



**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

**Third Set
Issued on: 6/13/2024**

[24-3723](#)

Sponsored by: ALMA E. ANAYA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE OF ARIANA MOLINA

WHEREAS, Ariana Molina was a 9-year-old girl who lived in Back of the Yards with her father Jose Molina, and mother Norma Molina; and

WHEREAS, on the evening of Saturday, April 13, 2024 while attending a family party in the Back of the Yards neighborhood, Ariana Molina tragically was the fatal victim of a gun violence; and

WHEREAS, Ariana and her family were in the middle of cutting a cake for the Confirmation party when the unexpected happened, shots were fired, injuring her and eleven other family members; and

WHEREAS, Ariana leaves four siblings, Marco Antonio Molina, Jose Luis Jr. Molina, Ivan Molina, and Daniel Molina who now have to grapple with the loss of their only sister; and

WHEREAS, Ariana was a fourth grade student at Robert Fulton Elementary School, and her teachers and classmates remember her as helpful, kind, and always having a positive attitude; and

WHEREAS, the Molina family, other family members, and neighbors remembered Ariana as playful, smart, and a loving big sister, a bright girl who always kept her younger siblings and cousins safe when they played on the sidewalk; and

WHEREAS, Ariana will forever be remembered as her parents' princess, a loving and caring child to everyone that she was able to meet, always looking after everyone else even at only 9 years old as she took her older sister's duties very seriously, and extended that love and care to anyone that surrounded her; and

WHEREAS, Ariana was a little girl full of life who loved butterflies and enjoyed hobbies such as: dyeing her hair, painting her nails, going to the park, roller skating, and listening to music; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, firearms are the leading cause of death for children and teens (ages 1 to 19) in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, data from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from 2020 shows that fatal firearm injuries cost a total of \$290 million, with an average cost of \$9,000 per patient.; and

WHEREAS, many children like Ariana have had their lives taken away at a young age, 411 children have

been killed and an additional 1,004 injured by firearms in the U.S. so far this year, according to the Gun Violence Archive; and

WHEREAS, children and families in Cook County should have the assurance of being safe in their own homes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby offer its deepest condolences and most heartfelt sympathy to the family of Ariana Molina and joins them in sorrow at this time of loss; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Ariana Molina so that her memory may be honored and ever cherished.

[24-3738](#)

Sponsored by: SCOTT R. BRITTON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

CELEBRATING THE POETRY PERFORMANCE OF CHRISTIANNA GRAY AT THE “I WILL” FLAG RAISING

WHEREAS, Christianna Gray is a proud Cook County resident who just graduated from eighth grade at Calvin Christian School; and

WHEREAS, in September 2022, Christianna was an integral part of the inaugural raising of the “I Will” flag, performing the poem “Cook County As A Brand,” written by her mentor Orlando Ceaser, at just 11 years old; and

WHEREAS, Christianna thoughtfully and painstakingly chose this poem as she found that it best represented the creation of a new Cook County flag and how it could, in turn, represent a change in the way Cook County residents view themselves; and

WHEREAS, Christianna’s passion for her craft was apparent in her performance at the “I Will” flag raising, and was met with much celebration; and

WHEREAS, Christianna has been an ardent linguist from a young age, speaking in complete sentences at a mere nine months old; and

WHEREAS, Christianna’s love for words has blossomed as she has grown, and she has found herself drawn to poetry and the ability to put parts of herself into her work; and

WHEREAS, Christianna is a second generation motivational speaker who is passionate about expressing herself and encouraging others use their voices for change; and

WHEREAS, Christianna is known for her kindness, compassion, activism, creativity, and entrepreneurial spirit; and

WHEREAS, in addition to writing her own poetry, Christianna enjoys reading and travel in her free time; and

WHEREAS, as she looks to the future, Christianna plans to become a lawyer and a neurologist through a full scholarship she has already received to Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, Christianna finds herself inspired by the elected officials she has seen and met who are personal in their approach to problems, and who take a genuine interest in the well-being of the residents of Cook County; and

WHEREAS, the full text of “Cook County As A Brand” as written by Orlando Ceaser and performed by Christianna reads:

*A county of neighborhoods
and many factions.*

*A thriving business community
with cosmopolitan interactions.*

*The county of broad shoulders,
The county that works.*

*The county of many names
and many claims.*

*That tries to be scandal resistant
to shake off the strain
of people being distant.*

*A legacy of patronage and partisan politics,
strong unions and labor
that sparsely integrated
so, we look like our neighbors.*

We have a brand that must be respected.

Or should I say repaired and respected.

*These are the times when the brand is a sale
by those who perceive that we have failed.*

*But aggressive opponents should understand
Cook County is working on a better brand.*

*Rebrand the county.
Not as a public relations ploy,
or publicity stunt.
Recapture the neighborhoods
so citizens will enjoy it
more than Millennium Park and the lake front.
But the championships and competition
The legacy of a rich tradition
of excellence in science and the arts.
Where business percolates and new Starts
provide a hopeful and refreshing atmosphere
Pertaining to training
this sustaining and sincere.
What a brand where energy and pride
courses through our collective veins
as our hearts beat the resources excite our spirits as our brains
Trade provocative innovation,
better quality in education
as police equally enforced loss with greater cooperation.
If we establish strong coalitions
with people of faith and their traditions
with differences and depositions,
a relationship as a transition
to seek as we trust
to rebuild confidence
that justice is just.
And when we do this and people trust
we reduce animosity
increase innovation and curiosity.
As a mecca for music we invite crowds
to witness the culture of which we are proud.
Festivals, festivities and cuisine
that amidst of political machines.
but it is all for the common and greater good.
Rebrand Cook County
and its neighborhoods.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby celebrate and honor Christianna Gray for her artistic poetry performance at the inaugural “I Will”

flag raising in September 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of the Resolution be tendered to Christianna Gray as a means of communicating our thanks and well wishes in all her future endeavors.

[24-3739](#)

Sponsored by: SCOTT R. BRITTON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING GLENVIEW PARK DISTRICT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MICHAEL MCCARTY FOR WINNING THE NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PROFESSIONAL AWARD

WHEREAS, Glenview Park District Executive Director Michael McCarty has been announced as the winner of the National Distinguished Professional Award by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA); and

WHEREAS, NRPA presents the National Distinguished Professional Award to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the field through their leadership, research, advocacy, community outreach, and program development; and

WHEREAS, Michael McCarty has over 30 years of experience in park and recreation, and became Executive Director of the Glenview Park District in 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Glenview Park District is one of the largest park districts in Illinois, covering more than 861 acres and includes 26 parks, 13 fieldhouses, and 12.6 miles of walking trails; and

WHEREAS, the Glenview Park District Park Center has provided a space where the community can learn about the future, discover the past, take up a new sport, or enjoy the outdoors for 23 years; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, under Michael McCarty's leadership, the Glenview Park District was rightly recognized by the Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) as well as the Best of the Best Intergovernmental Coop; and

WHEREAS, Michael McCarty began his journey in Recreation Management at Springfield College where he obtained his bachelor's degree; and

WHEREAS, prior to his time with the Glenview Park District, Michael McCarty served as the Assistant Director of Recreation for the Town of South Windsor, Connecticut; Executive Director of Parks and Recreation in the Town of Longmeadow, Massachusetts; and Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Fairfax, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, in each of his roles, Michael McCarty has been lauded for his professionalism and innovation; and

WHEREAS, Michael McCarty is an energized leader, successfully navigating open space purchases, tax referendums, facility developments, and large-scale renovations; and

WHEREAS, Michael McCarty is known for having the best interest of the community at heart, and advocating for the needs of the park district at every turn; and

WHEREAS, Michael McCarty's outstanding efforts and impressive career will be recognized at the NRPA's Best of the Best Ceremony at the 2024 NRPA Annual Conference in October in Atlanta, Georgia; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby celebrate and honor Michael McCarty for receiving the National Distinguished Professional Award; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of the Resolution be tendered to Michael McCarty as a means of communicating our thanks and gratitude for his years of service.