



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

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

**Consent Agenda**

**Tuesday, February 6, 2018, 9:00 AM**

**Second Set**

[18-2069](#)

**Sponsored by:** LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE JUDGE WILLIAM COUSINS JR.**

**WHEREAS**, William Cousins Jr, former Justice of the Illinois Appellate Court, Cook County Prosecutor, trial attorney, Alderman of the 8th Ward, community leader and a man who spent his life deeply devoted to faith, family and public service died January 20th at the age of 90. He left behind countless friends, family and a community deeply enriched for having known him; and

**WHEREAS**, William Cousins was born a small Mississippi community within a stone's throw of the place where Emmett Till was killed. At an early age he confronted issues of racism and violence and was an eye-witness to many of the social pathologies and lack of opportunity associated with poverty. Neither of his parents had much schooling but they were tireless in securing an education for their son. The family moved to Memphis and later to Chicago in 1938. His exceptional academic talent revealed itself early in life; he graduated from DuSable High School where he earned top grades, ran track, and served as president of his senior class; and

**WHEREAS**, William Cousins received a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1948. While there, he excelled both academically and as a cadet in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps. He starred on the school's debate team, never losing a debate. For his bachelor's degree in political science, he wrote a thesis on stare decisis et non quieta movere--Latin for "to adhere to precedent and not disturb settled principles." He concluded that adhering to precedent was essential for a stable system of justice in a society, even though it meant that societal injustices would only be corrected "with provoking slowness." Precedent need not be abandoned to make society more fair, he wrote; instead, "the quality of our judges should be improved." Nearly three decades before he would become one himself, Cousins wrote, "While judges are men, they must of necessity be more than ordinary men;" and

**WHEREAS**, William Cousins received his law degree from Harvard Law School in 1951. After law school, he was commissioned as a lieutenant in the Army and served in the Pacific Theater during the Korean War. He was a second lieutenant in the infantry, where he was the leader of a predominately all-white unit. While in Japan, he met his future wife, Hiroko Ogawa. The couple married in Japan in 1953 and raised four children and remained together until she died in 2005; and

**WHEREAS**, William Cousins began his legal career as an examining attorney for Chicago Title & Trust Company. Later, he served as an assistant state's attorney and then formed his own law firm along with three other African-American attorneys and Harvard Law School graduates; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1967, William Cousins became alderman of the 8th Ward. He ran for alderman as an independent Democrat, using the slogan "Unbowed, Unbossed and Unbought" and was elected three

times. While an alderman, his main contributions were the extension of rapid transit south. He opposed the creation of the Crosstown Expressway and sought to add new schools and parks to the ward. He also fought to keep open commuter rail stations on the Illinois Central at the 79th, 82nd and 87th Street stations. One highlight of his ten years, was the citywide ordinance he sponsored that was approved by the council establishing Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday as a city holiday; and

**WHEREAS**, William Cousins left the City Council for the bench when he was elected to the Cook County Circuit Court. While there, he was known for his exceptional work ethic, fairness and formality. From the bench, he always referred to himself as "the court." His rulings were long and detailed in order to forestall reversals in higher courts. He will long be remembered for this relentless attention to detail which often kept him late into the evening at the courthouse, a habit for which he became known as "The Prince of Darkness"; and

**WHEREAS**, Judge Cousins was a jurist who was decades ahead of his time. While a sitting judge in Circuit Court, he courageously challenged the constitutionality of Illinois' death penalty. In a case in which the state sought the death penalty, he ruled that Illinois' Death Sentence Act was, in his words "wantonly and freakishly imposed." Though his ruling was reversed by the Illinois Supreme Court it was often described by many as courageous and compassionate. He was proud of his ruling that found Illinois' death penalty unconstitutional in 1979, over two decades before then Governor George Ryan declared a moratorium on capital punishment; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1992, William Cousins won the Democratic primary for a 10-year term as a justice on the Illinois Appellate Court. He went on to win the general election with no opposition. Decades ahead of others he publicly noted that the population of Illinois' prisons has almost doubled since he had joined the bench, from 12,000 to more than 20,000. He often lamented the growing dependency on incarceration as the cure for crime. He stated that "They are building new prisons, but not fast enough--they fill almost before they complete them. Obviously, we're fighting a losing battle; "and

**WHEREAS**, Justice Cousins chose not to seek re-election to the appellate court in 2002. After he retired from the bench he was requested by Mayor Richard M. Daley to co-chair a panel to investigate code enforcement policies and possible communication breakdowns among city agencies in the wake of the E2 nightclub disaster that killed twenty-one people. He was later named to the panel, known as the Mikva commission by Cook County Board President John Stroger to conduct an independent investigation into the deadly fire at the Cook County Administration building; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to his stellar legal career, William Cousins was also a well-respected volunteer leader in the community. He led the Chatham-Avalon Park Community Council, where he worked to oppose high-rise housing in the neighborhood and was an active member of Trinity United Church of Christ and Kappa Alpha Psi and Sigma Pi Phi, his college fraternity where he participated in student sit-ins; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout his long exceptional life, Cousins faced prejudice and lost opportunities because he was African-American; he fought back against racism as deliberately and methodically as he ruled in

court and the community has lost a great friend; he will be missed. He will be missed by his many friends, neighbors and colleagues. His loss will be felt most acutely by his children Gail Yoshiko Cousins, Cheryl Akiko Cousins; two sons, Yul Cousins and Noel Cousins; and four grandchildren; 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 who he served dutifully, commemorates the extraordinary life of the Honorable Justice William Cousins Jr., and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable and innumerable contributions he has 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 the same be tendered to the family of the Honorable Justice William Cousins Jr.

[18-2072](#)

**Sponsored by:** JESÚS G. GARCÍA, JERRY BUTLER, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, BRIDGET GAINER, DEBORAH SIMS and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING THE LIFE OF PASTOR RON TAYLOR, COMMUNITY ADVOCATE AND  
FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE UNITED CONGRESS OF COMMUNITY AND  
RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS**

**WHEREAS, WHEREAS**, A proud South Sider, Ronnie Taylor, affectionately known as “Pastor Ron,” was born in Chicago on July 31, 1957 and dedicated his life to ministry and earnest public service; and

**WHEREAS**, Pastor Ron was the youngest of seven children and graduated from Farragut Career Academy in Chicago in 1975; and

**WHEREAS**, Drawn to religious life as a teenager, Pastor Ron was ordained a minister at Hope Deliverance Tabernacle, the same place where he met his future wife; and

**WHEREAS**, Pastor Ron married Johnnie May Jewett in 1974 and together they have a daughter, Rebecca, and granddaughter, Harmony; and

**WHEREAS**, Pastor Ron began his career at companies including Sears Roebuck and Co., Wells Manufacturing Co. and RR Donnelly’s and Sons Printing Co., where he worked for 25 years until he retired to take on ministry full time; and

**WHEREAS**, Throughout the years, Pastor Ron embodied his commitment to faith and advocacy by serving on the Board of Trustees of Truth Triumphant Ministry, founding the Disciples for Christ Outreach Ministries, and serving on the Board of Directors, among other positions, for Target Area Development Corporation; and

**WHEREAS**, One of Pastor Ron's most notable accomplishments was the 2005 co-founding of the United Congress of Community and Religious Organizations (UCCRO), a coalition of revered Chicago based cross-racial and faith-based social justice advocates, ultimately becoming its Executive Director in 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, Under the leadership of Pastor Ron, UCCRO has tirelessly advocated for policies that prioritize justice and opportunity for communities of color and coordinates a Racial Equity Training that addresses structural racism; and

**WHEREAS**, UCCRO advocates for addressing systemic issues and racial inequities that lead to the mass criminalization of poverty stricken communities, in addition to supporting the Illinois TRUST Act and efforts to repeal the prohibition on rent control; and

**WHEREAS**, As a result of his leadership and commitment to empowering communities of color, Pastor Ron gained local and national recognition for his work in the area of social justice; and

**WHEREAS**, Pastor Ron had recently been recognized as 2017 Champion of Social Justice by Chicago African Americans in Philanthropy; and

**WHEREAS**, Known for his humility and compassion, Pastor Ron's legacy will live on through his family, colleagues and the communities he served; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby honor the life and work of cherished community leader Pastor Ron Taylor; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this resolution be tendered to Pastor Ron Taylor's family and to the United Congress of Community and Religious Organizations as a symbol of condolence and recognition of his dedication.

[18-2075](#)

**Sponsored by:** LUIS ARROYO JR, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), RICHARD R. BOYKIN, JERRY BUTLER, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, BRIDGET GAINER, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, GREGG GOSLIN, EDWARD M. MOODY, STANLEY MOORE, SEAN M. MORRISON, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS, LARRY SUFFREDIN and JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, Cook County Board of Commissioners

#### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING THE LIFE OF PAUL BOOTH, AUTHOR, VISIONARY LABOR LEADER, STRATEGIST AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTIVIST. IN MEMORIAM.**

**WHEREAS**, Paul Booth, an influential Illinois labor leader and primary architect of the first big march against the war in Vietnam, died Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 74; and

**WHEREAS**, in the early 1970s, as assistant director of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Council 31, Mr. Booth helped negotiate the first contracts for Illinois state workers, guaranteeing government workers a right to union representation; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Booth joined the labor movement in 1966 as research director for the United Packinghouse Workers of America. He became organizing director and was affiliated for more than four decades with AFSCME, one of the country's biggest labor unions, where he devised the nation's very first living-wage campaign; and

**WHEREAS**, before joining the union, Mr. Booth was a national leader of Students for a Democratic Society and in 1965 helped SDS organize the first major march on Washington, D.C., to oppose the Vietnam War, drawing about 15,000 students. He popularized the slogan "Build, Not Burn" to promote civilian public service work as an alternative to the military draft; and

**WHEREAS**, a published author, Mr. Booth was a strategist who often wrote about the democratic process as he did in his last writing, in the *Prospect*, where he argued for the strategic importance of independent voters; and

**WHEREAS**, Paul Robert Booth was born on June 7, 1943, in Washington. His father, Philip Booth, worked for the Labor Department and drafted Social Security legislation and programs for migrant workers. His mother was the former Mary Markowitz; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Booth leaves a profound mark on the world of organizing and activism in which he spent his working life.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, does hereby offer its deepest condolences and most heartfelt sympathy to the family of Paul Booth, to the government workers of Illinois and to his friends and colleagues; and honor the life and memory of this outstanding leader by adopting this resolution; 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 Mr. Booth's immediate family; his wife Heather Booth, sons Eugene Victor Booth and Daniel Garrison Booth, his brother Michael, and his five grandchildren.

[18-2076](#)

**Sponsored by:** LUIS ARROYO JR, GREGG GOSLIN, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), RICHARD R. BOYKIN, JERRY BUTLER, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, BRIDGET GAINER, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, EDWARD M. MOODY, STANLEY MOORE, SEAN M. MORRISON, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS, LARRY SUFFREDIN and JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT OF CHICAGO POLICE OFFICERS DAVID R. RAMOS AND JEROME TURBYVILLE AND WHEELING DETECTIVE IGNACIO OROPEZA**

**WHEREAS**, On November 12, 2017 at 3:20p.m., a family drove to the Wheeling Walgreens store to purchase diapers. The father went inside the store leaving his wife, three-year old son, and one-week old son inside their idling vehicle. As the father was shopping, an unknown male offender entered the vehicle and drove away with the mother and children; and

**WHEREAS**, after Wheeling Police Department Officers and Detectives responded to the scene, an emergency ISPERN broadcast and an AMBER alert were issued to help locate the family in danger. A short time later the mother and two children were located safe more than 20 miles away in the Belmont area in Chicago, after the suspect abandoned the family in their vehicle, taking with him their cell phone and credit cards; and

**WHEREAS**, Wheeling Police Detective Ignacio Oropeza worked on securing and viewing the surveillance videos recovered from Walgreens and a Mobil gas station where the offender fraudulently used a credit card belonging to the victims. Detective Oropeza identified the offender based on prior police contacts. An Aggravated Kidnapping arrest warrant was issued for the offender, and

**WHEREAS**, on November 15, 2017, while off-duty, Chicago Police Officer David R. Ramos was driving east on Chicago Avenue approaching Franklin Street towards a local Starbucks coffee shop, when he observed the wanted offender, who was just featured on the local television news station, exiting a Dunkin Donuts shop; and

**WHEREAS**, after confirming the identity of the dangerous felon, Officer David R. Ramos flagged down fellow Chicago Police Officer Jerome Turbyville, who was patrolling the Chicago River North Community. Officers Ramos and Turbyville, effectively using their police training skills to ensure that citizens in the public area were not in harm's way of being injured, arrested and transported the wanted offender to the 18th Chicago Police district for processing and ultimate transfer to Wheeling Police custody; and

**WHEREAS**, thanks to the dedication and commitment demonstrated by Officers David Ramos and Jerome Turbyville and the stellar work by Detective Ignacio Oropeza, a dangerous criminal wanted for carjacking and aggravated kidnapping was safely arrested.

**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 commend and offer their heartfelt gratitude to Chicago Police Officers David Ramos and Jerome Turbyville and Wheeling Police Detective Ignacio Oropeza for their unwavering dedication and commitment to the communities they serve; 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 Chicago Police Officers David Ramos and Jerome Turbyville and Wheeling Police Detective Ignacio Oropeza.

[18-2079](#)

**Sponsored by:** TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF BILL TIKNIS**

**WHEREAS**, Almighty God in his infinite wisdom called William Tiknis from our midst on November 20, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill Tiknis, born in Chicago on November 11, 1928 to William and Sophie, beloved husband to the late Charlotte Lange, loving father of Clay (Kathe), Mark (Pat) and the late Cory, cherished grandfather of Laurel Tiknis, Zac (Julie) Tiknis, Noah Tiknis, Thoreau Tiknis and Sophie Tiknis, proud great grandfather of Oscar and Henry, and dear brother of Julie Costello, Jeannie Rasmussen, was very active in his community for the majority of his life; and

**WHEREAS**, “Tik” was a long-time resident and public official to the citizens of Bartlett who was fundamental in facilitating and creating many of the amenities available in Bartlett today; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1956 Bill and his family moved to Bartlett by accident, as Bill described it; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill served in multiple public service roles after moving to town such as a Bartlett Volunteer fireman for 14 years, and Village Trustee for 10 years before being elected Village President; and

**WHEREAS**, during his time in those various offices he changed the Village of Bartlett for the better, helping to create the Bartlett Park District, obtain the Apple Orchard Park property and plan the original wastewater treatment plant, and was involved in the creation of the Northwest Suburban Mass Transit District; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1981 Tik was elected Hanover Township supervisor and served for 16 years; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1991 Bill co-chaired the Bartlett Centennial Commission, and in that same year was named a Bartlett Living Legend; and



**WHEREAS**, one of Bill's most important accomplishments was the acquisition of Bartlett Hills by the village; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill Tiknis truly influenced and changed Bartlett for the better, and helped shape a community that the residents of Bartlett can enjoy and be proud of; and

**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 friends of Bill Tiknis 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 that a suitable copy of the same be tendered to the family of Bill Tiknis so that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[18-2082](#)

**Sponsored by:** BRIDGET GAINER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING HOWARD BROWN HEALTH, ONE OF THE NATION'S LARGEST LGBTQ ORGANIZATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, February 7, 2018 marks the 18th year of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NBHAAD), a national HIV testing and treatment community mobilization initiative targeted at Black populations in the United States as a national response to the growing HIV and AIDS epidemic in African-American communities; and,

**WHEREAS**, Howard Brown Health, with multiple health clinics spanning the far north sides and south sides of the City, exists to eliminate the disparities in healthcare experienced by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people through research, education and the provision of services that promote health and wellness; and,

**WHEREAS**, Howard Brown Health was founded in 1974 and is now one of the nation's largest lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBTQ) organizations; and,

**WHEREAS**, the agency serves more than 30,000 adults and youth each year in its diverse health and social service delivery system focused around seven major programmatic divisions: primary medical care, behavioral health, research, HIV/STI prevention, youth services, elder services, and community initiatives; and,

**WHEREAS**, Howard Brown serves men, women, transgender and gender non-conforming individuals, infants, youth, and children through a multi-site operation based in Chicago that includes a main health and research center in the Uptown neighborhood, Howard Brown Health Sheridan, and eight other clinics

across the city including sites in Englewood, Back of the Yards, Rogers Park, Hyde Park, Edgewater, and Lakeview; and,

**WHEREAS**, When early warning signs of the impending AIDS epidemic became widespread in the early 80s, Howard Brown Health was quick to react, taking an active role in helping to coordinate medical investigation and treatment of the first symptoms, which included a fatal form of cancer; and,

**WHEREAS**, By 1987, AIDS had taken hold of the gay community's emotional and intellectual collective thinking, and Howard Brown Health did more than respond in kind; it pioneered the strategy against the war on AIDS by fighting with facts, providing more medical and psychosocial services, and continuing to reach out to all that needed assistance; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2016 Howard Brown served 3,175 patients living with HIV, utilized cutting-edge biomedical interventions offering patients protection against HIV infection such as 1,615 patients engaged in Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), 379 patients accessed Post-exposure Prophylaxis (PEP, and 82% of patients with HIV achieve maximum viral suppression, compared to 55% nationally; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2017 Howard Brown introduced Same Day Start, allowing patients to start treatment the same day they are diagnosed, helping to achieve a suppressed viral load faster, leading to better long term health outcomes and reduced risk of HIV transmission.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners recognizes Howard Brown Health as a beacon for the County's LGBTQ community, and wishes it continued success with its work keeping our residents healthy.

[18-2083](#)

**Sponsored by:** BRIDGET GAINER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

#### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

#### **COMMEMORATING THE BLACK ENSEMBLE THEATER COMPANY**

**WHEREAS**, Each year, February marks the celebration of Black History month; and,

**WHEREAS**, Black Ensemble Theater, located in Cook County's 10th District, is dedicated to providing programming that helps to heal the damaging effects of racism through its productions and educational outreach programming serving youth and challenged communities; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Black Ensemble Theater was founded in 1976 by the renowned actress, producer, and playwright Jackie Taylor; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Black Ensemble Theater has grown from a small community arts organization to a vibrant nationally and internationally legendary arts institution; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Black Ensemble Theater is a leader and innovator in the African-American and mainstream arts communities and is recognized as one of the most diverse theaters in the country, producing excellent musical theater; and,

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the Black Ensemble Theater is to eradicate racism and its damaging effects upon our society through the utilization of theater arts; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Black Ensemble Theater utilizes theater and educational outreach programs to bring races together in a community which embraces similarities and fosters dialogue, understanding and acceptance.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED**, that the President and Cook County Board of Commissioners commemorates Black Ensemble Theater on its community efforts to eradicate racism and its damaging effects upon our society.

[18-2084](#)

**Sponsored by:** RICHARD R. BOYKIN, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), LUIS ARROYO JR, JERRY BUTLER, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, BRIDGET GAINER, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, GREGG GOSLIN, EDWARD M. MOODY, STANLEY MOORE, SEAN M. MORRISON, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS, LARRY SUFFREDIN and JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**CONGRATULATING DOUG WYMAN ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY**

**WHEREAS**, Doug Wyman was born on January 9, 1928 and recently celebrated his 90th birthday, and;

**WHEREAS**, Doug Wyman has served as the past president of VMA and served in 12 election campaigns, and;

**WHEREAS**, Doug Wyman also volunteered with Housing Forward and the CROP walk and has been an incredible staple in his community, and;

**WHEREAS**, Doug Wyman is a longtime Oak Parker with a wonderful personality and vigor for life, and;

**WHEREAS**, Doug Wyman continues to serve his community through his civic engagement and by serving as the co-host of the popular Doris Davenport Radio Show.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IS RESOLVED**, by the President and Cook County Board of Commissioners that we congratulate Doug Wyman and that the sincere appreciation of the President at the Cook County Board of Commissioners is extended to Doug Wyman to celebrate his 90th birthday.

[18-2085](#)

**Sponsored by:** RICHARD R. BOYKIN, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), LUIS ARROYO JR, JERRY BUTLER, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, BRIDGET GAINER, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, GREGG GOSLIN, EDWARD M. MOODY, STANLEY MOORE, SEAN M. MORRISON, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS, LARRY SUFFREDIN and JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING A GREATER GOOD FOUNDATION FOR BEING OF SERVICE TO THE AT RISK YOUTH**

**WHEREAS,** A Greater Good Foundation was founded by Anthony Garland, Chuck Carter and Cody Cotton in June 2016, and;

**WHEREAS,** A Greater Good Foundation was founded to impact the lives of youth by developing their mind, body, and spirit, and;

**WHEREAS,** A Greater Good Foundation has designed a residential extended learning community that focuses on social-emotional learning, financial literacy, community service and post-secondary college/career navigation, and;

**WHEREAS,** A Greater Good Foundation's unique residential extended learning approach enables them to create a subculture of excellence while providing wrap around services to youth living in Cook County, and;

**WHEREAS,** A Greater Good Foundation is working towards their goal to build Chicago's first private boarding school to serve high-risk youth.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the President and Cook County Board of Commissioners that we honor A Greater Good Foundation and that the sincere appreciation of the President at the Cook County Board of Commissioners is extended to A Greater Good Foundation for their service to at risk youth and the wider community.

[18-2086](#)

**Sponsored by:** RICHARD R. BOYKIN, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), LUIS ARROYO JR, JERRY BUTLER, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, BRIDGET GAINER, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, GREGG GOSLIN, EDWARD M. MOODY, STANLEY MOORE, SEAN M. MORRISON, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS, LARRY SUFFREDIN and JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**CONGRATULATING OPERATION UPLIFT, INC. CELEBRATING THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY**

**WHEREAS**, Operation Uplift, Inc. was founded in 1968 to provide self-help development services to the unemployed, underemployed and low-income residents of the Proviso Township and Western Chicago metropolitan area, and;

**WHEREAS**, Operation Uplift, Inc. also designs strategies that promote academic, social, cultural and economic advancement for individuals and minority small business owners, and;

**WHEREAS**, Operation Uplift, Inc. has served over 35,000 low to medium income individuals and families, and;

**WHEREAS**, Operation Uplift, Inc. collaborates with other agencies including the Cook County Department of Planning, The United Way of Metro-Chicago, Illinois Department of Human Services - Substance Abuse Department, the Maywood Chamber of Commerce, Elementary School Districts 88,89, 92, Maywood Public Library, Triton College as well as Proviso Township High Schools District 209 in order to create solutions to some of the biggest problems faced by our community, and;

**WHEREAS**, Operation Uplift, Inc. has a commitment that remains solidly rooted in their core mission to serve as a vehicle for positive change through the provision of programs and services that promote academic, social, cultural and economic advancement, and;

**WHEREAS**, George Ellis II, a native of Maywood, Illinois, serves as the Executive Director of Operation Uplift, Inc. and brings a wealth of knowledge and proven leadership to the organization.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the President and Cook County Board of Commissioners that Operation Uplift Inc., is honored and the sincere appreciation of the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners is extended to Operation Uplift Inc. for their service to the wider community.

18-2101

**Sponsored by:** DEBORAH SIMS, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), JERRY BUTLER, RICHARD R. BOYKIN, JOHN P. DALEY, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, BRIDGET GAINER, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, GREGG GOSLIN, STANLEY MOORE, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, DENNIS DEER, LARRY SUFFREDIN and SEAN M. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION****HONORING THE LIFE OF JAMES WILLIAM MEEKS**

**WHEREAS**, on December 24, 2017, Almighty God in His Infinite wisdom called James William Meeks from our midst; and

**WHEREAS**, On January 1, 1927, James William Meeks was born in Carrolton, Mississippi to the union of Annie and Charlie Meeks, to this union he was the oldest of three boys; and

**WHEREAS**, James William Meeks had little formal education he was the jack-of-all trades, could fix almost anything and always had an extremely rigorous work ethic; and

**WHEREAS**, James William Meeks married Esther Mae Smith on May 16, 1947 at the courthouse in Grenada, Mississippi on their lunch breaks where he was a short order cook and Esther was a maid at a hotel; and

**WHEREAS**, their Seventy year union four children were born; Annie Lou, William Charles, Delores and James Trent; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1952 James and Esther moved to Chicago, Illinois to provide a better life for their growing family; and

**WHEREAS**, James worked briefly for his uncle before getting a job at Kentile Flooring where he was dedicated employee for forty years from 1952 to 1992; and

**WHEREAS**, James William Meeks and Esther was always dedicated to serving in the church, they joined Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in 1953 where he became a deacon on 1957; and

**WHEREAS**, James William Meeks remained at Shiloh until January 20, 1985 when he joined Salem Baptist Church under the Pastorate of his youngest son Pastor James Trent Meeks; and

**WHEREAS**, at Salem, Deacon Meeks was involved as anyone could be serving on the deacon board, being in the men's choir, and attending Sunday school regularly. Deacon Meeks or "Daddy Meeks" as he was affectionately called by most, was loved by everyone and will mostly be remembered for his heartfelt prayers and spontaneously leading worship from his seat.

**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 of James William Meeks and joins them in sorrow at their time of loss.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a suitable copy of the Resolution be tendered to the family of James William Meeks and a copy of the same be tendered to the auspicious body.

[18-2103](#)

**Sponsored by:** JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), LUIS ARROYO JR, RICHARD R. BOYKIN, JERRY BUTLER, DENNIS DEER, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, BRIDGET GAINER, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, GREGG GOSLIN, EDWARD M. MOODY, STANLEY MOORE, SEAN M. MORRISON, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS, LARRY SUFFREDIN and JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**PATRICIA DONOVAN, IN MEMORIAM**

**WHEREAS,** Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Patricia Donovan (nee Carney) from our midst; and

**WHEREAS,** Patricia Donovan was the devoted mother of Kevin (Debby), Laura (Brendan) Foley, Amy (Michael) Degnan, and the late Brian (Kim); and

**WHEREAS,** Patricia Donovan was the loving grandmother of Kelsey, Patrick, Peter, MaryKate, T-Bone, Alexis, Makayla, Maura, Meghan, Dan (Amanda), Riley and Conor; and

**WHEREAS,** Patricia Donovan was the dearest great grandmother of Brian and Avery; and

**WHEREAS,** Patricia Donovan was the dear sister of Laverne Dybicz and the late Barbara Stroden; and

**WHEREAS,** Patricia Donovan was the fond aunt of many nieces and nephews; and

**WHEREAS,** Patricia Donovan touched the lives of many and will be remembered by all who knew her; and

**WHEREAS,** all who knew her will attest that Patricia Donovan 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; 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 Patricia Donovan 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 Patricia Donovan so that her memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[18-2110](#)

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

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING THE ABOLITION INSTITUTE**

**WHEREAS,** The Abolition Institute is a group formed in 2013 to end slavery in Mauritania, West Africa - a nation where race and descent based slavery is still widespread and where enslaved people face abuses similar to those experienced by slaves in our own country prior to the Civil War; and

**WHEREAS,** The Abolition Institute, based in Chicago's Uptown neighborhood, draws inspiration from abolitionists from Illinois who risked their lives to fight slavery and made our state known throughout the world as a beacon of freedom; and

**WHEREAS,** The Abolition Institute has worked in partnership with U.S. Senator Richard J. Durbin and members of Congress from both parties to direct more than 5 million dollars towards efforts to address slavery and its legacy in Mauritania and its region; and

**WHEREAS,** The Abolition Institute has been profiled by media outlets throughout the world, including CNN, for its dedication to keeping the spirit of abolition alive in the 21st century; and

**WHEREAS,** this work is more important than ever given that an estimated 40 million people are still enslaved in the world today; and

**WHEREAS,** on February 9, 2018 at the DuSable Museum of African-American History, The Abolition Institute will commemorate its fifth anniversary fighting modern day slavery; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, recognizes The Abolition Institute for its work and essential contribution to the health and viability of Cook County; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and an official copy of same be presented to The Abolition Institute.



[18-2115](#)

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

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING UNDER CARREY'S CARE EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTERS**

**WHEREAS**, Under Carrey's Care is a community-based early childhood center serving children from 6 weeks through 13 years of age; and

**WHEREAS**, Under Carrey's Care is part of the National Association for the Education of Young Children Accredited Center (NAEYC) and has acquired the *Illinois Gold Circle of Quality* on an ongoing basis at all facilities which serve over 200 children; and

**WHEREAS**, "Shaping Young Minds" serves as the motto and mission of Under Carrey's Care believes all children deserve care from adults in their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Under Carrey's Care is committed to working with children's families and reaching out to community agencies, local businesses, parks and schools in addition to the children who enter its doors on a daily basis; and

**WHEREAS**, the center has partnered with South Suburban College, the Village of Riverdale and several other childcare centers to implement the first *Early Learning Cohort* for students wanting to earn an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education in 18 months or less; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, recognizes the importance of Under Carrey's Care and its essential contribution to the education and viability of Cook 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 Under Carrey's Care.

[18-2121](#)

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

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION HONORING HOPE FOR THE DAY**

**WHEREAS**, Hope For The Day, founded in 2011, is one of the nation's most innovative youth suicide prevention and mental health organizations that helps young people use music, the arts and creative expression to overcome depression and other challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, Hope For The Day is addressing one of the greatest problems in our country with more than 45,000 Americans taking their own lives annually and the rate of suicides by young people between the ages of 15 and 24 climbing each year; and

**WHEREAS**, Hope For The Day has built a diverse coalition of musicians, artists, writers and other creative leaders to share their personal experiences with depression to raise awareness of the importance of seeking help; and

**WHEREAS**, Hope For The Day is, in partnership with Dark Matter Coffee, opening this spring a first-of-its kind coffee shop and resource center called Sip of Hope at 3039 W. Fullerton which will raise funds for youth suicide prevention and provide frontline resources for anyone struggling with depression; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, honor and congratulate Hope For The Day, Founder Jonny Boucher, Executive Director Dave Kunicki and its Board, staff and volunteers for their work to improve the lives of young people throughout Cook 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 Hope For The Day.

[18-2125](#)

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

#### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

##### **HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF DR. IRENE H. BRODIE**

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Irene H. Brodie lived in Robbins, IL and was a Cook County resident who was a long-time public servant dedicated to improving the community; and

**WHEREAS**, she served as a sixth grade teacher at Kellar Junior High School in Robbins, taught English at Richards High School and later became assistant principal at Turner Elementary School; and

**WHEREAS**, she also served as Professor of Communication at Moraine Valley Community College and then Dean of Basic Education/Academic Skills; and

**WHEREAS**, she served as Village Clerk for Robbins, Illinois for twelve years and went on to serve as Mayor of the Village of Robbins for 24 years before retiring in 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, she served as Secretary of the National Conference of Black Mayors and was a member of the South Suburban Mayors Association and President Clinton's Environmental Think-Tank Group;

and

**WHEREAS**, she led the School for Special Children as president and The Ada S. McKinley as a member of its board of directors and served as a mentor for the Blue Island Rotary Club and the Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce; and

**WHEREAS**, she served as a member of the Moraine Valley Community College Foundation and was honored and recognized as one of the college's most notable benefactors; and

**WHEREAS**, she was a devout member of Great Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Robbins, Illinois and was a loyal follower and supporter of the church under the leadership of the late Rev. Dr. Walter L. Cook; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Irene H. Brodie passed away on January 18, 2018; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, honor the life and memory of Dr. Irene H. Brodie and praise her for her essential contribution to the education, health and viability of Cook County.