days after someone give birth; and

**WHEREAS**, each year, more than 50,000 individuals in the United States suffer from a "near miss" or severe maternal morbidity, which includes potentially life-threatening complications that arise from labor and childbirth; and

**WHEREAS**, it is vitally important for us to improve maternal morbidity and mortality rates and the health disparities that contribute to adverse pregnancy outcomes, and raising awareness about this crisis is important to make maternal health the national priority it should be; and

**WHEREAS**, community-based maternal health care models, including midwifery childbirth services, doula support services, community and perinatal health worker services, and group prenatal care, in collaboration with culturally competent physician care, show great promise in improving maternal health outcomes and reducing disparities in maternal health outcomes; and

**WHEREAS**, advocacy and community-based organizations, and others have used January 23rd as a day to raise awareness about maternal health, educate health care providers about maternal mortality, and encourage birthing people, families, and providers to recognize and discuss potential signs of an emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, this Honorable Body wishes to promote and raise awareness of Maternal Health Awareness Day in Cook County by raising public awareness about maternal mortality, maternal morbidity, and disparities in maternal health outcomes;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the more than 5.2 million residents of Cook County, do hereby take this opportunity to acknowledge National Maternal Health Awareness Day; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that in conjunction with National Maternal Health Awareness Day, that January 23rd, 2024 be hereby declared Maternal Health Awareness Day in the County of Cook; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body.

[24-1088](#)

**Sponsored by:** DONNA MILLER, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGREN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BILL LOWRY, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA, TARA S. STAMPS and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

#### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

#### **A RESOLUTION HONORING ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY ON THEIR 116TH ANNIVERSARY**

**WHEREAS**, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® (AKA) originated January 15, 1908, from the vision of Ethel Hedgeman Lyle and eight other African American college students on the campus of Howard University, the first African American Greek-letter sorority; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 15, 2024, worldwide members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated will pause to honor the founding of their beloved sisterhood and pay homage to the vision, courage,

tenacity, and oneness of purpose of the extraordinary women who dared to create the first organization for college-trained women designed to support and promote sisterhood, scholarship, and service; and

**WHEREAS**, Alpha Kappa Alpha was incorporated on January 29, 1913, which facilitated the growth of an international service organization that now consists of 1,064 chapters, including many active chapters within Cook County, and over 355,000 initiated members with chapters in 12 countries and all 50 states including the District of Columbia, the US Virgin Islands, the Bahamas, Germany, Liberia, South Korea, Japan, Canada, South Africa and the Middle East; and

**WHEREAS**, Alpha Kappa Alpha's mission is to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards, to promote unity and friendship among college women, to study and help alleviate problems concerning girls and women in order to improve their social stature, to maintain a progressive interest in college life, and embodied in their credo to be of "Service to All Mankind"; and

**WHEREAS**, for more than a century, the AKA Sisterhood has been an indomitable force for good in their communities, state, nation, and the world; and

**WHEREAS**, Alpha Kappa Alpha has maintained its focus in two key arenas: the lifelong personal and professional development of each of its members; and galvanizing its membership into an organization of respected power and influence, consistently at the forefront of effective advocacy and social change that results in equality and equity for all citizens of the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. chapters located in Cook County include: Alpha Beta Delta Omega (Chicago), Beta (Chicago), Chi Alpha Omega (Schaumburg), Chi Omega Omega (Chicago), Delta Chi Omega (Evanston), Delta Omicron (Chicago), Lambda Alpha Omega (Westchester), Lambda Mu Omega (Chicago), Lambda Tau Omega (Matteson), Omicron Alpha (River Forest), Phi Epsilon Omega (Harvey), Phi Kappa Omega (Oak Lawn), Pi Nu (Chicago), Tau Gamma Omega (Chicago), Tau Mu (Chicago), Theta Omega (Chicago), Theta Rho Omega (Matteson), Upsilon Rho (Park Forest), Xi Kappa (Country Club Hills), Xi Nu Omega (Chicago); and

**WHEREAS**, in 2023, the 32nd International Regional Conference took place in Chicago, Illinois with Sigma Theta Omega and Rho Omicron Chapters in St. Thomas as the host chapters; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners are pleased to congratulate the members of the Cook County Chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc. on the occasion of the sorority's 116th anniversary;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, honor Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated on their celebration of National Founders Day on January 15, 2024, and thank them for 116 years of service in the public interest; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body.

[24-1130](#)

**Sponsored by:** DENNIS DEER, BILL LOWRY, JOHN P. DALEY, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, DONNA MILLER, JOSINA MORITA, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON and TARA S. STAMPS, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED MEN OF KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY, INC. FOR THEIR 113th FOUNDER’S DAY CELEBRATION**

**WHEREAS**, on the evening of January 5, 1911, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated was founded at Indiana University located in Bloomington, Indiana. The founders were Elder Watson Diggs, Byron K. Armstrong, John M. Lee, Henry T. Asher, Marcus P. Blakemore, Guy L. Grant, Paul W. Caine, George W. Edmonds, Ezra D. Alexander, and Edward G. Irvin; and

**WHEREAS**, the motto of Kappa Alpha Psi is “Achievement in Every Field of Human Endeavor”; and

**WHEREAS**, the five (5) objectives of Kappa Alpha Psi are:

- to unite college men of culture, patriotism, honor in the bond of fraternity,
- to encourage honorable achievement in every field of human endeavor,
- to promote the spiritual, social, intellectual, and moral welfare of its members,
- to assist in the aims and purposes of colleges and universities,
- to inspire service in the public interest; and

**WHEREAS**, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. is the second oldest existing collegiate historically Black Greek letter fraternity and the 1st intercollegiate fraternity incorporated as a national body; and

**WHEREAS**, notable members include Ralph Abernathy, Wilt Chamberlin, Montell Jordan, Benjamin Jealous, Oscar Robertson, Cedric the Entertainer, Arthur Ashe, Mike Tomlin, Bennie Thompson, Johnnie Cochran, Smokie Norful, John Singleton, Lerone Bennett, Jr., Kwame Jackson, Bill Russell, Tavis Smiley, Marvin Sapp, and Colin Kaepernick; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 9, 1995, Dr. Bernard A. Harris Jr. became the first Black person to perform an extra-vehicular activity in space, also known as the spacewalk. Harris spent a total of 4 hours and 39 minutes outside of the space shuttle during the mission, completed 129 orbits, and traveled over 2.9 million miles; and

**WHEREAS**, members are Politicians, Scientists, Mentors, Fathers, Entrepreneurs, Entertainers, and Community Leaders; and

**WHEREAS**, there are several active Chapters Chartered in Cook County, Chicago Alumni, Iota, Theta, Theta Zeta, Kappa Phi, Chicago Heights Alumni, Calumet City-Lansing Alumni, Evergreen Park Alumni; and

**WHEREAS**, every year, these Chapters donate thousands of dollars in scholarships to high school students and mentor's young men through the Kappa League and Guide Right Programs. Chapters also conduct Civic Action, Reclamation, and the Diamond Youth Foundation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kappas conduct a program called "Healthy Kappas," an initiative focusing on critical health issues and crisis affecting the residents of Cook County, Illinois; and

**WHEREAS**, on Friday, January 5th, 2024, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. celebrated their 113th Founders Day where individuals are recognized for their contributions to Community Achievements via Civic Action, Polemarch Appreciation, and Laurel Wreath awards.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that on behalf of the President, the Cook County Board of Commissioners and the 5.2 million residents of Cook County take great pleasure in honoring and celebrating the men of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. for their leadership, dedication and commitment, and Founder's Day celebration herewith express our sincere gratitude for your service to the community.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a suitable copy of this Resolution is spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. in honor of this auspicious occasion.

[24-1133](#)

**Sponsored by:** DENNIS DEER, BILL LOWRY, JOHN P. DALEY, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, DONNA MILLER, JOSINA MORITA, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON and TARA S. STAMPS, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED MEN OF PHI BETA SIGMA FRATERNITY, INC. FOR THEIR 110th FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION**

**WHEREAS**, on January 9, 1914, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated was founded at Howard University located in Washington, D.C. The founders were A. Langston Taylor, Leonard F. Morse, and Charles I. Brown; and

**WHEREAS**, the motto of Phi Beta Sigma is "Culture For Service and Service For Humanity"; and

**WHEREAS**, Phi Beta Sigma's Mission statement is to:

- Strengthen and serve proactively the brotherhood, as a supportive resource that positively impacts the Fraternity's growth and financial solvency,
- Reaffirm and maintain a strong commitment to brotherhood, scholarship, and service,
- Ensure that the Fraternity programs are focused and committed to serving humanity,
- Create an environment that respects the dignity and worth of each brother,
- Exhibit integrity and ethical behavior in conducting the Fraternity's business; serving as a model for all Greek-letter organizations,
- Maintain and improve the Fraternity's technological literacy, in order to better service its

members and the community at large,

- Foster and nurture the constitutional bond with Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc,
- Encourage a closer and mutually beneficial working relationship with fellow Greek-letter organizations, other community service organizations, businesses and government,
- Select leaders who are committed and have demonstrated their ability to lead; and

**WHEREAS**, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. is known for its service to the community; and

**WHEREAS**, members are Educators, Judges, Lawyers, Politicians, Ministers, Scientists, Mentors, Fathers, Entrepreneurs, and Community Leaders; and

**WHEREAS**, notable members include George Washington Carver, James Weldon Johnson, Asa Philip Randolph, Harry Belafonte, Mayor Harold Washington, Vice Mayor and Alderman Walter Burnett, Congressman John Lewis, Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell, Congressman Elijah Cummings, Congressman Maxwell Frost, State Rep. LaShawn Ford, State Rep. Kenneth Dunkin, State Rep. Cyril Nichols, Jerry Rice, Emmitt Smith, Huey P. Newton, Al Sharpton, Al Roker, Kurt Carr, Justice Charles E. Freeman, Justice Carl Anthony Walker, and President Bill Clinton; and

**WHEREAS**, there are several active chapters chartered in Cook County, including Upsilon Sigma, Iota Alpha, Alpha Alpha Beta, Epsilon Chi Sigma, Iota Nu Sigma, Iota Phi Sigma; Pi Psi Sigma, Omicron Alpha Sigma, and Epsilon Upsilon Sigma; and

**WHEREAS**, Some of Phi Beta Sigma partners include the American Cancer Society, March of Dimes, Cure Sickle Cell Foundation, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund to address societal ills including health disparities and educational and developmental challenges for people of all backgrounds; and

**WHEREAS**, Phi Beta Sigma's vision of ensuring programs are focused and committed to serving our communities and serving young males through their national male mentoring and educational scholarships; and

**WHEREAS**, on Tuesday, January 9th, 2024, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. celebrated its 110th Founders Day where individuals are recognized for their contributions to the diligent work being done nationally and internationally.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that on behalf of the President, the Cook County Board of Commissioners, and the 5.2 million residents of Cook County, we take great pleasure in honoring and celebrating the men of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. for their leadership, dedication, commitment, and Founder's Day celebration, and we herewith express our sincere gratitude for the Fraternity's service to the community.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this Resolution is spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. in honor of this auspicious occasion.