



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

**Cook County Building, Board Room, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois  
(Board Room Closed to Public - Meeting Virtual for Public)**

**Consent Agenda**

**Thursday, January 26, 2023, 10:00 AM**

**Third Set**

[23-1173](#)

**Sponsored by:** SCOTT R. BRITTON, ALMA E. ANAYA, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, MAGGIE TREVOR and JOSINA MORITA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**OBSERVING AND HONORING JANUARY 17, 2023, AS THE NATIONAL DAY OF RACIAL HEALING IN COOK COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, on the day after Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, a National Day of Racial Healing is observed; and

**WHEREAS**, since 2017, the National Day of Racial Healing marks a time to contemplate our shared values and role in addressing racism's present consequences; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Day of Racial Healing brings racial awareness to schools, libraries, parks and recreation centers, faith communities, local businesses, foundations and nonprofits, healthcare settings, artists and content creators, policymakers and decisionmakers; and

**WHEREAS**, racial healing takes more than one day; and

**WHEREAS**, racial healing requires that we acknowledge that racism disrupts the lives of so many children and families; and

**WHEREAS**, racism affects all of us, whether we are aware of it or not, where we live, learn, work and play, at school and jobs, when renting and shopping, visiting a doctor or trying to access healthy food, in interactions with the police, and in our social interactions and policies; and

**WHEREAS**, racial healing recognizes the need to tell the truth about past wrongs created by individual and systemic racism, and address the historic and contemporary effects of this individual and systemic racism in our communities and institutions; and

**WHEREAS**, racial healing is part of community, organizational, and systems transformation; and

**WHEREAS**, racialized hate crimes have increased in recent years:

- In 2020, anti-Black hate crimes increased 49% over 2019 - the largest bias incident victim category,
- Anti-Asian hate crimes in major US cities rose by 164% percent in the first quarter of 2021 over the year before,

- Anti-Hispanic hate crimes rose 8.7% in 2019,
- Civil rights complaints from Muslims increased 9% in 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, any time is a good time to speak out against hate; and

**WHEREAS**, we must speak out against hate for anyone, for hate against one is hate against everyone; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County United Against Hate was launched in 2022 to combat the rise of hate crimes and catalyze social justice; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County is investing over \$100 million in equity-specific programs and investment; and

**WHEREAS**, the responsibility belongs to all of us to build fair and just communities; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby declare January 17, 2023, the National Day of Racial Healing in Cook County; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Cook County commits to the process of racial healing, investing in communities most impacted by racist structures that limited opportunities for children and families, and to working to reverse the generational impacts of racist institutions and individuals; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body so that we all may strive to live up to the ideals of racial healing.

[23-1179](#)

**Sponsored by:** BILL LOWRY and TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING AND RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF LARRY R. ROGERS, SR.**

**WHEREAS**, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. was born on December 29, 1947, and raised in Chicago, where he lived for 75 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Rogers began his family in Roseland while working as a respiratory therapist, a gas station attendant, and other various jobs before beginning his storied law career; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Rogers was a homegrown scholar as an alum of Saint Xavier College and DePaul University College of Law; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Rogers won several record-breaking medical malpractice cases to secure fair and just treatment for Illinois residents. Mr. Rogers secured hundreds of millions of dollars in verdicts for his clients, including national precedent-setting cases involving infant development and irreversible brain damage; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Rogers was affectionately referred to by his son, Larry R. Rogers, Jr. as “the Michael Jordan of law before Michael Jordan was the Michael Jordan of basketball.” Along with his accolades as an outstanding attorney, Mr. Rogers was highly regarded as a family man and a community stalwart; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Rogers lived an immense life including a historical and impactful 37-year career as one of the most influential trial lawyers in the country; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Rogers’ career gave life to a family engrained in law: an injury attorney son, a court reporter daughter, an attorney stepson, an employment attorney niece, a real estate litigator nephew, an injury lawyer grandson, and a granddaughter set to begin law school this year; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Rogers. passed on from this life on Thursday, January 20, 2023, after a valiant five-year fight with cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Rogers leaves behind a loving wife, two children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, numerous other family members, his extended family at the Power Rogers law firm, and his various communities across Chicago to mourn his loss; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Rogers’ constant drive to support Black lawyers left an endearing impact on the field of law and our understanding of justice; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY, the President and its members do hereby extend their gratitude for the courageous and fortified life of Larry R. Rogers, Sr. as they offer their deepest condolences to his friends, family, and communities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Larry R. Rogers, Sr. as an honorable expression of appreciation for his life and work.