



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

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

Consent Agenda

Thursday, May 25, 2023, 10:00 AM

[23-2757](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

2023 UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND NATIONAL WALK FOR EDUCATION

WHEREAS, in 1943, Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute suggested to the presidents of other private black colleges that they pool their monies and make a united appeal to the national conscience; and

WHEREAS, on April 25, 1944, the United Negro College Fund (“UNCF”) was incorporated with twenty-seven member colleges as a not-for-profit entity established to assist its member institutions of higher education to raise funds from the public for their mutual support; and

WHEREAS, the importance of UNCF, and the historically Black colleges and universities it supports, promotes the value of higher education as well as the traditional values of family and heritage that have made this nation great; and

WHEREAS, over the past seven decades UNCF has grown to become the nation’s oldest and most successful African American higher education assistance organization in the country by having raised more than \$5 billion and having helped more than 500,000 students not just attend college, but thrive, graduate and become leaders; and

WHEREAS, each year UNCF awards more than 10,000 student scholarships worth more than \$100 million and provides financial support to 37 member institutions; and

WHEREAS, each year UNCF raises funds through various campaigns, initiatives and events including an annual Walk for Education in various cities of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Annual UNCF Chicago Walk for Education is being held on Saturday, September 16, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Cook County has proudly supported UNCF’s efforts for more than 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle is the honorary chair for the 2023 UNCF Chicago Walk for Education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, do hereby recognize and express Cook County’s support for the 2023 UNCF Chicago Walk for Education and commitment to provide assistance and resources to ensure its success; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that under the leadership of the Bureau of Administration, various Cook County departments and agencies will collaborate with UNCF to plan, coordinate, and otherwise support the 2023 UNCF Chicago Walk for Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Bureau of Administration shall be further authorized to utilize County resources, as necessary, to promote, plan and otherwise support the 2023 UNCF Chicago Walk for Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President and Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby acknowledge and commend the UNCF for its continued positive impact throughout the United States and express the County’s sincere appreciation and gratitude for selecting President Preckwinkle as the honorary chair of the 2023 UNCF Chicago Walk for Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to UNCF in expressing Cook County’s well wishes for a successful 2023 UNCF Chicago Walk for Education.

[23-2816](#)

Sponsored by: JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

MICHAEL D. HUELS., IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Michael D. Huels from our midst, and

WHEREAS Michael D. Huels was the beloved husband of Mary Ann Mahon-Huels; and

WHEREAS Michael D. Huels was the loving father of Marie Huels; and

WHEREAS Michael D. Huels was the devoted son of the late Lorraine and Michael Huels Sr.; and

WHEREAS Michael D. Huels was the dear brother of Karen Huels and Patricia (Chet) Bielski; and

WHEREAS Michael D. Huels was the fond brother-in-law of William, Michael (Amy), Marie (Carmen) Mahon; and

WHEREAS Michael D. Huels was the cherished uncle of many nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS all who knew him will attest that Michael D. Huels, 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 Michael D. Huels 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 Michael D. Huels, that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished..

[23-3018](#)

Sponsored by: JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, 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 and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

GRACE ANN BARRY, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Grace Barry, nee Carroll from our midst; and

WHEREAS Grace Barry was the loving mother of Catherine (Tim); and

WHEREAS Grace Barry was the cherished grandmother of Ronan, Maren, and Eden; and

WHEREAS Grace Barry was born on April 28, 1941, to Catherine and Raymond Carroll; and

WHEREAS Grace Barry was the youngest of six siblings, survived by her sister Eileen Dolehide; and

WHEREAS Grace Barry attended Barat College where she graduated with a BA in Education in 1963; and

WHEREAS Grace Barry worked for her father handling press for the delegation to Rome for the Second Vatican Council; and

WHEREAS Grace Barry, in 1967, moved to Buffalo, NY, where she worked for Housing and Urban development and served on the board of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra; and

WHEREAS Grace Barry lead the Chicago office of Cablevision and later became Cable Commissioner for the City of Chicago; and

WHEREAS Grace Barry was the first woman executive director and later promoted to President of the

prestigious Economic Club of Chicago; and

WHEREAS Grace Barry was an active board member, including the Joffrey Ballet, Old Saint Pat's Church, the Center for International Rehab, and After School Matters; and

WHEREAS all who knew her will attest that Grace Barry was a kind and compassionate woman, virtuous of character and gentle in spirit, admired and respected by her many friends and neighbors, and dearly loved by her 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 Grace Barry 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 Grace Barry that her memory may be so honored and ever cherished..

[23-3025](#)

Sponsored by: JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, 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 and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

SANDRA MCNAMARA, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Sandra McNamara from our midst, and

WHEREAS Sandra McNamara was the beloved wife of Raymond McNamara; and

WHEREAS Sandra McNamara was the loving mother of the late Martin (the late Bridget), Sean (Brandi), Michael (Kathleen); and

WHEREAS Sandra McNamara was the cherished grandmother of Martin, Connor, Abigail, Jaqueline, Michael and Maura, and great-grandmother of Martin, Ashlyn, Natalie, and Jack; and

WHEREAS Sandra McNamara was the dearest sister of Thomas (Carol) Bailey, Joseph Bailey, and Margaret Bailey; and

WHEREAS Sandra McNamara was the cherished aunt of numerous nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS Sandra McNamara was a lifelong Canaryville resident who enjoyed spending time with her

family, especially her grandchildren; and

WHEREAS all who knew her will attest that Sandra McNamara, was a kind and compassionate woman, virtuous of character and gentle in spirit, admired and respected by her friends and neighbors, and dearly loved by her 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 Sandra McNamara 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 Sandra McNamara, that her memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[23-2841](#)

Sponsored by: DONNA MILLER, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGREN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BILL LOWRY, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIS EVERETT (BILL) PENNINGTON JR.

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom called from our midst Willis Everett (Bill) Pennington Jr. on Aril 30th, 2023 at the age of 75; and

WHEREAS, Bill was born in Richmond, Indiana, on June 12, 1948, the eldest of eight children born to the late Willis E. Pennington Sr. and Deloris Cottman Pennington; and

WHEREAS, Bill loved his childhood and was so proud of his hometown, Richmond, and his humble beginnings. He also loved his family immensely, and as the big brother, Bill was always the sibling his younger ones could rely on and was their confidant, best friend, advocate, and sought his counsel for almost everything since he was considered the cool, calm, and collected one; and

WHEREAS, Bill excelled while attending grammar and high schools. He was a member of the Richmond High School track and field team, and to this day, he still holds track and field records there; and

WHEREAS, Bill graduated from Richmond High in 1967 and joined the U.S. Army. Bill served in the Vietnam War in the 1st Cavalry Division from 1968-1970, and while serving, he received the Army Commendation Medal and Good Conduct Medal along with several other honors; and

WHEREAS, after Vietnam, he briefly attended Earlham College in Richmond before later transferring

to Howard University in Washington, D.C. It was at Howard in Locke Hall that Bill "locked" eyes with the love of his life, Queenie, and the two still remembered the room number and seats they sat in when they met in a public speaking class; and

WHEREAS, while at Howard, he was a member of various organizations on campus including Phi Alpha Theta - Zeta Gamma Chapter Honor Society, the Association of Veteran Students and the Political Science Society and Bill graduated from Howard with a bachelor's degree in history and international relations; and

WHEREAS, soon after, Bill and Queenie moved to Chicago, Illinois and married on April 12 in Montgomery, Alabama. To this union, four children were born: Willis Everett III, Chyla Elise, Kristin Carrielle and Jonathan Michael; and

WHEREAS, Bill was a corporate man working for CNA Insurance and understood the importance of education, hard work, and leadership; he was the company's only African American Re-Insurance Executive. During his time at CNA, Bill served in various roles including reinsurance contract negotiations and treaty drafting, attorney malpractice, accountant professional liability, directors and officer's liability, and Latin American Property and Casualty Insurance Treaties and retired in 2010; and

WHEREAS, even though Bill attained great success in the business world, he never missed his children's athletic games or their academic ceremonies, and when his children became parents, Bill brought that same proud energy while attending his grandson Aiden's basketball games, cheering him on, clapping enthusiastically, "Go, Aiden! Hustle son!"; and

WHEREAS, despite retiring, Bill was always an advocate for change, and as a natural leader, Bill ran for a Village Trustee post in Olympia Fields, Illinois, in 2006 and served four terms. During his 16 years as a village trustee, Bill served as Chairman of the finance committee and Trustee liaison to the planning and going commission, and Trustee liaison at the Village of Olympia Fields Veterans Commission; and

WHEREAS, as a family man, he was a part of the "Jack Pack" with other dads in the South Suburban Chicago Chapter of Jack and Jill of America. Upon moving to Olympia Fields, the family became members of Calvary Baptist Church in nearby Glenwood, and as a member, Bill joined the men's choir and became a trusted advisor for church business. He was elected as a Church trustee and served on the Pastor Search Committee; and

WHEREAS, Bill also served on the board of directors for finance at the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus Foundation, where he co-developed the Village Long Range Financial Model "The 2040 Plan."; and

WHEREAS, anyone who knew Bill knew he loved having a good time. He often hosted card parties and attended dinner dances and loved stepping (Chicago style, of course) with his beloved Queenie. Bill also possessed a great singing voice and enjoyed singing gospel tunes. He also was a history buff who took great interest in his family's genealogy; and

WHEREAS, Bill was a longtime member of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity and a charter member of Delta Sigma Boule, where he served as the chapter's treasurer. In addition, he was a member of the National Association of Guardsmen and the Chicago Assembly, where he served as secretary and treasurer for the latter; and

WHEREAS, Bill leaves behind to cherish his memory and continue his everlasting legacy, his beloved wife, Queenie, and his devoted children, Willis Everett III, Dr. Chyla Elise, Kristin Carrielle and Jonathan Michael; three loving grandchildren, Aiden Pennington, and Carrielle and Bradley Edwards; three sisters, Rebecca Watkins, Luvenia Sue (Eugene) and Evelyn Tate (John); sisters-in-law Valeria Burris (Alfred), Denise Pennington and Tracy Pennington; and a host of favorite nieces, favorite nephews and loving cousins. Bill also leaves behind many friends and most notably the men and woman he spent countless hours within his organizations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby offer its deepest condolences and heartfelt sympathy to the family and loved ones of Willis Everett (Bill) Pennington Jr.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and a suitable copy be presented to the family of Willis Everett (Bill) Pennington Jr. so that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[23-3008](#)

Sponsored by: KEVIN B. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

JAMES KREHER RETIREMENT, CHIEF OF BARRINGTON COUNTRYSIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

WHEREAS, James “Jim” Kreher has served as the Chief of the Barrington Countryside Fire Protection District for more than seven years, having previously served as Assistant Chief from 2013 to 2015; and

WHEREAS, Chief Kreher has dedicated over 45 years to the service of Fire Protection in Illinois, previously serving in a litany of positions for the Fox River Grove Fire Protection District from 1978 to 2020 including as an Assistant Engineer, Chief Engineer, Lieutenant, Captain, and Deputy Chief; and,

WHEREAS, Chief Kreher has also served as an EMT-Paramedic since 1995, graduating as Valedictorian of his Paramedic’s Class and earning the ‘Golden Stethoscope’; and

WHEREAS, Chief Kreher was awarded the ‘Everyday Hero Award’ in 2013 by the Northwest Herald which recognizes heroes making a difference in their communities through everyday actions; and

WHEREAS, he was also awarded the 2013 ‘Paul Harris Fellowship Award’, given out once a year by the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International to individuals whose volunteer efforts often go unrecognized; and

WHEREAS, Chief Kreher has worked to make his community a safer place outside of his role in Fire Protection through his 28 years of service as a high school CPR instructor at Cary-Grove High School; and

WHEREAS, Chief Kreher further serves his community through his volunteer work with ‘Operation North Pole’ a not-for-profit assisting children with cancer and their families, serving as the Chairperson for ‘Help Us Help Others Golf Outing’ whose proceeds go towards scholarships, and acting as the 6th to 8th grade Boys Cary-Grove Travel Basketball Coach; and

WHEREAS, Cook County and the Cook County Board of Commissioners have had the honor of working with Chief Kreher who proved to be a wonderful partner; and

WHEREAS, Chief Kreher will now be retired and able to spend more time with his friends and family;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County that the Board does hereby offer its congratulations to Jim on his retirement from the position of Chief of Barrington Countryside Fire Protection District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and suitable copies be tendered to Jim Kreher as he enjoys every day of his retirement.

[23-3010](#)

Sponsored by: KEVIN B. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER RESIDENTS IN COOK COUNTY

WHEREAS, the month of May is recognized as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, Cook County celebrates the vast contributions made by Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in our communities; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge and celebrate the contributions of Asian Pacific Americans in our District's social, economic, and democratic success, as well as their role in making Cook County a great place with diverse culture; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge and celebrate the contributions of the particular individuals named below, who have made great contributions and selfless efforts and helped develop a great working relationship with the Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, we honor, Sunil Shah, Founder of Federation of Indian Associations, Chicago; a successful insurance business entrepreneur based in Greater Chicago Area; and,

WHEREAS, we honor, Neil Khot, founding Member of Federation of Indian Associations, Chicago; Founder and CEO of Rely Services Inc., a global information technology and BPO organization, and President of Woodfield Office Condo Association; and

WHEREAS, we honor, Vinita Gulbani, a beauty entrepreneur professional and Co-Founder of Hindi Lovers Club, an empowerment platform for Indian & Southeast Asian women entrepreneurs; and

WHEREAS, we honor, Mr. Hitesh Gandhi is an Microbiologist with 25 plus year of working in Healthcare industry, Past President of Gandhi Samaj of Chicago and a real estate entrepreneur; and

WHEREAS, we honor, Dr. Sreenivas Reddy, a board-certified Diagnostic Radiologist with fellowship training in Vascular and Interventional Radiology from Rush-Presbyterian- St. Luke’s Center, Chicago, member of Society of Interventional Radiology, American College of Phlebology and Radiological Society of North America, and very active member of Chicago Medical Society and Illinois State Medical Society (ISMS); and

WHEREAS, we honor, Annu Khot, an attorney by education and now the Managing Partner of Rely Services, and a recent investor in local healthcare and cannabis businesses; and

WHEREAS, Cook County’s strength is in its diversity and these individuals are an example of that;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby honor the individuals listed above for the outstanding work they do in Cook County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that suitable copies of this resolution are presented to the honorees listed above.