



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

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

Consent Agenda

Thursday, June 13, 2024, 10:00 AM

Issued on: 6/7/2024

[24-2264](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

PROPOSED RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE AS GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH IN COOK COUNTY

WHEREAS, gun violence is a national and local public health crisis and was declared so by the American Medical Association in 2016; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2023 Annual Report from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, gun violence rose starkly during the COVID-19 pandemic with the over 48,800 gun deaths in 2021 (over 26,000 being suicides and nearly 21,000 homicides), the highest amount of national gun deaths ever recorded; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Medical Examiner’s office recorded 1,087 gun related homicides in Cook County in 2021, the first time the office has recorded more than 1,000 homicides in a year since 1994; and

WHEREAS, gun violence is connected to historic disinvestment and overwhelmingly and disproportionately impacts Communities of Color, with Black Americans being, on average, over 10 times more likely to be victims of firearm homicide than non-Hispanic white Americans; and

WHEREAS, gun violence has become the leading cause of death for children and young adults in the United States; and

WHEREAS, despite modest reductions in gun homicides, rates of gun violence remain tragically and unacceptably high-- elevated beyond pre-pandemic levels; and

WHEREAS, gun violence is preventable as research demonstrates violence prevention and community violence intervention programming can reduce involvement in gun violence for participants, save lives, and improve the underlying conditions and root causes that drive violence in our communities; and

WHEREAS, Cook County is committed to approaching gun violence as a public health crisis that demands a public health and public safety coordinated response; and

WHEREAS, Cook County has long been committed to effective, sustainable solutions to gun violence that address the root causes of community violence, meet the needs of at-risk individuals, address systemic harm and center the communities most impacted by gun violence; and

WHEREAS, Cook County is committed to promoting and investing in these strategies, such that they are community-centered, evidence-informed, and multidisciplinary; and

WHEREAS, the Justice Advisory Council is a leader in Cook County's efforts to address gun violence, managing the historic \$110 million Gun Violence Prevention and Reduction Grant initiative made possible by the American Rescue Plan Act; and

WHEREAS, additional complementary investments include Cook County Reconnect, the Domestic Violence Intervention and Support Services initiative, and behavioral health grants under the Stronger Together: Building a More Equitable Behavioral Health System in Cook County initiative, managed by Cook County Health; and

WHEREAS, Cook County helped form the Government Alliance for Safe Communities, established in 2021 to increase coordination and maximize the impact of investments in violence prevention made by the State of Illinois, Cook County and the City of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Cook County continues to help lead the Government Alliance and build key partnerships with the philanthropic, business, research and non-profit stakeholders to ensure the sustainability and lasting impact of investments in violence prevention; and

WHEREAS, June is recognized as Gun Violence Awareness Month and the first Friday in June is observed nationally as Wear Orange Day in remembrance of Hadiya Pendleton, a Chicago teen lost to gun violence in 2013, as well as the thousands of lives tragically lost each year to this crisis; and

WHEREAS, we all have a role to play in violence prevention, be it understanding, advocating, supporting or directly contributing to the work of preventing and reducing community violence and building peace in communities; and

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 7, 2024 and to recognize June as Gun Violence Awareness Month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Cook County leaders will continue to bring awareness and devote resources to emerging and evidence-based and community-centered gun violence prevention strategies; 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.

[24-3023](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

COOK COUNTY JUNETEENTH AFRICAN AMERICAN VETERAN RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Congress designating June 19, 2020, as “Juneteenth Independence Day” in recognition of June 19, 1865, the date on which news of the end of slavery reached the slaves in the Southwestern States; and

WHEREAS, news of the end of slavery did not reach the frontier areas of the United States, in particular the State of Texas and the other Southwestern States, until months after the conclusion of the Civil War, more than two and a half years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, African American Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War had ended and the enslaved were free; and

WHEREAS, there has been no war fought by or within the United States in which Blacks did not participate, including the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, the War of 1812, the Spanish American War, World Wars I and II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

WHEREAS, the County of Cook has always honored the immeasurable wartime and peacetime contributions and sacrifice of the men and women of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the 8th Illinois Infantry, one of the first all-black units fought under the French. During WWI roughly 27,041 served in the 33rd Division, (according to the Adjutant General’s journal) and had 738 killed in action and 5,871 were wounded. The 33rd Division is credited with 9 medals of honor; and

WHEREAS, the Black heroes and heroines of World War II and the Korean War, such as Private Sarah Keys and Women's Army Corps (WAC) officer Dovey Roundtree, won significant victories against discrimination in interstate transportation in landmark civil rights cases; and

WHEREAS, in 1948, President Harry Truman desegregated the U.S. armed forces by executive order and the Korean War allowed Black Americans to serve in every branch and sector, and in all combat areas and major operations. In 1950 there were 100,000 Black troops across the U.S. armed forces; by the end, that number was 600,000 and more than 5,000 gave their lives to stop the invasion of South Korea by communist forces; and

WHEREAS, more than 300,000 Black Americans served in Vietnam. Though only about 12% of the U.S. population, Black service members were 16.3% of the armed forces, and up to 25% of enlisted men

in the Army, but only 2% of officers across all branches. The proportional increase of Black servicemembers in combat roles was a shift from earlier conflicts. Because of this over-representation, the casualty rate for Black troops was disproportionately higher;and

WHEREAS, in the Gulf War, Black troops were nearly 25% of all American forces, and for the Army, closer to 30%; and

WHEREAS, Black veterans of the Nation's wars sowed the seeds for today's bountiful harvest through the Niagara Movement, the NAACP, the latter-day Civil Rights Movement, all of which share a common ancestry in the Civil War, without which there would be no Civil Rights Movement and no equal rights for all Americans; and

WHEREAS, today, Black veterans suffer at a disproportionate rate from chronic illnesses and homelessness and are plagued by health disparities; and

WHEREAS, the difficult challenges Black veterans faced when returning home after serving in the Armed Forces, their heroic military sacrifices, and their patriotism in fighting for equal rights and for the dignity of a people and a Nation; and

WHEREAS, today, there are an estimated 2.15 million Black military veterans nationwide. Though the percentage of service-age African Americans in the U.S. population is between 12 and 13%, they make up 21% of the Army, 17% of the Marine Corps, 10% of the Air Force and Navy, and 5.8% of the Coast Guard.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby recognize June 19, 2024, as Juneteenth and ask that on this day of honor, all citizens express their gratitude to the African American Veterans men and women, and their families that have courageously served this country from the inception of America to this day.

[24-3024](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

COOK COUNTY WOMEN VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, throughout every period of the history of the United States, women have proudly served the United States to secure and preserve freedom and liberty for the people of the United States and its allies; and

WHEREAS, in times of war, women have formally been a part of the United States Armed Forces since the establishment of the Army Nurse Corps in 1901 but have informally served since the inception of the United States military; and

WHEREAS, over 3,000,000 women have served the United States honorably and with valor on land, on sea, in the air, and in space, including “Molly Pitchers” during the American Revolution, by passing as men to serve as soldiers during the Revolutionary War, the Early Republic, and the Civil War, as doctors, nurses, ambulance drivers, and Signal Corps telephone operators, “Hello Girls” during World War I, during World War II as members of the Women's Army Corps (commonly known as “WACs”), Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (commonly known as “WAVES”), members of the Coast Guard Women's Reserve (commonly known as “SPARS”), Women Airforce Service Pilots (commonly known as “WASPs”) and nurses; and

WHEREAS, women served as permanent members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force, serving as nurses, physicians, physical therapists, air traffic controllers, intelligence specialists, communications specialists, logisticians, and clerks in the Korean War and Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, women served as fixed and rotary wing combat pilots, surface warfare sailors, submariners, artillerists, air defenders, engineers, military police, intelligence specialists, civil affairs specialists, logisticians, and, most recently, in all combat roles in the Persian Gulf, Iraq, and Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, as of April 2020, women constitute approximately 17 percent of United States Armed Forces personnel on active duty, including 21 percent of active-duty personnel in the Air Force and Space Force; 20 percent of active-duty personnel in the Navy; 15 percent of active duty personnel in the Army; 9 percent of active duty personnel in the Marine Corps; and 15 percent of active duty personnel in the Coast Guard; and

WHEREAS, as of September 2019, women constitute nearly 21 percent of personnel in the National Guard and Reserves; These women have been critical to COVID-19 relief, including as part of the personnel in the National Guard and Reserves activated to support COVID-19 response efforts; and

WHEREAS, the population of women veterans has reached nearly 2,000,000, which represents a significant increase from 713,000 women veterans in 1980, and women veterans constitute approximately 10 percent of the total veteran population; and

WHEREAS, Cook County is proud of, and appreciates, the service of all women veterans who have demonstrated great skill, sacrifice, and commitment to defending the principles upon which the United States was founded and which the United States continues to uphold; and

WHEREAS, women veterans have unique stories of service that transcend the history of the United States and should be shared and honored; and

WHEREAS, Congress designated June 12, 2021, as “Women Veterans Appreciation Day”, highlighting the growing presence of women in the Armed Forces and the National Guard, and paying respect to women veterans for their patriotic military service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby recognize June 12, 2024, as Women Veterans Appreciation Day and ask that on this day of honor, that all citizens recognize the service and sacrifices of women veterans who have served valiantly on behalf of the United States.

[24-3239](#)

Sponsored by: ALMA E. ANAYA, JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, 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

HONORING THE LIFE & LEGACY OF FALLEN CHICAGO POLICE OFFICER LUIS M. HUESCA

WHEREAS, Police Officer Luis M. Huesca's, Star No. 18919, life was tragically taken in the Gage Park neighborhood while coming home from duty on Sunday, April 21, 2024, just two days shy of his 31st birthday; and

WHEREAS, Officer Huesca was born in Chicago's Avondale community on April 23, 1993 to Emiliano Huesca Sr. and Edith Huesca and was the beloved brother of Emiliano Huesca Jr., Liliana (James) O'Brien; and

WHEREAS, Officer Huesca and his family moved to Bolingbrook, Illinois where he attended Plainfield East High School; and

WHEREAS, Officer Huesca earned his bachelor's degree in Business Administration at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC); and

WHEREAS, Officer Huesca took the oath to become a police officer on March 16, 2018 and was a six-year veteran of the Chicago Police Department (CPD) at the time of his death; and

WHEREAS, Officer Huesca served his City in the CPD's Calumet (5th) District on the South Side as a member of the Priority Response team; and

WHEREAS, Officer Huesca embodied the character of a first responder, often seen, even while off duty, stepping up in occasions of need; and

WHEREAS, all who knew him will attest that Officer Huesca was a kind and compassionate man, virtuous of character, gentle in spirit, and had the admiration and respect of his colleagues, friends, and neighbors; and

WHEREAS, Officer Huesca was noted to be a prime example of bravery, loyalty, and integrity standing up for those in need. He balanced his virtues well and has also been described as a kid at heart with an infectious smile and playful soul; and

WHEREAS, Officer Huesca possessed a great sense of curiosity and often traveled with friends and family to new and exciting places. His adventurous spirit will be remembered by his loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Officer Huesca's untimely death comes a little over a year from the death of his police academy classmate, friend and colleague, Police Officer Andrés Vásquez Lasso; and

WHEREAS, Officer Huesca has left a huge void in the hearts of many, including his family, friends, his CPD partner, Officer Christian Calderon, and a whole city. His memory will live on and will not be forgotten.

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 of Officer Luis M. Huesca 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 Officer Luis M. Huesca so that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[24-3211](#)

Sponsored by: ALMA E. ANAYA, FRANK J. AGUILAR and ANTHONY J. QUEZADA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF REVEREND WALTER "SLIM" COLEMAN

WHEREAS, Rev. Walter "Slim" Coleman lived a beautiful life filled with friends and family. Unfortunately, he lost his life on April 16, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Walter "Slim" Coleman's activist and organizing work in Chicago dates back to the Civil Rights and antiwar movements of the 1960's; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Walter "Slim" Coleman was raised in Lubbock, Texas before entering Harvard University on a scholarship. He left Harvard a month before graduation to begin his work in activism but returned to finish his education there almost 20 years later; and

WHEREAS, during the 1960's, Rev. Walter "Slim" Coleman traveled to Cleveland, Ohio to work at the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee under the leadership of James Forman. This organization

consisted mainly of Black college students who practiced peaceful, direct-action protests that ultimately led to civil rights victories; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Walter “Slim” Coleman and Kathy Archibald - two white Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee members - moved to Chicago in 1966 and joined the activist organization Students for a Democratic Society; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Walter "Slim" Coleman and Kathy Archibald worked together to establish the People's Information Center in Lincoln Park. This center collaborated with the Black Panther Party and the Young Lords activist group, led by the well-known activist Jose "Cha Cha" Jimenez; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Walter "Slim" Coleman collaborated with Fred Hampton to establish the Rainbow Coalition in Chicago. The Coalition was a combination of the Illinois Black Panther Party, the Young Lords, and the Young Patriots Organization. The Young Patriots Organization was a leftist organization primarily comprised of white migrants from Appalachia and was based in Uptown; and

WHEREAS, as a community organizer in the Uptown neighborhood in the 1970's, Rev. Walter “Slim” Coleman organized the International Survival Committee - an auxiliary to the Black Panther Party - along with future Chicago Alderwoman Helen Shiller; and

WHEREAS, the Committee later became known as the Heart of Uptown Coalition, a political and social service organization focused on needs such as access to affordable housing, medical care, legal aid; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Walter “Slim” Coleman played a significant role in Harold Washington's successful campaign to become Chicago's first Black mayor in 1983, particularly in the crucial voter registration effort; and

WHEREAS, in the late 1980's and early 1990's, Rev. Walter "Slim" Coleman split his work between Uptown and West Town/Bucktown communities with a focus on serving the needs of immigrants; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Walter “Slim” Coleman married activist the Rev. Emma Lozano and went on to raise a family; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Walter "Slim" Coleman earned a Master of Divinity from Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary. Later, he became the pastor of Adalberto United Methodist Church in the Humboldt Park neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, the church gained notoriety for providing sanctuary for Elvira Arellano, an undocumented immigrant who herself became well-known as an immigration rights activist; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Walter “Slim” Coleman and his wife Rev. Emma Lozano spent many years as the spiritual leaders for Adalberto and the sister church Lincoln United Methodist in Pilsen - with a significant

focus on ministry for immigrants; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Walter “Slim” Coleman also worked as an aide to former United States Representative Luis Gutierrez for ten years; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 2007, Rev. Walter “Slim” Coleman also served as the Director of the Familia Latina Unida Medical Reserve Corps; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Walter “Slim” Coleman is an inspiration for Chicago and the country and the legacy he has left behind will transcend generations to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby hold in reverence in honor of the historic legacy of Rev. Walter “Slim” Coleman, as we offer our deepest condolences to his friends, family, and community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Rev. Walter “Slim” Coleman as an honorable expression of appreciation for his life and work.

[24-3165](#)

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

HONORING THE LIFE OF, GEORGE WHITE, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS, George White was born on November 9, 1954, in Chicago, IL, to Adrienne Wright White and George White Sr., and was raised by his grandmother, Adrine Whitfield Wright, his Aunt Quilla, and his Uncle Ernest, along with his favorite Aunt Lucy, who all provided him with love and guidance throughout his upbringing; and

WHEREAS, George received his formal education from St. Brendan Elementary School and Hales Franciscan High School, and accepted Christ in his childhood, worshipping at the First Church of Deliverance; and

WHEREAS, George was united in holy matrimony to Linda Griffin White in 1989, and together they were blessed with five children, George Griffin, Damon White, Tina Griffin Bryant, Kim Yarbrough, and Geneva White; and

WHEREAS, George was a dedicated Deacon at New Christian Fellowship MB Church and Christ Cathedral MB Church, and had a fulfilling career as an asbestos remover and later as a nursing home

worker with SEIU Local 4, where he tirelessly served for over 20 years, eventually transitioning to the Homecare division as a homecare aide, exemplifying his commitment to service; and

WHEREAS, George was a beloved member of his community and actively engaged in Chicago politics, serving Mayor Brandon Johnson and canvassing for the Bring Chicago Home coalition and referendum, advocating for racial and economic justice for the working class; and

WHEREAS, George White's leadership within SEIU HCIIMK was marked by his calm, levelheaded, and driven approach to bargaining, securing historic raises and benefits for thousands of home care workers and influencing union-wide decisions that impacted a vast number of healthcare and child care providers in Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, and Kansas; and

WHEREAS, George White's legacy is one of faith, dedication, and service to others, leaving behind cherished memories for his wife, children, nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and a multitude of relatives and friends; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of the President, the members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners and the 5.2 million residents of Cook County, this legislative body hereby extend our heartfelt condolences and come together to honor the memory of George White, celebrating his life and the joy he brought to all who knew him; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution presented to George's family as a token of our enduring love and support, and that it be recorded in the annals of our community as a testament to the profound impact of George's life.

[24-3260](#)

Sponsored by: BILL LOWRY, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF BETTY JO SWANSON (January 22, 1943 - JANUARY 22, 2023)

WHEREAS, Betty Jo Swanson was born on January 22, 1943, in Bradley, Arkansas, and was the seventh of nine children born to James Henry Fagan and Katie Mae Fagan; and

WHEREAS, Betty Jo was the youngest girl of her family and was fiercely protective and affectionate towards her siblings, often serving as their second mother and confidant during their formative years; and

WHEREAS, Betty Jo moved to Texarkana, Texas, during her early childhood years before relocating to Chicago, Illinois, in 1955, where she attended and graduated from Parker High School in 1961; and

WHEREAS, after graduation, Betty Jo devoted her life to Christ and became a member of New

Friendship Baptist Church, where she served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, , in 1966, Betty Jo embarked on a new chapter of her life, marrying the love of her life, John L. Swanson. Together, they nurtured and raised two beautiful children, Barry and Jodi. Her children were the center of her universe, and she loved and spoiled them unconditionally, a testament to her boundless love and devotion; and

WHEREAS, Betty Jo embarked on her professional journey as a key-punch operator in 1966. Her exceptional skills and dedication led to a swift promotion to Key-punch Supervisor. Her influence was so profound she convinced three of her siblings to join her in the workforce, a testament to her leadership and persuasive abilities; and

WHEREAS, Betty Jo began working for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad in 1976, where she gained many lifelong friends and colleagues. Betty Jo worked for Chicago & Northwestern Railroad for 27 years before retiring in June 2003; and

WHEREAS, after her retirement, Betty Jo redirected her energy towards serving her community. She assumed leadership roles in several organizations, including the 7900 Block of South Carpenter St. block club, serving as Block Club President for over 35 years; 006th District CAPS as Beat 612 Facilitator, the Neighborhood Housing Service as the founding board member and Board President, the Greater Auburn Gresham Development Corp. as a board member and Vice-Chair, the City of Chicago 6th District Senior Subcommittee as Chair, and the City of Chicago 6th District Advisory Committee (DAC) as Chair. Betty Jo's tireless efforts and unwavering commitment to these roles left an indelible mark on her community; and

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, BILL LOWRY, COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER OF THE 3rd DISTRICT, AND TONI PRECKWINKLE, PRESIDENT OF THE COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER, honor the life and legacy of Betty Jo Swanson, a devoted wife, mother, sister, and community servant, who dedicated her life to the betterment of her family and her community, and whose memory will live on in the hearts and minds of those who knew and loved her.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE MEMBERS OF THIS BODY, that we express our deepest condolences to her family and loved ones and offer our sincere gratitude for her many years of service to her community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be presented to the family of Betty Jo Swanson and loved ones and offer our sincere gratitude for her many years of service to her community.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED: a copy of this Resolution will be filed within the Office of Cook County Commissioner Bill Lowry 3rd. District.

[24-3268](#)

Sponsored by: BILL LOWRY, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF HOUSE MUSIC

WHEREAS, House music is a genre of electronic dance music created by DJs and music producers in the underground club culture of Chicago in the early 1970's to mid-1980s; and

WHEREAS, House music was developed by DJs who began creating original tracks and altering disco basslines to give them a more mechanical beat, becoming a staple in Chicago and eventually evolving to become the foundation of modern dance music, including EDM, Electro-House and more. House music also infuses modern pop music with a unique and recognizable groove sensibility; and

WHEREAS, repeat this for as many Whereas clauses you have; and

WHEREAS, the origins of House music traces back to Chicago and the original house artists were Chicagoans such as Jesse Saunders, Vince Lawrence, Jamie Principle/Frankie Knuckles, Steve Silk Hurley, Marshall Jefferson, Farley Jackmaster Funk, Chip E., Joe Smooth, Adonis, Chuck 'the Voice' Roberts, Ten City, Lil Louis, White Knight, Fast Eddie, Sundance, Liz Torres and many more; and

WHEREAS, in 1984, Vince Lawrence and Jesse Saunders released On and On, a song widely credited with being the very first House track released on vinyl, and the Jes Say Records Crew released an explosion of House releases widely circulated throughout Chicago and used to kickstart dance floors all over the city; and

WHEREAS, the elements of House music include the importance of the DJ, which became paramount with DJs, including, Andre Hatchett, Bad Bill Boy Cano Brothers, Fantastic Four, DJ Rush, Edward Get down Crosby, Eric the Wiz, Frenchie, Greg Gray, Hugo H, Joe Smooth, Julian 'Jumpin' Perez, Kenny 'Jammin' Jason, Kirk Townsend, Lil Louis, , Lugo Rosado, Maurice Joshua, Mickey 'Mixxin' Oliver, Mike Dunn, Mike Ezeckwu, Mike Hitman Wilson, Paul Johnson, Pharris Thomas, Psycho Bitch, Ray Jones, Ralphie Rosario, Rick Lenoir, Ron Hardy, Ron Trent, Scott 'Smokin' Silz, Steve 'Silk' Hurley, Terry Hunter, Teri Bristol, Terrible Ted, Val Harmon, Wayne Williams; among many others; and

WHEREAS, studio tricks of edit scientists such as Grammy award-winning producers, Frankie Knuckles, Maurice Joshua in the remixing category along with four-time nominated producer, Steve 'Silk' Hurley and three-time nominated producer, Terry Hunter, and others, became crucial to the development House music by implementing cutting and splicing master tapes to deconstruct and extend disco grooves and increasing the sound's rhythmic repetitions. Additionally, European synthesizer and rhythm machine experimenters, like Kraftwerk and Cabaret Voltaire, began a two-way dialogue with black American dance music, which would influence the House sound; and

WHEREAS, House music, with its infectious beats, transcended borders. Renowned artists such as Beyoncé, Rihanna, David Guetta, and Calvin Harris laud House music for its contributions to American music. House music's global reach and influence is undeniable; and **WHEREAS**, repeat this for as many Whereas clauses you have; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE MEMBERS OF THIS BODY, recognize and honor the contributions of the City of Chicago and its pioneering DJs, music producers, and artists who created and developed house music. This genre has a profound impact on the American music industry and became a staple of dance and pop music worldwide.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, BILL LOWRY, COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER OF THE 3rd DISTRICT AND TONI PRECKWINKLE, PRESIDENT OF THE COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER, hereby recognizes and honors the monumental 40th anniversary of house music, a genre that has shaped the landscape of modern music; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we celebrate and pay tribute to the pioneering contributions of the original house artists from Chicago, who courageously paved the way for the evolution and popularization of house music; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED a suitable copy of this Resolution will be presented to Mr. Vince Lawrence the Founder of House Music 40, NFP.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED: a copy of this Resolution will be filed within the Office of Cook County Commissioner Bill Lowry 3rd. District.

[24-3259](#)

Sponsored by: STANLEY MOORE, 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, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA, TARA S. STAMPS and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF LAURA PETTIES BROWN

WHEREAS, Laura Petties Brown was born on May 12, 1924, to the late Jessie and Hannah Petties in Clarksdale, Mississippi, embodying the values of diligence and integrity instilled from a young age on the Petties family farm; and

WHEREAS, Laura Petties Brown has dedicated her life to her family and community, marrying James Brown in 1948, and thereafter, moving to Chicago, Illinois, where she became a beloved member of her community and the mother of seven children; and

WHEREAS, Laura Petties Brown has experienced the profound loss of her husband and three of her children; yet she continues to demonstrate resilience and strength, serving as a pillar of support and inspiration to her family and all who know her; and

WHEREAS, Laura Petties Brown has been a resident of 8740 Sangamon Street, in Chicago, Illinois, since 1948, contributing to the fabric of the community through her unwavering support and active engagement in civic and social activities; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Board seeks to recognize the significant milestones of its residents, especially those who reach the remarkable age of one hundred years, celebrating their contributions and the rich histories they carry; and

WHEREAS, on May 11, 2024, Laura Petties Brown will be celebrated at the Petties House of Events located at 712 South Halsted, Chicago Heights, Illinois, marking a century of invaluable contributions to her family, community, and the broader Cook County area;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board hereby honors Laura Petties Brown, on the occasion of her 100th birthday, acknowledging her as a cherished centenarian, a beacon of familial love, and a stalwart of the community;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be entered into the official records of the Cook County Board and that a copy hereof be presented to Laura Petties Brown to commemorate this joyous occasion.

[24-3348](#)

Sponsored by: STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING AUGUST AS HOUSE MUSIC MONTH IN COOK COUNTY.

WHEREAS, the genre, history, and culture of House Music celebrate its 40th year milestone in August 2024, tracing its roots to the vibrant city of Chicago in the 1980s; and

WHEREAS, House Music, characterized by its repetitive four-on-the-floor drum machine, typical tempo of 120-130 beats per minute, and simplified bass line, and melody played from synthesizers, was pioneered by DJs and music producers including Farley "Jackmaster" Funk and Jesse Saunders at the Playground club in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, from House Music came the creation of multiple subgenres-Acid House, Chicago House, Electro House, Deep House, Funky House, Tropical House, Latin House, UK Hard House, Tech House, Progressive House, and Detroit Techno; and

WHEREAS, the cultural significance of House Music extends beyond its origins, influencing the global music landscape and contributing to the multibillion-dollar industry of Electronic Dance Music (EDM); and

WHEREAS, the contributions of House Music pioneers such as the Hotmix 5, Steve "Silk" Hurley, Frankie Knuckles, and many others, alongside record labels like Trax Records, DJ International, and Dance Mania, have cemented Chicago's legacy as the birthplace of House Music; and

WHEREAS, the House Music community continues to thrive, with artists such as Terry Hunter and Mike Dunn maintaining a foothold in both the underground and mainstream music scenes, and events, like Chicago's House Picnic, by the Chosen Few DJs, serving as important gatherings for the community; and

WHEREAS, House Music has left an indelible mark on popular music inspiring artists worldwide, and producing countless mainstream hits across all genres; and

WHEREAS, from House Music came the creation of multiple subgenres-Acid House, Chicago House, Electro House, Deep House, Funky House, Tropical House, Latin House, UK Hard House, Tech House, Progressive House, and Detroit Techno; and

WHEREAS, the House Music community continues to thrive, with DJs, producers, singers, and promoters preserving its legacy and contributing to its ongoing evolution; and

WHEREAS, the House Music Museum and Hall of Fame Foundation, along with 1 House 1 City, are organizing the 40th Year Anniversary Celebration Inaugural House Music Parade on August 31, 2024, from 23rd and Michigan Ave to 31st and Michigan Ave to commemorate this milestone; and

WHEREAS, we commend the efforts of all those involved in preserving and promoting the cultural heritage of House Music, including the House Music Museum and its affiliates.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we the undersigned officials of Cook County, hereby proclaim the month of August as House Music Month, recognizing its cultural significance, historical importance, and ongoing contributions to the music industry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Proclamation be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to the House Music Museum.

[24-3400](#)

Sponsored by: STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION HONORING KHRISHNA LYNESE HENDERSON- HUTCHINSON

WHEREAS, Khrishna Lynese Henderson-Hutchinson, known professionally as "The First Lady," was born and raised on the South Side of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Khrishna Lynese Henderson-Hutchinson began her professional radio career at Chicago's first 24-hour rap music station WJPC 950AM Rap Radio as the nighttime host, then co-hosting mornings on Chicago's first Hip-Hop and R&B Station, "WJPC-FM 106 JAMZ," on the Strictly Street Morning Show from 1995 to 1998; and

WHEREAS, one of her most significant accomplishments is her role as the first Black female DJ to play House Music on the airwaves of Chicago's commercial radio. This opportunity was made possible by legendary House Music DJ, The King of House, Farley Jackmaster Funk, and WGCI-FM program director Lee Michaels; and

WHEREAS, Khrishna Lynese Henderson-Hutchinson, while making history, was a pioneering member of the first all-female House Music DJ collective; and

WHEREAS, Khrishna Lynese Henderson-Hutchinson has made significant contributions to music and media over four decades; and

WHEREAS, Khrishna Lynese Henderson-Hutchinson has been inducted into the "DJ Hall of Fame" and ranked #17 on the "Top 30 Black Women in Media" by Radio Facts in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Khrishna Lynese Henderson-Hutchinson has excelled as a DJ, educator, brand ambassador, and co-owner of a digital radio station, earning prestigious awards and recognition from the Library of Congress; and

WHEREAS, Khrishna Lynese Henderson-Hutchinson expertise in music programming—also earned her other prestigious awards, including Billboard (2006), Stellar (2010), and GMA (2010); and

WHEREAS, First Lady, and her husband, DJ pioneer Hugo H., recently teamed up to create a husband-and-wife DJ duo called, "The Love Team"; and

WHEREAS, As CEO of Kreative Kontrol Music and Founder of LivingHerStory LLC, she nurtures talent and gives back to her community; and

WHEREAS, Khrishna Lynese Henderson-Hutchinson is currently a committee member for the 40th Anniversary of House Music and media partner for the upcoming inaugural House Music Parade.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we the undersigned officials of Cook County honor Khrishna Lynese Henderson-Hutchinson, "The First Lady," for her outstanding contributions to music and media and her commitment to excellence and community empowerment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to Khrishna Lynese Henderson-Hutchinson.

[24-3402](#)

Sponsored by: STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION HONORING REVEREND DR. TYONE D. HUGHES

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Tyone D. Hughes began his ministry in 2001 and served as Associate Pastor from 2010 to 2018, focusing on youth and young adult spiritual leadership; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Tyone D. Hughes has served as the Senior Pastor of Third Baptist Church of Chicago since November 2018, together with his wife, Tonisha K. Hughes, and their daughters, Mia M. Hughes, and Kai B. Hughes; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Tyone D. Hughes is dedicated to the ministry of Jesus Christ and lives by the creed that "The church belongs to God, the people belong to God, and we are His disciples, commissioned to serve"; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Tyone D. Hughes Completed a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Speech, and another in English, and graduated Cum Laude Honors, from Chicago State University, in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Tyone D. Hughes earned his Master of Divinity, at Northern Theological Seminary, in Lisle, Illinois.

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Tyone D. Hughes completed the Doctorate of Ministry program, at Northern Theological Seminary, in Spring 2024.

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Tyone D. Hughes has a distinguished background in finance, having worked as Vice-President of Security Investments for JPMorgan's Private Bank, and has contributed to the community through financial literacy workshops; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Tyone D. Hughes is committed to the future of young people, advocating for

a loving family, quality education, and resourceful opportunities, and believes in building lasting legacies; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Tyone D. Hughes believes that education has the power to change the trajectory of the world. “Education motivates the mind, deepens the heart, and challenges the spirit to be better in all things that are good.”- Reverend Dr. Tyone D. Hughes; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS does honor and celebrate Reverend Dr. Tyone D. Hughes for his exemplary service, leadership, and commitment to the Third Baptist Church of Chicago, his contributions to financial education, and his dedication to the growth of individuals and families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be tendered to Reverend Dr. Tyone D. Hughes, and a copy is spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body.

[24-3403](#)

Sponsored by: STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PAUL STEVEN GREGOIRE

WHEREAS, Paul Steven Gregoire was born on March 14, 1960, to the union of Edward and Dolores Gregoire in Chicago, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Paul Steven Gregoire made his transition to eternal life on May 21, 2024, leaving behind a legacy of love, compassion, and dedication; and

WHEREAS, Paul Steven Gregoire was the fourth eldest of five children born to this union. His parents, his brothers Rene’ and Edward (Greg) Jr. and his sister Aleda, all preceded him in death. He has one living sister Jocelyn (Jojo); and

WHEREAS, Paul Steven Gregoire was affectionately nicknamed “Bear” by his brother Rene; and

WHEREAS, Paul Steven Gregoire shared a special bond with his sister Jocelyn (Jojo), ensuring they spoke daily; and

WHEREAS, Paul Steven Gregoire grew up in the Chatham community, a place where family and neighborly bonds were strong; and

WHEREAS, Paul Steven Gregoire attended Catholic institutions for his elementary education and graduated from Kenwood Academy High School in 1978; and

WHEREAS, Paul Steven Gregoire furthered his education by obtaining both a bachelor's and master's degree in Law Enforcement Administration from Calumet College of St. Joseph; and

WHEREAS, Paul Steven Gregoire began his esteemed career with the Chicago Police Department in 1986 as a Patrolman, quickly advancing to the rank of Detective in 1996 and then to Sergeant in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Paul Steven Gregoire earned numerous departmental awards and commendations for his exemplary service over 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Paul Steven Gregoire married Jayvonne McGee in 1991, and together they had two daughters, Alexandria Marie, and Maya Jocelyn; and

WHEREAS, Paul Steven Gregoire took great pride in witnessing his daughters' achievements, ensuring they knew they were deeply loved and supported; and

WHEREAS, Paul Steven Gregoire enjoyed retirement and traveled extensively; and

WHEREAS, Paul Steven Gregoire favorite pastimes included taking walks to Cole Park, golfing, swimming, and attending sporting events with his brother-cousin Billy Hilbring; and

WHEREAS, Paul Steven Gregoire legacy will continue to be shared by those who loved him most: his daughters Alexandria (Alex) and Maya, and a host of cousins, relatives, and friends.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we honor and celebrate the life of Paul Steven Gregoire, acknowledging his profound contributions to his community, his unwavering commitment to his family, and his enduring legacy of love, service, and integrity. Paul's memory will continue to inspire and uplift all who were fortunate to know him, and his star will shine brightly in our hearts forever.

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 Paul Steven Gregoire.

[24-3420](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING CARL WEST

WHEREAS, Carl West is the Chairman and CEO of MG Media, a global marketing and publishing firm founded in 1998. The TRUTH magazine, and The TRUTH Awards, both created in 2000 are a part of the MG Media brand, and;

WHEREAS, for more than 20 years, West has been recognized by numerous organizations for his committed work in the hip-hop culture, and for educating aspiring artists on the relevance of being community advocates, voter registration, and entrepreneurship, and;

WHEREAS, West taught The Business of Hip Hop Culture at Olive Harvey and Malcolm X Colleges, developing a rigorous curriculum, that furthered his mission to harvest the next generation of thinkers, and teaching leadership classes at Chicago State University, and;

WHEREAS, West was the primary journalist, covering the beginning of Hip Hop in Chicago and should be remembered and herald as a pioneer as we continue to celebrate 50 years of Hip Hop, and;

WHEREAS, West is a board member for several organizations, including the Negro Baseball Academy, South Side Federal Credit Union, TRUTH 4 Literacy Foundation, South Side YMCA, and the KLEO Center, and;

WHEREAS, West is the current Chairman of the Board of the Black United Fund of Illinois (BUFI), and;

WHEREAS, in 2009, West was inducted into the Chicago Vocational High School Hall of Fame and has been recognized by Chicago's Who's Who, and;

WHEREAS, West volunteers for several non-profit organizations, including YMCA Black, Hispanic Achievers Program, South-Central Community Services, and the South Side Economic Development Council, the not-for-profit arm of the Side Sound Community Federal Credit Union, and;

WHEREAS, West founded TRUTH 4 Literacy, an after-school mentoring program for at-risk youth that partners with public schools and community groups to teach reading, writing, communications skills, and leadership development, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, does hereby celebrate Carl West for his commitment to positive community storytelling in media, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be archived as a token of the esteem held by the President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners and the Cook County Board of Commissioners.