



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

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

Consent Agenda

Thursday, June 29, 2023, 10:00 AM

Second Set

[23-3834](#)

Sponsored by: TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING RICHARD J. MONOCCHIO FOR HIS EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

WHEREAS, Richard J. Monocchio has dedicated over 30 years of his professional career to public service, making significant contributions to the City of Chicago and Cook County, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Richard J. Monocchio has been a visionary leader in the field of housing and urban development, serving as Executive Director of the Housing Authority of Cook County since 2011; and

WHEREAS, Richard J. Monocchio's unwavering commitment to providing safe, affordable housing has positively impacted the lives of thousands of individuals and families in Cook County; and

WHEREAS, Richard J. Monocchio has championed numerous programs aimed at improving educational and employment outcomes for low-income residents, including the Promise Scholars Program, Forest Preserve Experience, and The Opportunity Fund; and

WHEREAS, Under Richard J. Monocchio's leadership, the Housing Authority of Cook County has undertaken one of the largest affordable housing investments in the Cook County Suburbs, rehabilitating and preserving over 1,600 units of low-income housing since 2015; and

WHEREAS, Richard J. Monocchio has actively engaged with civic and community organizations, serving as a vice-chair to the non-profit Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County (CEDA), and contributing to the Cook County Workforce and Cook County Land Bank Boards; and

WHEREAS, Richard J. Monocchio earned his bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Illinois at Chicago and has two sons, Nathaniel and Nicholas

WHEREAS, Richard J. Monocchio's ability to get things done and his dedication to improving the quality of life for all residents of Cook County have earned him widespread respect and admiration; and

WHEREAS, Richard J. Monocchio's leadership, strategic vision, and tireless efforts have left an indelible mark on the Housing Authority of Cook County and the broader community;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents and the entire Cook County community, expresses its deepest gratitude and appreciation to Richard J. Monocchio for his exceptional service to Cook County, Illinois; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body extends its warmest wishes to Richard J.

Monocchio in his new position as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Public and Indian Housing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of the Cook County Board of Commissioners, and an official copy be presented to Richard J. Monocchio as a token of the Board's appreciation and recognition of his dedicated service to Cook County.

[23-3722](#)

Sponsored by: BILL LOWRY, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING AND RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF JAMES TILMON, SR.

WHEREAS, James Tilmon was born on Tuesday, July 31, 1934 in Guthrie, Oklahoma to George and Manila Tilmon, a local teacher and high school principal, and would go on to graduate from Lincoln University of Missouri with degrees in chemistry, education, and music; and

WHEREAS, after seeing a plane in the sky for the first time at the age of 5, James would learn to fly through his college's ROTC program and become a pilot for the US Army, commanding an accident-free aviation platoon and serving for 8 years until being honorably discharged as a Captain in the Army Corps of Engineers; and

WHEREAS, at 31 years old, James became the fifth Black commercial pilot in the United States as he flew for American Airlines for nearly 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tilmon simultaneously began a broadcast television career with his own production company, Tilmon Productions, Inc., and "Our People," a weekly live show focused on Black Chicagoans that aired one week after the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr. from 1968 to 1972 on WTTW, Chicago's PBS station; and

WHEREAS, James then served 22 years as a meteorologist at NBC affiliate WMAQ-TV, where he continued hosting a live weekly show, winning a local Emmy in 1974 for "Tilmon Tempo"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tilmon would help found the National Association of Black Journalists in 1975, laying down a foundation for Black media members to pursue careers in broadcasting and news coverage; and

WHEREAS, James leaves behind multiple generations of family and many loving communities across Chicago to mourn his passing from this life on Saturday, January 16, 2021; and

WHEREAS, James Tilmon, Sr. lived a life that prioritized the day-to-day of Black people in Chicago and beyond, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY: the President and its members do hereby hold their reverence in honor of the historic life of

James Tilmon, Sr., as they offer their deepest condolences to her friends, family, and communities; and

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

[23-3784](#)

Sponsored by: KEVIN B. MORRISON, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), MAGGIE TREVOR and ANTHONY J. QUEZADA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING PRIDE MONTH IN COOK COUNTY

WHEREAS, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex and Asexual (LGBTQIA+) Pride Month is observed each year in the month of June to center and celebrate the history, successes, stories, work, and ongoing issues of the community; and

WHEREAS, Pride Month was initially inspired by the 1969 Stonewall Uprising and works to achieve equal justice and opportunity for LGBTQIA+ Americans, as well as recognize the impact that LGBTQIA+ individuals have had on society at local, national, and international levels; and

WHEREAS, the Stonewall Riots were a series of demonstrations in which members of the LGBTQIA+ community protested police raids and harassment; and

WHEREAS, the Stonewall Riots marked the beginning of the modern LGBTQIA+ rights movement although previous demonstrations and organizing efforts amongst the LGBTQIA+ community preceded; and

WHEREAS, the LGBTQIA+ movement and its allies have fought hard to win the right to one's gender, to marry, and to start families while also continuing to fight against hate speech, hate crimes, and ongoing discrimination targeted at both the personal and legal levels; and

WHEREAS, the LGBTQIA+ community is an important contributor to the diverse and vibrant communities across Cook County; and

WHEREAS, the annual iconic Chicago Pride Parade is one of the largest Pride events in the country during which residents throughout Cook County, Illinois, and the nation have the opportunity to come together, celebrate, and stand as one with the LGBTQIA+ community, their families, and friends; and

WHEREAS, the current national political environment has created very real legal and physical dangers for the LGBTQIA+ community, and as such Cook County must continue to loudly and proudly fight to affirm, welcome, and protect this community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, hereby proclaim the month of June 2023 to be PRIDE MONTH IN COOK COUNTY; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners hereby recommit to strengthening the advancement of equity for the LGBTQIA+ community of Cook County.

[23-3812](#)

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

JOHN J. ROMANO., IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called John J. Romano from our midst; and

WHEREAS John Romano was the beloved husband of Geri; and

WHEREAS John Romano was the loving father of Joseph (Siobhan) Romano and Jennifer (Gino Gigliotti) Romano; and

WHEREAS John Romano was the proud papa of Christopher and Nicholas; and

WHEREAS John Romano was the devoted son of the late Mike and late Mary Ann Romano; and

WHEREAS John Romano was the cherished brother of Marilyn (Mike) Monahan; and

WHEREAS John Romano was the dear brother-in-law of Thomas (Lynn Marye) and James Muskus; and

WHEREAS John Romano was the fond uncle, cousin, and friend of many; and

WHEREAS all who knew him will attest that John Romano 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 John Romano 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 John Romano, that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[23-3829](#)

Sponsored by: MONICA GORDON, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, 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

ACKNOWLEDGING JUNE AS GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, a national coalition of organizations has designated the first Friday in June as National Gun Violence Awareness Day, in honor of Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager from Chicago who was shot and killed in 2013, as well as the many other gun violence victims and survivors, commemorating this day by wearing orange; and

WHEREAS, the American Medical Association (AMA) declared firearm-related violence a public health crisis in 2016 due to its status as a leading causes of intentional and unintentional injury and death in the United States, and continues to advocate for common sense policies, laws and resources that reduce gun violence; and

WHEREAS, the United States has significantly higher gun homicide and suicide rates than all other high-income countries; and

WHEREAS, according with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), new analysis shows firearm homicide rates grew nearly 35% from 2019 to 2020, with disparities by race/ethnicity and poverty level widening, and firearm suicide rates remaining high. Firearm homicide rates are consistently highest among males, adolescents, young adults, and non-Hispanic Black and non-Hispanic American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people. In 2020, firearm homicide rates increased across all age groups, with the highest rates and increases observed among those 10-44 years old. Considering age, sex, and race/ethnicity simultaneously, the largest increases in firearm homicide rates were among non-Hispanic Black males 10-44 years old; and

WHEREAS, gun violence has devastating consequences for young people and is now the leading cause of death among children, teens, and young adults under the age of 25; and

WHEREAS, gun violence is a complex problem fueled by systemic issues including historic disinvestment and structural racism, segregation, lack of access to healthcare, economic opportunity; and

WHEREAS, according to the Cook County Medical Examiner's office, 90% of the total homicides in 2021 were carried out with guns, accounting for a devastating 1,005 gun homicides in Cook County; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, Cook County Health's Stroger Hospital cared for nearly 1,100 patients with gunshot wounds, and spends an average of \$30,000-50,000 to treat a single victim of gun violence, amounting to an annual expenditure of \$30 - 40 million in initial hospital treatment, not including

extensive outpatient rehabilitation and mental health care many patients require; and

WHEREAS, gun violence is cyclical, resulting from and causing psychological trauma for individuals and entire communities which is why victims injured by violence are among those most at risk for future injury, death or involvement in gun violence, highlighting the need for trauma-informed solutions that help break this cycle of violence; and

WHEREAS, gun violence is preventable and Cook County and partners at the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago have each committed historic amounts of funding through the American Rescue Plan Act, as well as corporate funding, for gun violence prevention and complementary supportive programming for at-risk residents that is evidenced based and effective in reducing community violence; and

WHEREAS, in the Summer of 2022, the Cook County Justice Advisory Council awarded a historic initial \$75 million in Gun Violence Prevention and Reduction Grants, funding individual organizations and coalitions that represent 68 service providers; and

WHEREAS, gun violence in Cook County's Southland has become especially pervasive, devastating communities already struggling with inequality, disinvestment, and lack of emergency health services.

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 Gun Violence Awareness Day, which took place on June 2, 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in response to increased levels of gun violence experienced nationally and locally since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Cook County leaders will continue to bring awareness and devote resources to emerging and evidence-based gun violence prevention strategies and advocate for gun safety measures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Cook County leadership will continue to coordinate with state and city partners in response to high levels of gun violence and work collaboratively to implement equitable and effective solutions that improve community safety; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be shared during the official proceedings of this Honorable Body in recognition of Gun Violence Awareness Month.

[23-3831](#)

Sponsored by: JOSINA MORITA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

MAUDE R. WAGNER, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS, Maude Wagner lived a long and beautiful life full of family and friends and sadly passed away on May 26, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Maude Wagner was the loving spouse of Charles Wagner who preceded her death; and

WHEREAS, Maude Wagner was the cherished mother of Linda Williford and Preston Williford, III; and

WHEREAS, Maude Wagner was the proud “Tata” to grand and great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Maude Wagner was the loving sister to William and Dot; and

WHEREAS, Maude Wagner was born Maude Rebecca Broadus on May 1, 1930, to proud parents Naomi and Mack Broadus in Fayette, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, Maude’s mother Naomi was tragically taken too early in childbirth and Maude was raised by her father Mack and stepmother Corrine Broadus; and

WHEREAS, Maude Wagner moved to the area living first in Highland Park and then moving to Evanston; and

WHEREAS, Maude graduated high school from Evanston Township High School; and

WHEREAS, Maude went on to work for the Charles Bruning Manufacturing Company; and

WHEREAS, Maude Wagner was a faithful member until her death at the Springfield Baptist Church in Evanston; and

WHEREAS, Maude was a true historian of Evanston who was able to recall details and stories of the community for all who needed them; and

WHEREAS, Maude was a caring friend and greatly enjoyed listening and supporting friends; and

WHEREAS, Maude was an active member of the Foster Senior Club and a Golden Girl; and

WHEREAS, Maude was known for her sense of humor and great dance moves; and

WHEREAS, all who knew her will attest that Maude Wagner was a kind and compassionate woman,

admired and respected by her many friends and neighbors, and dearly loved by her family.

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 Maude R. Wagner 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 Maude Wagner that her memory may be so honored and ever cherished.