



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

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

Consent Agenda

Thursday, June 16, 2022, 10:00 AM

Third Set

22-4001

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION**HONORING THE YEARS OF SERVICE AND DEDICATION OF AMMAR M. RIZKI**

WHEREAS, Ammar M. Rizki proudly served as Chief Financial Officer of Cook County starting in June 2017 overseeing the financial operations of the County that include an \$8 billion annual budget, \$3 billion debt portfolio and \$1.5 billion in federal pandemic relief funds; and

WHEREAS, Ammar previously served as deputy chief financial officer for almost four years. In that role, he worked to ensure that County's debt and pension obligations grew no more than 2%, ensuring manageable growth without unnecessary burden on County operations; and

WHEREAS, in his time with the County, Ammar helped spearhead dramatic improvements to the county's finances and pension funding. Under his leadership, Cook County has paid nearly \$2 billion above the state's statutory payment formula, decreased outstanding debt by over \$700 million in the last ten years and received the County's first bond rating upgrade in over a decade; and

WHEREAS, Ammar recently provided financial and operational input on the establishment of the County's Equity and Inclusion Fund, which is a part of Cook County's equity-based investments totaling over \$100 million. This equity fund aims to create safe, healthy, and thriving communities in Cook County by reimagining and transforming systems around justice, public safety, health, housing, economic opportunity, community development, and social services to benefit Black and Brown communities and proactively invest resources to achieve equitable outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Ammar also helped develop a first-of-its-kind equity model used to award over \$51 million of coronavirus relief to local governments. The award-winning program provided relief to local municipalities through an equitable lens, with factors that included, but that were not limited to, immediate needs of the municipality to respond to the pandemic, municipal population, municipal median income and municipal public health statistics; and

WHEREAS, Ammar started his work for Cook County in 2010 as deputy revenue director, where he led initiatives to modernize the Department of Revenue's operations, improve tax compliance and increase taxpayer education. Prior to that he held a number of managerial and analytic roles in banking and investment management; and

WHEREAS, outside of his County work, Ammar is quick to volunteer his time and is a proud member of

the Northbrook/Glenview School District 30 Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Ammar has always been quick to dispense fashion advice in addition to financial advice and Cook County has benefited from this combination of substance and style; and

WHEREAS, Ammar is leaving the County for the exciting and important opportunity to serve as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Obama Foundation where he will undoubtedly thrive as he guides the foundation's finances as it creates jobs, drives economic opportunities, empowers the leaders of tomorrow and fosters meaningful change throughout our region; and

WHEREAS, Ammar will surely be missed as he has been an indispensable resource, fountain of fiscal knowledge, mentor to many and thoughtful chief financial officer who has worked tirelessly to improve the County's financial position; and

WHEREAS, Ammar should be immensely proud of his numerous professional accomplishments, but he would tell you that his most important work is as a father to his son and daughter, and husband to his wife, Sonia; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, hereby honor and recognize Ammar M. Rizki for his work on behalf of the residents of Cook County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be tendered to Ammar M. Rizki as a means of communicating our appreciation.

[22-4004](#)

Presented by: TONI PRECKWINKLE, President, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

ACKNOWLEDGING INTERGOVERNMENTAL EFFORTS TOWARDS GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION & 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 polices, 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, in 2020, the most recent year for which complete CDC data is available, 45,222 people died from gun-related injuries in the United States, the highest number of gun deaths ever in the U.S.; which includes gun homicides (19,384), gun suicides (24,292), and other types of gun-related deaths tracked by the CDC: unintentional (535), involving law enforcement (611) and undetermined cause (400); and

WHEREAS, nationally, firearm homicides increased by 35% in 2020; 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, these systemic issues disproportionately impact communities of color; and

WHEREAS, Black males under the age of 35 are over 20 times more likely to be a victim of gun homicide than white males of the same age; 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, the State of Illinois and City of Chicago have joined Cook County in collaboratively planning for the implementation and evaluation of grant programs to maximize the impact of funding for violence prevention programs in the region; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Justice Advisory Council is presenting the first awardees of the Cook

County Gun Violence Prevention and Reduction Grant, a Safe and Thriving Communities American Rescue Plan Act Initiative, for approval to the Cook County Board of Commissioners on this day of June 16, 2022; 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 3, 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.

[22-4002](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE OF PEDRO CERVANTES

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Pedro Cervantes from our midst on May 26, 2022, at the age of 43; and

WHEREAS, Pedro Cervantes grew up in the Chicagoland area. He attended Augustana College, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude with degrees in Political Science, Public Administration, and Biology; and

WHEREAS, Pedro Cervantes attended the University of Illinois College of Law, graduating Cum Laude in 2003. He was also named a member of Mortar Board Honors Society and Phi Beta Kappa Society; and

WHEREAS, Pedro Cervantes became a member of the bar in 2003, and joined as the Managing Partner of the firm now known as Tristan & Cervantes in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Pedro Cervantes provided legal services in Administrative and Regulatory; Business Formation and Transactions; Commercial Transactions and Litigation; Construction and Development;

Insurance Coverage and Defense; Labor and Employment, Municipal and School; Personal Injury and Property Damage; and Real Estate and Land Use; and

WHEREAS, Pedro Cervantes was a member of the Board of Trustees for Augustana College and proudly often discussed with many on how his alma mater was truly a transformative place in his life and why he willingly continued to devote time and treasure to it; and

WHEREAS, Pedro Cervantes was equally passionate about the Chicago Sinfonietta, where he also served as a Board member; and

WHEREAS, Pedro Cervantes lived his life with the same fervor and zest-diving straight in. Pedro was not just an advocate, he was also a philanthropist, entrepreneur, a problem solver, and most significantly, a gracious friend; and

WHEREAS, Pedro Cervantes was a true south-sider and loved to go to the Sox stadium. He was as passionate about music, his nephews, and his side project, Primary (a nightclub in River North); and

WHEREAS, Pedro Cervantes transformed Tristan & Cervantes firm into a formidable practice, and was a cherished mentor to many young professionals, some of whom continue now with the firm; and

WHEREAS, Pedro Cervantes earned a strong reputation with clients, opposing counsel, and the Judiciary and won many difficult cases; and

WHEREAS, Pedro Cervantes was the beloved son of Estella (nee Valadez) and the late Jose Cervantes, loving brother of Francisco (Jennifer) Cervantes and the late Pablo Cervantes, and cherished uncle of Cole and Connor. He is also survived by many aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends; and

WHEREAS, Pedro Cervantes and his legacy will continue to be felt for generations to come. He leaves not only a family that grieves him but a community that was impacted by his contributions and convictions.

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be tendered to the family of Pedro Cervantes so that his memory may be honored and ever cherished.

22-4003

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF FIESTA DEL SOL

WHEREAS, in 2022, *Fiesta del Sol* will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary; and

WHEREAS, *Fiesta del Sol*, the largest Latino festival in the Midwest, is an admission-free event, bringing patrons, sponsors, and vendors from across the nation and offering live entertainment, local art, a variety of food, activities, and educational information in an alcohol and tobacco-free, family-friendly environment; and

WHEREAS, *Fiesta del Sol* is organized by the Pilsen Neighbors Community Council (PNCC), a community-based organization that organizes, engages, and activates people and resources to positively address community issues facing Pilsen in areas such as education, housing, healthcare, social justice, and immigration reform; and

WHEREAS, *Fiesta del Sol* is PNCC's primary fundraising event to help fund its community organizing and service programming throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, the *Fiesta del Sol's* Guadalupe A. Reyes Scholarship Program has celebrated over a decade of awarding scholarships to students from the Southwest side of the city, and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the scholarship offers students \$1,500 for college expenses and has given more than \$700,000 to over 450 students; and

WHEREAS, *Fiesta del Sol* draws over 1 million visitors during the four-day event, which, in 2022, will be held on July 28th - 31st in the Pilsen neighborhood in Chicago, Illinois.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby recognize and honor the 50th Anniversary of *Fiesta del Sol*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the proceedings of this Honorable Body and that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the Pilsen Neighbors Community Council (PNCC) in honor of this auspicious occasion.