



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

Virtual Meeting

Consent Agenda

Thursday, October 7, 2021, 10:00 AM

[21-5502](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RECOGNITION OF THE CHICAGO VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (CVMA) COMMEMORATING 125 YEARS OF ORGANIZED VETERINARY MEDICINE IN THE CHICAGOLAND AREA

WHEREAS, the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) is an Illinois based, non-profit trade association that represents veterinarians and the veterinary profession in the Chicago Metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, the CVMA is one of the largest regional veterinary medical associations in the nation, with over 1000 veterinarians and 4000 support staff serving over 1 million pets; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association was established as an organization on August 7, 1896, under the original name Chicago Veterinary Society; and

WHEREAS, the founding members of the Chicago Veterinary Society met originally to form a veterinary society “for the mutual benefit of its members, both intellectually and socially, and for the elevation of the profession generally”; and

WHEREAS, at the time the Chicago Veterinary Society was founded in 1896, there existed two veterinary Colleges in Chicago; Chicago Veterinary College (1883-1920) and McKillip Veterinary Colleges (1892-1920); and

WHEREAS, the first female veterinarian in the United States, Dr. Mignon Nicholson, graduated from McKillip Veterinary College in Chicago in 1903; and

WHEREAS, one of the first female veterinary practitioners in the United States, Dr. Elinor McGrath, graduated from Chicago Veterinary College in 1910 and practiced small animal medicine for 37 years in Chicago at the Hospital for Dogs and Cats at 3247 Indiana Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Elinor McGrath has been posthumously recognized by the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association and Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association and was the first woman in the United States to join the American Veterinary Medical Association; and

WHEREAS, due to the rich history of veterinary medicine in Chicago, it has been stated by Dr. Phyllis Hickney Larsen, DVM, Past President of the American Veterinary Medical History Society and Former Chair of the History Committee of the Association for Women Veterinarians; that “There has probably been no city in the United States that has been more instrumental to the development of veterinary

medicine than Chicago”; and

WHEREAS, the profession of veterinary medicine plays a critical role in the health and well-being of society, provides human-quality healthcare for more than 180 million beloved family pets in the United States, fosters the abundance and the safety of the nation’s food supply by promoting the health and productivity of the nation’s herds and flocks, makes significant contributions to the protection of public health through food safety and infectious disease control, and advances human and animal well-being through biomedical research; and

WHEREAS, the veterinarians of the CVMA represent a broad diversity of disciplines within the veterinary profession including, but not limited to general, specialty and emergency practice, shelter medicine, public health, regulatory medicine, research, industry and academia; and

WHEREAS, the veterinarians of the CVMA play an integral role in animal health, animal welfare, public health, and public safety in the Chicago Metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, the veterinarians of the CVMA are an integral part of the animal welfare community in Cook County, performing countless hours of charitable care and philanthropic contributions; and

WHEREAS, the diversity of the profession is also represented in the cultural, racial, ethnic, gender, and linguistic diversity of the CVMA membership and leadership; and

WHEREAS, the CVMA focuses on community outreach through its public education, governmental relations, animal welfare, and One Health committees; and

WHEREAS, the focus of the CVMA One Health Committee is to foster the cross-disciplinary collaboration between animal health, human health, and environmental health at the local level; and

WHEREAS, the CVMA works collaboratively with the American Veterinary Medical Association, Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association; and with the University of Illinois, College of Veterinary Medicine; and

WHEREAS, the CVMA works collaboratively with Cook County Animal and Rabies Control and Chicago Animal Care and Control; and

WHEREAS, the CVMA works collaboratively with the Department of Homeland Security, American Red Cross, and other key County, State, and Municipal entities in conjunction with the Regional Catastrophic Planning Team (RCPT), Regional Animal Services Plan (RASP) regarding emergency and disaster preparedness, and Illinois Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps (ILVMRC); and

WHEREAS, the CVMA helps advance the standards of excellence in veterinary medicine and makes critical and lasting contributions to the quality of care provided by its members to pets in the Chicago Metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, the members of the CVMA include over 400 small business owners who employ members of the community, contributing to the economic base of the Chicago Metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, the CVMA is observing 125 years of public service in 2021 through a broad-based celebration of veterinary medicine themed “CVMA 125th - Then and Now: Always Resilient,” an anniversary year designed to honor the past and to celebrate and highlight the critical role the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association plays in the health and well-being of animals through organized veterinary medicine; and

WHEREAS, the people and animals of Cook County benefit substantially as a result of the presence and the contributions of the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association, this anniversary celebration is a timely reminder of the important contributions made by the CVMA in the promotion of human and animal health and well-being in the Cook County; then, therefore,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby embrace and endorse this celebration of veterinary medicine, which has grown and prospered as a result of the efforts of the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association over the last 125 years, and in doing so, expresses its sincere and enduring gratitude and support for the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution will be presented to the leadership of the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association as an expression of our recognition and appreciation.

[21-5536](#)

Sponsored by: STANLEY MOORE, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, LUIS ARROYO JR, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING PAULA DRIVER-EVANS FOR HER THREE DECADES OF SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF COOK COUNTY UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

WHEREAS, Paula Driver-Evans retired from the Cook County Sheriff’s Office in 2021; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, Paula Driver-Evans was appointed Undersheriff of Cook County, a command-staff role in the Office that enabled her to utilize her relationships and experience to represent the Sheriff’s Office before the Cook County Board of Commissioners and the residents of the County; and,

WHEREAS, Undersheriff Driver-Evans was dedicated to ensuring the good work that the Sheriff’s Office does every day was equally represented across Cook County in service to its more than 5 million

residents, particularly in neighborhoods and communities that most needed that good work; and,

WHEREAS, in her role, Undersheriff Driver-Evans has been a top-level leader in the Sheriff's Office, commanding a thorough understanding of the ins-and-outs of a department of its size and using that knowledge to best advocate for each and every resident of the County; and,

WHEREAS, in the years preceding her appointment, Undersheriff Driver-Evans worked for several years as an assistant to former Undersheriff Zelda Whittler, where she built many relationships; and,

WHEREAS, Undersheriff Driver-Evans has been a critically important member of the Sheriff's Office since her first day on the job, well before she rose to one of the Office's highest ranks; and,

WHEREAS, because she has done her job so well, she leaves the Office well-suited to continue its work going forward during the lingering COVID-19 Pandemic and the difficulties it has caused; and,

WHEREAS, through her dedication to the Cook County Sheriff's Office and its officers, deputies, and employees, she has played an integral role in public safety across Cook County as well as implementing criminal justice reform in her time at the Sheriff's Office; and,

WHEREAS, throughout her career, Undersheriff Driver-Evans helped establish the Sheriff's Office as a leader among 21st Century law enforcement agencies. She is profoundly thanked and honored for her service and dedication; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board President, the Cook County Board of Commissioners and the Cook County Sheriff do hereby recognize Undersheriff Paula Driver-Evans for all that she has contributed to Cook County's more than 5 million residents during her career and wish her well in her retirement; and

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 Undersheriff Paula Driver-Evans.

[21-5567](#)

Sponsored by: JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, LUIS ARROYO JR, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

JOHNNY BALZANO SR, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Johnny Balzano Sr. from our midst, and

WHEREAS Johnny Balzano S. was the loving and adored husband of the late Margaret “Margie” (nee Maggio), and

WHEREAS Johnny Balzano S. was the loving father of Gina (David) Marano, Paul (the late Ceal), Johnny Jr. (Natalie), Ruth Ann (Joseph) Fratto, and the late Marty Balzano, and

WHEREAS Johnny Balzano Sr. was the adored grandfather of Lauren, Jaclyn (Chris), Anthony (Erica), Paul Gina (fiancé Paul), Francesca, Gianna, Johnny III (Alexa), Joey (Kelly), Nicholas (fiancé Gianna) and Michael, and

WHEREAS Johnny Balzano Sr. was the beloved son of the late Paul and Florence Balzano, and

WHEREAS Johnny Balzano Sr. was the dear brother of Ginny (Vic) Faraci, and Paula (Tony) Pascente, and

WHEREAS Johnny Balzano Sr. was a caring brother-in-law of Jackie (Buddy) DiVittorio, and the late Marty (Rosalie) Maggio, and

WHEREAS Johnny Balzano Sr. was a fond uncle of many nieces and nephews, and

WHEREAS Johnny Balzano Sr. was a active member of the Old Neighborhood Italian American Club, and

WHEREAS all who knew him will attest that Johnny Balzano Sr. 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 Johnny Balzano Sr. 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 Johnny Balzano Sr. that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[21-5568](#)

Sponsored by: JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, LUIS ARROYO JR, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICER ELLA FRENCH, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Ella French from our midst; and

WHEREAS Ella French was the loving daughter of Elizabeth; and

WHEREAS Ella French was the dear sister of Andrew, Julian, Christian, and Michael; and

WHEREAS Ella French attended Wentworth Military Academy in Missouri and Downers Grove North High School from which she graduated in 2009, and

WHEREAS Ella French served as a corrections officer in the Cook County Sheriff's Department; and

WHEREAS Ella French served as an officer in the Chicago Police Department's 10th District and on the Chicago Police's Department's Community Safety Team; and

WHEREAS Ella French's career was dedicated to improving the lives of Chicago's residents and ensuring safer communities in Chicago; and

WHEREAS Ella French touched the lives of many and will be remembered by all who knew her; and

WHEREAS all who knew her will attest that Ella French was a kind and compassionate officer, virtuous of character and gentle in spirit, admired and respected by her many friends, neighbors and fellow officers and dearly loved by her family; and

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 Ella French 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 Ella French so that her memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[21-5571](#)

Sponsored by: LUIS ARROYO JR, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, the Filipino American National Historical Society established Filipino American History Month (FAHM) in 1988, choosing October to commemorate the arrival of the first Filipinos who landed in what is now Morro Bay, California on October 18, 1587; and

WHEREAS, with each new wave of immigrants the Filipino American community continues to grow and includes professional athletes, Olympic champions, stars of stage and screen, labor organizers, educators, caretakers, filmmakers, and entrepreneurs as well as members of the medical and engineering professions; and

WHEREAS the Filipino American community is the second largest in the United States; and

WHEREAS, starting in 2011, the Philippine American Cultural Foundation (PACF) has organized a variety of events to celebrate FAHM every October and to promote the various events in celebration of FAHM; and

WHEREAS, Filipino Americans are now the second most populous Asian group in the United States; and

WHEREAS, efforts should continue to promote the study of Filipino-American history and culture, as mandated in the mission statement of the Filipino American National Historical Society, because the roles of Filipino Americans and other people of color have been overlooked in the writing, teaching, and learning of United States history; and

WHEREAS, generations of Filipino Americans have lent their unique voices to the vibrant diversity of origins, cultures, and communities that make America what it is. Their legacy speaks to the extraordinary spirit of common purpose - of unity forged through the ideals that bind us together as people - that has always been central to our Nation; and

WHEREAS, Filipino Americans served their Country faithfully in the wars of the 20th century, and continue to protect America as servicemen and servicewomen around the world; and

WHEREAS, Cook County Government and the offices under the President employ the largest percentage of Asian Americans of any government in Illinois, with Filipino-Americans comprising a

substantial portion of those employees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, do hereby recognize October as Filipino American History Month and wish to celebrate the extraordinary ways Filipino Americans have contributed to our County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the official proceeding of this Honorable Body, and a suitable copy of the same be tendered to the Philippine American Cultural Foundation and the Filipino American Historical Society of Chicago, and Filipino American National Historical Society Greater Chicago Chapter in recognition of their unwavering dedication to promote and celebrate Filipino American History Month.

[21-5643](#)

Sponsored by: DENNIS DEER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING MR. CHARLES “COACH” RICE, SR. FOR HIS LEADERSHIP, COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION TO YOUTH IN THE NORTH LAWNSDALE

WHEREAS, Charles “Coach” Rice Sr. is a lifelong North Lawndale resident, makes it a priority to serve and uplift the North Lawndale community through his role in City government by working tirelessly to secure much needed community resources; and

WHEREAS, Charles Rice is the proud father of five children, DeMonte, Charles Jr., Anquinette, Chauncey and Allen; and

WHEREAS, he is a Farragut High School Alum and former Moraine Valley student, .He is an agent for change through his work with the North Lawndale Eagles Youth Tackle Football Programs; and

WHEREAS, Charles Rice Sr. is affectionately known as“ Coach Charles“ by his players and their parents; and

WHEREAS,“Coach Charles” North Lawndale Eagles “a.k.a. The Eagles” is a non-profit community based Grass-Root youth sports program by which Coach Charles has been involved in for over 25 years and currently serves as President, Head Coach and father figure to many of his participants; and

WHEREAS,“Coach Charles” sports program, which has been a community staple for over 30 years and whose mission is to “empower at-risk youth through sports development”, aims to provide urban youth with positive alternatives to the streets. Coach makes it his mission to develop young men to be able to interact in a variety of settings, equipping them with the ability to become successful in any environment by teaching youth “what NOT to do” in order to achieve their dreams; and

WHEREAS, “Coach Charles” currently works for 24th Ward Alderman Michael Scott Jr.. where he serves in the area of, constituent services, community engagement, aldermanic ward menu, and as the point of contact to the City of Chicago Agencies for the 24th Ward; and

WHEREAS, Charles ”Coach“ Rice Sr. is transforming the lives of youth in North Lawndale through football.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Cook County Commissioner Dennis Deer of 2nd District on behalf of President Toni Preckwinkle, the Cook County Board of Commissioners and on behalf of the over five million residents of Cook County, on this 7th day of October do hereby recognized Charles “Coach” Rice Sr.. for his Outstanding Leadership, Commitment and Dedication in the North Lawndale Community, and so wish Charles “Coach” Rice Sr. every continued success in his future endeavors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be tendered to Charles “Coach” Rice Sr.. and a copy be spreaded upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body.

[21-5645](#)

Sponsored by: DENNIS DEER, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), ALMA E. ANAYA, LUIS ARROYO JR, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, BRIDGET DEGNET, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, KEVIN B. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI and DEBORAH SIMS, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

DECLARING LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK, OCTOBER 24-30, 2021 IN COOK COUNTY

WHEREAS, lead exposure is especially dangerous to children under the age of 6, and can cause irreversible and life-long health effects, including damage to the nervous system and brain, learning problems and challenges with behavior and social-emotional development, and hearing and speech delays;

WHEREAS, the Cook County Department of Public Health serves more than 200 new children who become exposed to lead in suburban Cook County each year;

WHEREAS, common sources of lead exposure include lead pipes and fixtures; some imported candies, pottery, and makeup; toys; and especially lead dust and chipping and peeling lead-based paint in housing built before 1978;

WHEREAS, almost 70% of housing in suburban Cook County was built before 1978;

WHEREAS, lead poisoning is preventable; the key is to keep children from coming into contact with lead;

WHEREAS, there are simple steps that can be taken to protect all family members from lead-based paint hazards in the home;

WHEREAS, the Cook County Department of Public Health has programs available to assist low- to middle-income renters and homeowners to correct lead-based paint hazards in their housing units;

WHEREAS, education and awareness about the dangers of lead and the availability of grant programs to correct lead hazards can help protect the lives of children living in Cook County;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners declares October 24-30, 2021, as National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week in Cook County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the citizens, health department, and government officials of Cook County shall observe this week by sharing information designed to enhance public awareness of lead poisoning prevention and the ways we can protect our families from lead exposure, including participation in Cook County's Lead Hazard Reduction Grant programs.

[21-5644](#)

Sponsored by: DENNIS DEER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING MR. L. ANTON SEALS JR., FOR HIS LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE TO THE ENGLEWOOD COMMUNITY AND THE CHICAGO-LAND AREA

WHEREAS, L. ANTON SEALS JR. is a South Shore Chicago, IL native. He is a multidimensional servant leader, organizer, entrepreneur, educator, community connector, and Impact producer; and

WHEREAS, L. ANTON SEALS JR. blending his varied interest, has consulted with philanthropic, political leadership, corporate, and community based organizations to focus on authentic "equity in action" via community engagement, advocacy/policy and social enterprise development. He also works in the arts and cultural space, producing campaigns for nationally broadcast documentaries; and

WHEREAS, L. ANTON SEALS JR. is currently the Lead Steward (Executive Director) of Grow Greater Englewood (GGE) transforming vacant city lots into farm businesses, via a network of Black and brown urban farmers. A social enterprise focusing on building an equitable and resilient local food system that fosters protections of vacant land in divested communities and focuses on connecting those residents with community wealth building opportunities; and

WHEREAS, L. ANTON SEALS JR In 2019 founded OURS, a vertical Cannabis and Hemp company, He is an Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) institute trainer, also located at DePaul University Steams Center; and

WHEREAS, L. ANTON SEALS JR. is a 2018 Next City Vanguard Fellow and 2010 German Marshall Fellow Seals serves as a Trustee for the Woods Fund of Chicago, also serves on the board of Chicago Food Policy Action Council, Friends of the Park, and is Chair of The South Shore Works Planning Preservation Coalition. He has advised and counsels numerous organizers and activist, political and civic leaders, corporate and philanthropic organizations on pushing for a more racially just society; and

WHEREAS, L. ANTON SEALS JR. work has been dedicated to service and active engagement through the use of media arts, community organizing and empowerment to dismantle oppressive system impacting divested and oppressed communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Cook County Commissioner Dennis Deer of the 2nd District on behalf of President Toni Preckwinkle, the Cook County Board of Commissioners and on behalf of the over five million residents of Cook County, on this 7th day of October do hereby recognized **L. ANTON SEALS JR.** for his Outstanding Leadership and Social Services in the Englewood Community, and so wish **L. ANTON SEALS JR.** every continued success in his future endeavors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be tendered to **L. ANTON SEALS JR...** and a copy is spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body.