



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

Virtual Meeting

Consent Agenda

Thursday, January 13, 2022, 10:00 AM

[22-0768](#)

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

HONORING THE LIFE OF LACY LLOYD THOMAS

WHEREAS, Lacy Lloyd Thomas was born on November 13, 1956, in Memphis, Tennessee, to Albert and Lucille Thomas. He graduated Thornridge High School located in Dolton, Illinois. He attended Chicago State University and obtained his Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting; and

WHEREAS, Lacy L. Thomas began his career with Deloitte & Touche as a Senior Assistant Accountant, he quickly realized his passion to serve was more suited for the healthcare industry; and

WHEREAS, Lacy L. Thomas spent a tour-of-duty with Evangelical Health, and his immediate success allowed him the opportunity to pursue and secure the position as senior accounting analyst at Michael Reese Hospital, which at the time, was one of the oldest and largest hospitals in Chicago thereby launching his career within the medical industry; and

WHEREAS, Lacy L. Thomas unwavering commitment, expertise, experiences, and positive reputation within the financial healthcare industry resulted in him being selected as the Hospital Director at John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook County with the responsibility of overseeing a budget of \$400 million and a staff of nearly 4,600 employees; and

WHEREAS, Lacy L. Thomas, from 1981 to 1983, held the title as President for Chicago Chapter of the National Association of Black Accountants, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Lacy L. Thomas in 2003, relocated from Chicago, Illinois to Las Vegas, Nevada to serve as the Chief Executive Officer for the University Medical Center of Southern Nevada; and

WHEREAS, Lacy L. Thomas led a successful and illustrious career spanning over decades. He held various senior management and C-Level positions with various organizations leaving positive impacts throughout these organizations with staff morale and efficient financial sustainability; and

WHEREAS, Lacy L. Thomas interest to pursue ongoing excellence lead him to establish L. Thomas Consulting Services allowing him to continue providing sound financial and administrative services within the service and healthcare industries; and

WHEREAS, Lacy L. Thomas was most known as a prominent leader with exceptional skills and traits as

a communicator, problem-solver, and organizer; and

WHEREAS, Lacy L. Thomas enjoyed spending time with his family, church family, friends, and fraternity brothers. He also had a passion for strengthening the community. He is survived by his wife Henrene Lindsey, his sons Joshua, Jerry, and daughter Ebonee; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County does hereby honor and celebrate the life of Lacy Lloyd Thomas and his many contributions bettering the lives of all residents in Cook County, Illinois; 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 the family of Lacy Lloyd Thomas.

[22-1131](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY ON THEIR 114TH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® (AKA) originated January 15, 1908, from the vision of Ethel Hedgeman Lyle and eight other African American college students on the campus of Howard University, the first African American Greek-letter sorority; and

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2022, worldwide members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated will pause to honor the founding of their beloved sisterhood and pay homage to the vision, courage, tenacity, and oneness of purpose of the extraordinary women who dared to create the first organization for college-trained women designed to support and promote sisterhood, scholarship, and service; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha was incorporated on January 29, 1913, which facilitated the growth of an international service organization that now consists of 1,037 chapters, including many active chapters within Cook County, and nearly 300,000 members in more than 55 nations and all 50 states including the District of Columbia, the US Virgin Islands, the Bahamas, Germany, Liberia, South Korea, Japan, Canada, South Africa and the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha's mission is to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards, to promote unity and friendship among college women, to study and help alleviate problems concerning girls and women in order to improve their social stature, to maintain a progressive interest in college life, and embodied in their credo to be of "Service to All Mankind"; and

WHEREAS, for more than a century, the AKA Sisterhood has been an indomitable force for good in their communities, state, nation, and the world; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha has maintained its focus in two key arenas: the lifelong personal and professional development of each of its members; and galvanizing its membership into an organization of respected power and influence, consistently at the forefront of effective advocacy and social change that results in equality and equity for all citizens of the world; and

WHEREAS, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. chapters located in Cook County include: Alpha Beta Delta Omega (Chicago), Beta (Chicago), Chi Alpha Omega (Schaumburg), Chi Omega Omega (Chicago), Delta Chi Omega (Evanston), Delta Omicron (Chicago), Lambda Alpha Omega (Westchester), Lambda Mu Omega (Chicago), Lambda Tau Omega (Matteson), Omicron Alpha (River Forest), Phi Epsilon Omega (Harvey), Phi Kappa Omega (Oak Lawn), Pi Nu (Chicago), Tau Gamma Omega (Chicago), Tau Mu (Chicago), Theta Omega (Chicago), Theta Rho Omega (Matteson), Xi Kappa (Evergreen Park), Xi Nu Omega (Chicago); and

WHEREAS, the members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners are pleased to congratulate the members of the Cook County Chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc. on the occasion of the sorority's 114th anniversary;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, honor Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated on their celebration of National Founders Day on January 15, 2022, and thank them for 114 years of service in the public interest; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body.

[22-1087](#)

Sponsored by: PETER N. SILVESTRI, JOHN P. DALEY, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DONNA MILLER, KEVIN B. MORRISON, DEBORAH SIMS and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING GUERIN PREP HIGH SCHOOL AND THE SISTERS OF PROVIDENCE FOR PROVIDING DECADES OF QUALITY CATHOLIC EDUCATION

WHEREAS, in the early 1960s, Chicago Archbishop Meyer invited the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, to establish a high school for young women in River Grove, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the Sisters of Providence named the school in honor of their founder, Mother Theodore Guerin, a teacher and missionary to the sick and poor; and

WHEREAS, originally from France, Mother Theodore established schools in Indiana and Illinois. She was later canonized. One of her sayings, "Love the children first, then teach them," would be a guiding

principle at the high school; and

WHEREAS, in 1962, while waiting for the new high school to be completed, more than 300 freshmen began classes at a wing of Holy Cross High School for young men on the property next door. In September of 1963, classes began with 796 freshmen and sophomores in the new Mother Theodore Guerin High School building located at 8001 W. Belmont Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Mother Guerin High School was built to accommodate 1,200 students, but its outstanding reputation helped it to grow well beyond that, peaking in the late-1970s to the early-1980s with nearly 1,600 students yearly; and

WHEREAS, the student body of Mother Guerin was diverse, drawing from neighboring suburbs, such as Elmwood Park, Schiller Park, and Oak Park, as well as from Chicago, which the school abutted; and

WHEREAS, the curriculum at Guerin High School was especially known for its excellence and achievements in art, theater, music, foreign languages, English, and social studies, to name a few; and

WHEREAS, in addition to having expertise in their fields, the Guerin faculty were committed to instilling a love of learning that would last long after students moved on; and

WHEREAS, when neighboring Holy Cross High School announced it would close in June 2004, Cardinal George asked if Guerin would be willing to become co-educational. In September of 2004, Mother Guerin opened its doors as the co-educational Guerin College Preparatory High School; and

WHEREAS, Guerin Prep remained dedicated to developing the unique potential of its diverse student body through its extensive academic curriculum, its excellent staff, its wide-range of extracurricular programs, and its commitment to Catholic faith and service; and

WHEREAS, as years progressed, rising educational expenses, declining enrollment, and increased need for financial aid contributed to the closure of Guerin College Prep at the end of the 2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, the close to 20,000 accomplished alumni of three schools in one-Mother Guerin, Holy Cross, and Guerin Prep-know that while the physical buildings are gone, the intellectual, social, and spiritual foundation received there lasts a lifetime.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby honor Guerin Prep High School and the Sisters of Providence for providing decades of quality Catholic education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be tendered to the Sisters of Providence as an expression of our gratitude and esteem.

[22-1107](#)

Sponsored by: DEBORAH SIMS, STANLEY MOORE, DONNA MILLER, 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, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF A MAN WITH A VISION MR. LAFAYETTE GATLING SR.

WHEREAS, A pioneer, a visionary and the source of comfort for millions over his illustrious 40+ year career. Born in 1940, Mr. Lafayette Gatling, Sr., a native of Seaboard North Carolina emerged from humble beginning to become one of the nation's premiere innovators and preeminent figures in the funeral business; and

WHEREAS, It was 1945, during World War, II that he was challenged at the very tender age of five by the loss of his mother. His father, Raymond Gatling, at the time of his wife's death, was somewhere in a fox hole in New Guinea fighting for his country. He arrived home six months later to find out about the loss of his wife and his very devastated little boy; and

WHEREAS, It was through this traumatic experience of losing his mother and waiting six months for his father that the five-year-old Lafayette envisioned providing comfort to those experiencing the loss of their loved one. From conducting the funerals services of chickens in his North Carolina backyard to building one of the largest funeral homes in the country, that seed of sorrow created a harvest of help, hope and healing to millions within the greater Chicagoland area; and

WHEREAS, During the years of his upbringing, he weathered the challenges of a one parent home and made his spectacular inroads into the footprints of time and sprang forth in his adult years with a degree in HVAC, a certificate in welding and cable splicing. In addition to caring for families, Mr. Lafayette Gatling Sr., served as a General Contractor for over thirty-nine years and a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 134 for over forty-five years; and

WHEREAS, He merged the sincerity of his heart and the skilled expertise of his hands by physically building Gatling's Chapel Chicago with his own hands. Additionally, he volunteered his skills to erect multiple churches for no charge along with many other facilities around the Chicago area; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lafayette Gatling Sr. attributed his success and innumerable achievements to the Glory of God. In addition to giving of his time and his treasure, for over 40 years he celebrated the blessings of God with his talent in song by leading the Famed Christland Singers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lafayette Gatling Sr. received his heavenly reward on Tuesday, December 28, 2021; and

WHEREAS, He leaves to cherish his loving wife and partner in success, Mrs. Marguerite Gatling. Three Children, Lafayette Gatling, Jr. (Dina), Shirl (Lewis) Gatling-Lacey, & Marquita (Maurice) Gatling-Johnson. Four grandsons: Aaron, Lafayette III, Dominic I., and Donovan A. Gatling and two granddaughters, Lyric Amani and Melody Iman.

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 Lafayette Gatling Sr. and joins them in sorrow at this time of loss; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of same be tendered to the family of Lafayette Gatling Sr.

[22-0946](#)

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF HILDA CARPER

WHEREAS, visionary and life-long Mennonite member, Hilda Carper, died on December 22, 2021 surrounded by loved ones at the age of 94; and

WHEREAS, Hilda was born on March 4, 1927 in an unheated bedroom of an old farmhouse in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. She was the third of four children, Ruth, Jimmy, Hilda, and Jean. They lived in an isolated farmhouse that did not have running water or electricity until she was seven. Her mother was a schoolteacher in addition to being a housewife and mother. Her father grew up on a Mennonite farm and never went past 8th grade in school. When she was 12, Hilda moved with her family to a Mennonite community in southeastern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Hilda attended Eastern Mennonite University for a year before stopping to teach at the parochial school started by her mother for their home church. She returned to Goshen College where she graduated in 1950. From 1953-1957, she lived in Basel, Switzerland. There she wrote Bible lessons for children that were translated into German and French, for use in Mennonite and other European free churches. There were three women on staff who became lifelong friends. They lived together with other Mennonite Central Committee workers as a household; and

WHEREAS, when she returned to the United States, she was invited by John Miller and his wife Louise, to join their fledgling community in Evanston, Illinois. She, John, and Louise had been part of a “dreamers’ group” in Basel that would gather to talk about how to reform the Mennonite Church via intentional community. She joined them in 1959 at the newly created Reba Place Fellowship in Evanston, an Intentional Christian community of members who live and work together, freely sharing life and resources

with one another, and with their neighbors to demonstrate God's peace and justice in the world; and

WHEREAS, Hilda first worked at Church of Hope on Peoria Street in Chicago with Julius and Peggy Belser who were establishing an intentional community in Chicago with African American members from the neighborhood. During this time, she directed a children's choir, comprised of neighborhood children, which became very good. They received invitations to sing at many suburban churches around Chicago and were invited to sing on TV, including a performance at a circus at the Medina Temple in Chicago. In 1965, urban renewal slated the Peoria Street area to be demolished to make room the University of Illinois' Circle Campus. Church of Hope was coming to an end; and

WHEREAS, after the Church of Hope closed, Hilda moved to 727 Reba Place where she lived on the third floor and immediately began transforming the first floor into a daycare center. Reba Place, as it was then known, grew and continues to serve the Evanston community as the Reba Early Learning Center; and

WHEREAS, in the early eighties, a seminary student and pastor of Lake Street Church decided that Evanston needed a homeless shelter. After some challenges with the city, a shelter was formed in the Lake Street Church basement. Hilda became a volunteer at the shelter. By then, she had moved to the Clearing, another intentional living community associated with Reba Place. They had many homeless people coming to The Clearing for help and she wanted to find a way to support the homeless population in a more stable and sustainable way. She began volunteering at the shelter by starting a breakfast program there; and

WHEREAS, when volunteers at the shelter became overwhelmed by the need, Hilda was asked to become its director. She became the first paid staff person for Evanston's Connections for the Homeless in 1984. The shelter, Hilda's Place provides transitional housing for qualified single men and women for whom permanent housing is not yet available. They serve 20 participants, who typically remain for three months before moving into their own housing. Because of her work in establishing and running the shelter, the Connections for the Homeless board named it "Hilda's Place" in her honor. In addition to the transitional shelter, Hilda's Place has a drop-in site, bag lunches for those in need, and a food pantry. The shelter continues to serve people in need out of the basement of the Lake Street Church; and

WHEREAS, music was always important to Hilda. When she first came to Chicago, she was accepted into and sang with the Chicago Symphony Chorus for ten years; and

WHEREAS, Hilda is survived by her sister, Jean Miller, other residents of The Clearing, and members of the Mennonite ministry in Evanston and throughout the world.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County, honors the life, work, and contributions of Hilda Carper, and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions she made to the Citizens of Cook County, Illinois; 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 same be tendered to the family of the Hilda Carper.

[22-0968](#)

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE CICELY FLEMING FOR HER SERVICE TO THE EVANSTON COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, Cicely Fleming current 9th Ward Alderwoman for the City of Evanston is stepping down from that position on January 31, 2022. Ald. Fleming was first elected to the City Council in 2017. She is the first African American alderperson to be elected from a non-majority African American ward in the City of Evanston. She was the only council person to run unopposed in the 2021 municipal election; and

WHEREAS, in her role as Alderwoman, Cicely has been a model of transparency and engagement. She has published a monthly newsletter informing residents of issues before the council and services available to residents from the City. She never took a vote, especially on controversial issues, without explaining why she was voting the way she did. Perhaps the most controversial vote during her tenure was her vote against the Evanston Reparations program, which she saw more as a housing support ordinance and not a true reparations model that respected independence of Black residents; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her role on the city council, Cicely has served residents of Evanston in many other ways. She was president of her local PTA, a member of Evanston's Mental Health Board, and a volunteer at Connections for the Homeless. When the pandemic hit in 2020, Cicely almost single-handedly formed a network of neighborhood "food boxes" where people could leave food and other necessities for people in need; and

WHEREAS, Cicely is a fourth-generation activist and influencer in Evanston. Her great-grandfather, Samuel White, Jr., was the Evanston Democratic Party Committeeman who served the 5th Ward as alderman when it was Evanston's only Democratic ward. Her great-aunt, Edna Summers, was Evanston's 5th Ward alderwoman, township supervisor, and past president of the Evanston branch of the NAACP. Her cousins, Michael Summers and Rochelle Whyte-Washington, also both served as 5th Ward aldermen and another cousin, Jerome Summers, is a former member of the Evanston/Skokie District 65 School Board; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, she joined others to form OPAL, The Organization for Positive Action and Leadership, a group committed to promoting equity in government. Their initial goals were to improve African American student achievement in Evanston/Skokie District 65 schools by electing equity-focused candidates to local school boards and achieving racial equity in local government. OPAL screened candidates for both school boards in Evanston and local government offices and gave both financial and political support to candidates they endorsed; and

WHEREAS, Cicely holds a master's degree in Public Administration from DePaul University. Her academic and personal interests include policy development and analysis, asset-based community development, voter engagement and mobilization, and racial equity in government. She worked for three years as the Deputy District Director and Chief of Staff of Cook County Commissioner Larry Suffredin. She left that position in September 2021 to become the State Director of Regional and Community Systems, a newly launched department at INCCRRA, the Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies. In this role Cicely leads the implementation, in partnership with the Governor's office, of statewide regional infrastructure to transform delivery of Illinois Early Learning programs & services. The goal of INCCRRA is to center parental voice and racial equity; and

WHEREAS, Cicely lives in Evanston with her husband, Andrew, and three children: Cole, a freshman at the University of Wisconsin; Genevieve a freshman at George Washington University; and Natalia, a competitive cheerleader and sophomore at Evanston Township High School.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County, honors the work and contributions of Cicely Fleming, and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions she made to the Citizens of Cook County, Illinois; 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 same be tendered to Cicely Fleming.

[22-1111](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIVES OF COOK COUNTY 13TH DISTRICT RESIDENTS WHO DIED FROM COVID-19 BETWEEN OCTOBER 21, 2021 AND DECEMBER 31, 2021, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS, Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a deadly infectious disease that has swept across our County, state, nation and world; and

WHEREAS, anyone can contract COVID-19, regardless of race, color, sex, age, religion, disability, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, or gender identity; and

WHEREAS, as of December 31, 2021, COVID-19 had killed more than 5.47 million worldwide, 831,000 in the United States, 31,416 in Illinois and 12,686 in Cook County; and

WHEREAS, between October 21, 2021 and December 31, 2021 seventy residents who lived in the 13th District of Cook County died from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as of October 21, 2021 COVID-19 had killed more than one thousand residents who lived in the 13th District of Cook County; and

WHEREAS, each of the departed leave family, friends and communities in mourning; and

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called the below 13th District residents from our midst:

Chicago (49th and 50th Wards) 60645, 60626, 60659, 60660

Chris Wright, Eleanor Zirko, Lev Shakhnet, Hector Ortega, Lisa Capparelli, John Kotitsas, Ruth Kaushal, Henderson Wilkins, James Blackburn, Leonidas Antazo, Menachem Emanuel, Brent Randall, Darlene A. Noel, Ladi Adedeji, Perry Tsourapas, Victor Quijano

Evanston

Linda Newton, Malcolm S. Brown, Joseph Hosman, Arthur Crampton, Marsha Cole, Vivian B. Markson, Anna Golovin, Deborah Higgins, Carla La Rochelle, Robert Fahy

Glenview

Mauro Gonzales, Lynee A. Sparberg, Lucy Ramish, Mariia Vagil, Peter Marinis, Olga Marinic, Mariya Decheva

Lincolnwood

Paul Sternfeld, Sam George, Andja Novak

Morton Grove

Antoni W. Wadolowski, Minerva Tushe, Patricia Mkrdichian

Niles

Sophie Kinar, Vera Borisova, Shirley Abramson, Wes Lester Gizynski, Shamshoon Benyamin, Pamela Karban, Margot Bohdan, Donald Erickson, Patricia Alexander, Alexander McWilliams, Margaret Mack, Freyre Bermudez, Kwi H. Song, Percy Slaughter, Dobrila Kamatovic, Viktor Zilai

Skokie

David Radler, Belan Javier, Branislav Dimitrijevic, Donald Thomas, Patricia L. Medina, Wahid Adam, Jorge Fernandez, Daniel Bredicean, Mohammad Khan, Tomas Abraham, Esho Orah, Shamin Aslam Bhatti, Betty Hethcoat, James Anderson

Winnetka

Susan Daniels

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County, commemorates the lives of the **COOK COUNTY**

13TH DISTRICT RESIDENTS WHO DIED FROM COVID-19 BETWEEN OCTOBER 21, 2021 and DECEMBER 31, 2021 and herewith expresses its sincere condolences to their friends, families and communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body.