



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

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

Consent Agenda

Wednesday, February 20, 2019, 9:00 AM

Consent Calendar Meeting - Second Set

[19-1912](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING AND RECOGNIZING THE COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, dangerously cold temperatures hit Cook County and the Midwest area beginning late Tuesday, January 29 and lasting until Thursday, January 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, various Cook County stakeholders came together to prepare and inform Cook County residents of the necessary measures to take with the extreme weather conditions; and

WHEREAS, on January 29, 2019, a vital decision was made to open suburban Cook County courthouses to assist our residents and provide them a safe haven during the extreme weather; and

WHEREAS, the courthouses in Markham, Bridgeview, Maywood, Skokie and Rolling Meadows were opened as 24 hour warming centers during the extreme weather; and

WHEREAS, at least twelve residents stayed overnight with additional intermittent residents seeking warmth at the courthouses; and

WHEREAS, the quick actions of the Cook County Department of Facilities Management, as well as other employees of the Bureau of Asset Management, were of utmost importance during this critical time; and

WHEREAS, staff at Skokie and Rolling Meadows stayed overnight, including the Sheriff's Office who provided individuals with food, sleeping materials, and called local groups to assist the elderly residents who sought refuge at the courthouses; and

WHEREAS, Cook County is grateful for the wonderful service provided to the residents of Cook County; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, hereby recognize and honor the Cook County Department of Facilities Management for their above and beyond service to the residents of Cook County at such critical time; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be tendered to Cook County Department of Facilities Management as a means of communicating our appreciation.

[19-1913](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF CLIFF KELLEY AND HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHICAGO RADIO

WHEREAS, after more than two decades of contribution to Chicago radio, news analyst and radio talk show host Cliff Kelley is set to retire from Chicago's premier urban talk radio station, WVON, on March 29, 2019; and

WHEREAS, born and raised in Chicago's South Side, Cliff Kelley is a graduate of Englewood High School, Roosevelt University and John Marshall Law School; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being a distinguished radio talk show host, Cliff Kelley is a veteran, an attorney and a former member of the City Council of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Cliff Kelley is also known for being the first African American to serve as the vice president of the Young Democrats of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, Cliff Kelley was elected to alderman of the 20th Ward and served the residents of the City of Chicago for 16 years; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure in Chicago City Council, Cliff Kelley was an advocate for racial equality, an elected school board and a pioneer for LGBTQ rights; and

WHEREAS, Cliff Kelley introduced the Chicago City Council's first proposed ordinance to ban discrimination because of sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, even though the proposed ordinance failed to pass, it was the precursor for the City's Human Rights Ordinance which passed in 1988; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, Cliff Kelley began his career as a radio talk show host with WGCI-AM; and

WHEREAS, Cliff Kelley transitioned to WVON's morning drive show host in 1994, cultivating a following by bringing in politicians, candidates, political reporters, consultants, community groups and many others who want to reach the African American community; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, Cliff Kelley became the afternoon drive show host where he continued be a staple in the African American community and Chicago radio; and

WHEREAS, retirement does not mean Cliff Kelley will be away from Chicago radio listeners; and

WHEREAS, Cliff Kelley will remain the host of the independently produced American Heroes broadcast that aims to empower and connect the Armed Forces and veterans to help mitigate the challenges veterans face; and

WHEREAS, Cliff will be missed by his afternoon listeners throughout Cook County and by his colleagues and friends at WVON; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, do recognize Cliff Kelley for all that he has contributed to Cook County and Chicago radio, and wish him all the best on his retirement and future endeavors; and

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

[19-1901](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

ROBERT SADOWSKI, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Robert Sadowski from our midst, and

WHEREAS, Robert Sadowski was the loving and adored husband of Marirose (nee Rodorigo) for 50 years, and

WHEREAS, Robert Sadowski was the amazing father of Jeffrey, Mark (Holly Goline), and Jonathan (Melissa Woodbury), and

WHEREAS, Robert Sadowski was the much-loved grandfather of Luke, Noah, Raffaella, and Eli, and

WHEREAS, Robert Sadowski was the beloved son of the late Irene (Czerniak) and the late Joseph Sadowski, and

WHEREAS, Robert Sadowski was the dear brother of Kenneth, and

WHEREAS, Robert Sadowski had a passion for hunting and fishing, and

WHEREAS, all who knew him will attest that Robert Sadowski 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 Robert Sadowski, 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 Robert Sadowski, that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[19-1903](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COOK COUNTY INTERNATIONAL TRADE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM'S SISTER COUNTY PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS AND COUNTY CORK, IRELAND

WHEREAS, in 1995 Cook County launched the International Trade Partnership Program to promote trade and investment between Cook County and strategic partner regions around the world, to foster bilateral trade and to provide a linkage between overseas and local firms; and

WHEREAS, in March 1998 a delegation from County Cork, Ireland made their first visit to Cook County, Illinois to participate in a series of government, business and cultural events; and,

WHEREAS, in July 1999 a delegation of government and business leaders from Cook County, Illinois traveled to County Cork, Ireland for an economic, educational and cultural exchange; and,

WHEREAS, on July 16, 1999 at a Cork County Council meeting, the Cook County, Illinois - County Cork, Ireland, Sister County Partnership Agreement was signed; and ,

WHEREAS, in October 2000 the Partners with Ireland Committee was established to facilitate the International Trade Partnership Program with regions in Ireland; and,

WHEREAS, Cook County and County Cork have worked together over the last 20 years to develop and strengthen relations between companies, institutions, organizations and individual entrepreneurs; and

WHEREAS, government officials representing Cook County and the Cork County Council, along with business leaders from both regions, have since been working to promote bilateral trade in the areas of Information Technology, Biotechnology, Tourism, and small business enterprises; and

WHEREAS, the Partnership has been responsible for numerous successful ventures over the past two decades including the establishment of a PhD level student exchange program between the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) and the Cork Institute of Technology (CIT); a cooperative agreement leading between technology associations in both regions to provide pro-bono office space to entrepreneurs seeking to establish a presence in Cook County or County Cork; and the sponsorship of a cultural, outdoor adventure and team building program in Ireland for residents of Mercy Home for Boys and Girls; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the more than five million residents of Cook County, do hereby recognize the 20th Anniversary of the Sister County Partnership between Cook County, Illinois and County Cork, Ireland; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be presented to the Cork County Council, as a token of our continued partnership.

[19-1910](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

GREGORY RAMIREZ, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Gregory Ramirez from our midst, and

WHEREAS, Gregory Ramirez was the amazing father of Anthony (Christine) Ramirez, Alyssa (Kyle Fuller) Ramirez and the late David Ramirez, and

WHEREAS, Gregory Ramirez was the much-loved Grandfather of Parker Ramirez, and

WHEREAS, Gregory Ramirez was the beloved son of the late George Ramirez and the late Juanita Scarlata, and

WHEREAS, Gregory Ramirez was the cherished brother of Cynthia (the late Larry), Mario (Kari), Vince (Marianne); step-brother of Christopher and Timothy, and

WHEREAS, Gregory Ramirez served the City of Chicago for 23 years as a Chicago Police Officer and then a Trustee for the Village of Lyons, Illinois, and

WHEREAS, all who knew him will attest that Gregory Ramirez 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 Gregory Ramirez, 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 Gregory Ramirez, that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[19-1949](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE COOK COUNTY WOMEN'S CAUCUS HONORING THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN ELECTED TO CHICAGO'S CITY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, Anna Langford was born on October 27, 1917 in Springfield, Ohio. Her father, Arthur J. Riggs, died when she was only nine months old and her mother, Alice, died when Langford was eight years old; and,

WHEREAS, Langford graduated from Hyde Park High School in 1935. She then attended a trade school to learn office skills and from 1938 to 1956 worked as a typist in the Social Security office, the Election Commissioners Office and in the Office of the Secretary of State; and,

WHEREAS, In February of 1956, after studying for eleven years, Langford received her J.D. degree from John Marshall Law School at Roosevelt University in Chicago and began an extensive career as a civil rights and criminal lawyer; and,

WHEREAS, Langford practiced law throughout the State of Illinois, defended civil rights workers in the 1960s and joined Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Chicago civil rights marches. In 1963 and 1964, she provided free legal services in many areas, including the State of Mississippi.

WHEREAS, In 1971, Langford became the first woman elected to the Chicago City Council where she

served three terms representing the 16th Ward; and,

WHEREAS, Langford has received numerous humanitarian and civic awards and honors, including being inducted into the Book of Legends by the Black Women Lawyers Association for her immeasurable contributions to the City of Chicago as a lawyer and a public servant.

WHEREAS, Anna Langford passed away on September 17, 2008 at the age of 90, and was survived by her son, Larry Langford, three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, In recognition of Black History Month, the Cook County Women's Caucus hereby honors the legacy of Anna Langford, the first African American woman elected to Chicago's City Council.

[19-1902](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY AS AMERICAN HEART MONTH AND DECLARING FEBRUARY 21ST GO RED DAY IN COOK COUNTY

WHEREAS, the month of February is recognized as American Heart Month; and

WHEREAS, the annual celebration began in 1963 to encourage Americans to join the battle against heart disease and each year a presidential proclamation pays tribute to researchers, physicians, public health professionals and volunteers for their tireless efforts in preventing, treating and researching heart disease, which is the leading cause of death for both men and women in the United States.; and

WHEREAS, Heart Disease (including Coronary Heart Disease, Hypertension, and Stroke) remains the No. 1 cause of death in the U.S. and Cardiovascular diseases claim more lives each year than all forms of cancer and chronic lower respiratory disease combined; and

WHEREAS, heart disease is the leading cause of death in Cook County as well, accounting for just under 10,000 deaths per year (24%) with more than half occurring in suburban Cook County; and

WHEREAS, the estimated annual incidence of heart attack in the United States is 720,000 new attacks and 335,000 recurrent attacks with Americans suffering a heart attack approximately every 40 seconds; The average age at the first heart attack is 65.6 years for males and 72.0 years for females; and

WHEREAS, although some progress has been made, it's important to make sure all Americans have

access to quality care and as a country we should continue to focus on "Life's Simple 7," which refers to the American Heart Association's seven goals of eating a healthy diet, exercising regularly, avoiding excess weight, not smoking, and keeping blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar within a healthy range; and

WHEREAS, nearly half of all non-Hispanic black adults have some form of cardiovascular disease, 47.7 percent of females and 46.0 percent of males; and

WHEREAS, by 2035, more than 130 million adults, or 45.1% of the U.S. population, are projected to have some form of Cardiovascular Disease and total costs of CVD are expected to reach \$1.1 trillion in 2035, with direct medical costs projected to reach \$748.7 billion and indirect costs estimated to reach \$368 billion; and

WHEREAS, hospitals and health systems around the country celebrate American Heart Month by helping to raise awareness in their communities about heart disease, with staff wearing red and volunteers knitting or crocheting pint-sized red hats for newborns, as well as holding free screenings and heart health awareness events; and

WHEREAS, on February 19th, 2019, the Cook County Board of Commissioners and their staff participated in CPR/AED training generously provided by Illinois Heart Rescue; and

WHEREAS, this Honorable Body wishes to promote and raise awareness of American Heart Month and heart health in Cook County;

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 American Heart Month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in conjunction with American Heart Month, February 21st, 2019 be hereby declared "Go Red Day" in the County of Cook and each County Board Meeting day in February hereafter, and encourages everyone to wear red on such day to create awareness of and in recognition of American Heart Month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceeding of this Honorable Body in recognition of American Heart Month.

19-1918

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION**A RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF VIRGIL M. POOLE SR.**

WHEREAS, Virgil M. Poole Sr. was born December 10, 1920 in Birmingham, Alabama, to Joseph and Mary Poole; and

WHEREAS, Virgil was raised to believe in God, education and self-reliance and at an early age became a member of Berean Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, as a man Virgil received education at Roosevelt University and the University of Chicago and was a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society; and

WHEREAS, Virgil joined the United States Army Air Forces and served in World War II in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations as a member of the Tuskegee Airmen as a Chief Intelligence Specialist and Aid to Lt. General Benjamin O. Davis, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, after his service in World War II he joined the Chicago "DODO" Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen, the Veteran of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 311 and the American Legion; he was proud to have served his country and remained active in-service related causes throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, Virgil Sr. went to work for the Chicago Park District and later became a member of the Chicago Police Department becoming Chief of Security for the Chicago Housing Authority; and

WHEREAS, Virgil married Barbara Gushiniere and would have a son from this union, Mr. Virgil M. Poole Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Virgil later married Haweda Irving and became a stepfather to Carleda and Stephanie and throughout his life was most proud of being a husband and father; and

WHEREAS, his interest in helping others led him to start the Illinois Law Enforcement School and Security Unlimited Enterprises, Inc., where he served as President and CEO and provided security for the National Football League (NFL); and

WHEREAS, Virgil went on to become the Chief of Police of Harvey, IL and ended his exemplary career as an Investigator for the Cook County Medical Examiner; and

WHEREAS, Virgil M. Poole Sr. was called to rest on August 29, 2018, leaving behind his beloved wife Haweda, his son Virgil M. Poole, Jr., his stepdaughters Carleda and Stephanie, four grandchildren and five great grandchildren;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners proudly honors Virgil M. Poole Sr. for his illustrious and trailblazing career and his service to the country, the community and to Cook County; 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 Virgil M. Poole Sr.

[19-1925](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING THE AMAZING LIFE OF SUE ISH

WHEREAS, Sue Barnett Ish was born on February 3, 1920 in Boynton, Oklahoma, the first born of Etta Moten and Curtis Brooks and later her sisters, Gladys and Etta Vee were born; and

WHEREAS, after a brief marriage, Sue's mother returned to her home with her three daughters in Kansas City, where Sue's grandfather Rev. Freeman Moten and wife Ida helped to raise the three daughters so her mother could attend University of Kansas and pursue a professional career as a concert singer and performing artist; and

WHEREAS, in 1934, Sue's mother married Claude Barnett, founder of Associate Negro Press and he adopted the three daughters; At the age of 16, Sue graduated from Lincoln High School in Kansas City and attended the Historically Black Talladega College where she met her future husband Stanley Ish Jr.; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Talladega, Sue attended the University of Chicago Masters program to study English Literature; however, her advanced education was interrupted when she and Stanley Ish Jr. married and moved to Marion Arkansas and later Memphis Tennessee where Stanley practiced medicine as a surgeon and in 1951 Sue gave birth to their only child, Etta Sue Ish; and

WHEREAS, it was in Memphis that Sue became very active as a civil rights advocate as Memphis was racially segregated at the time and Sue was very involved in the organized boycotts and sit-ins as a member of the NAACP, Urban League and other civil rights organizations; and

WHEREAS, in 1965, her husband passed away after a battle with lung cancer and Sue and her daughter Etta Sue returned to her parents' home in Chicago, IL, and at the age of 45, Sue began a career with the City of Chicago as an Assistant Director of several Neighborhood Service Centers, which was an outgrowth of the Model Cities Program; and

WHEREAS, under the direction of Erwin France, Sue became an exceptional manager and enjoyed working in the various communities assisting residents that needed social services. Her staff always remarked that she was firm but fair and very dedicated to relieving those that suffered the most and retired at the age of 73 only because the program ended; and

WHEREAS, sue continued to be an active volunteer with several organizations including a tour guide at the Field Museum and she currently donates to various causes and especially enjoys supporting the National Museum of African American History, as well as being a member of the Second Presbyterian Church and the Soka Gakkai International (SGI), which is a lay Buddhist organization; and

WHEREAS, Sue was an active tennis player until the age of 80 and is currently very health conscious watching her diet and exercising regularly. She still wears high heeled shoes and enjoys high fashion. and is an avid reader staying abreast of current events and loves to engage in political debates; and

WHEREAS, Sue is currently supported by her daughter and son-in-law who live with her and has two grandsons, Stanley aged 34 and Mose (Jeff) 27; and

WHEREAS, Sue continues to be active with her favorite women's social group including The Friday Club and The Northeasterners, where she celebrated her 99th birthday with them on February 2nd;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners proudly honors Sue Ish for her amazing life and career as well as her service to the community and to Cook County; 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 Ms. Sue Ish.

[19-1940](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING JERRY T. JONES FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED LIFE AND CAREER

WHEREAS, Jerry T. Jones (born JT Jones) was born on March 25, 1936 in Sledge, Mississippi by way of a midwife; and

WHEREAS, Sledge was predominantly white and more affluent than Falcon where his mother lived, and which was occupied almost entirely by Black people; however, businesses in Falcon were Black owned including a cotton gin, in fact his father in addition to being the man in charge of the local cotton gin operation also owned a restaurant called a “juke joint” and the differences between the two towns had a profound influence on Jerry’s perception of life; and

WHEREAS, when JT was eight years old, his uncle gave him a battery powered radio and he was immediately fascinated by the ability to listen to music and other programs from places as far away as Helena, Arkansas; His interest was so great that at the age of eight, he declared that he was going to make radios when he grew up; and

WHEREAS, in the summer of 1949, JT and his parents migrated from Sledge to Chicago because JT, at the age of twelve, had endured an increasing amount of threats from the white community on his life; and

WHEREAS, when JT made it to Chicago, he enrolled at Wendell Phillips high School, located on Chicago's South Side at 39th Street and Prairie Avenue, which served as a bedrock education for JT and he graduated at 16 years old in 1952 as the youngest person in his class; and

WHEREAS, in the fall of 1952, JT enrolled at the University of Illinois at Navy Pier, which was only a 2-year college at that time, so after finishing there, JT enrolled in night school at the Illinois Institute of Technology’s Chicago campus to continue his education; and

WHEREAS, throughout his college years, JT landed several jobs that were very instrumental to his life; His first job was as a draftsman at Western Electric, which was a subsidiary of AT&T; After a year, JT was able to apply for a job at Argonne National Laboratory, which is owned by the US Department of Energy, but is operated by the University of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, after working for two years in the Chemical Engineering Division at Argonne Laboratory,

he was offered a job at the Illinois Institute of Technology Research Institute (IITRI) and while working at IITRI's Chemical Engineering Division and later their Physics Division, JT received his degree from the Illinois Institute of Technology with concentrations in physics and electrical engineering; and

WHEREAS, during JT's time at the IITRI, he also became active in the civil rights movement, including participating in the historic march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama and he also became active in local politics, becoming a precinct Captain in the neighborhood he lived; and

WHEREAS, one of JT's main objectives was to provide jobs for Black men and women on the South Side of Chicago, and so in March of 1966, JT started Soncraft, an engineering and manufacturing company on the Chicago's South Side; JT's dreams began to come into focus and in 1970, Jerry was awarded the Illinois Small Businessman of the Year award and later would go on to win the largest government contract ever awarded to a small business in 1982 with an estimated value of approximately \$300 Million; and

WHEREAS, while President and CEO of Soncraft, JT also sat on the Board of Trustees at IIT, the National Business League, formerly the National Negro Business League, which was founded by Booker T. Washington in 1900, the Advisory Board of the U.S. Secretary of Treasury, the Regional and National Advisory Boards of the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Advisory Council of the NCAA. and was also a founder and chairman of the National Association of Black Manufacturers, which sought to create and foster the development of Black owned businesses, later joining the Board of the National Association of Manufacturers and became a board member of the Chicago Association of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, beginning in the basement of JT's house, Soncraft was truly a family affair as Jerry's step father Robert worked at Soncraft until he retired; JT's son Jerome worked in Sales and Business Development; His son Bertrand worked in Legislative Affairs and Business Development, while his daughter Lara was employed in Human Resources Management, and together they helped grow the company to employ over 500 people; and

WHEREAS, JT currently lives in Lynwood, IL in the 6th Cook County District and remains active in the community;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners proudly honors Jerry T. Jones for his distinguished and trailblazing career and for his service to the community, the City of Chicago and to Cook County; 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 Jerry T. Jones.

[19-1883](#)

Sponsored by: STANLEY MOORE, BILL LOWRY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), ALMA E. ANAYA, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, DONNA MILLER, KEVIN B. MORRISON and PETER N. SILVESTRI, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

COMMENDING THE RAINBOW PUSH COALITION EXCEL TECH PROGRAM

WHEREAS, every February, Cook County and the nation celebrates Black History Month; and

WHEREAS, the Rainbow PUSH Coalition is a multi-racial, multi-cultural, multi-issue, progressive, international organization fighting for social change in multiple cities and platforms; and

WHEREAS, Rainbow PUSH Coalition was formed in 1996 by Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. through the merging of People United to Serve Humanity (PUSH) founded in 1971 and the National Rainbow Coalition founded in 1984; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Rainbow PUSH Coalition is dedicated to unite progressive people, historically locked out of the mainstream of American politics, into a “coalition of conscience” dedicated to making America more inclusive; and

WHEREAS, Rainbow PUSH Coalition developed the PUSH Excel Tech Program in partnership with US First Robotics to teach students about designing, building, and programming robots; and

WHEREAS, the PUSH Excel Tech Program has provided numerous youth the opportunity to compete in robotics competitions across Cook County, the state of IL., and the nation; and

WHEREAS, the PUSH Excel Tech Program is recognized nationwide for exposing youth to technology and career tracks which include engineering, programming, technologies, and various sciences; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED, that the President and Members of the Board of Commissioners commemorates the Rainbow PUSH Coalition on its extraordinary efforts to develop and train the next generation of African American science, technology, engineering, and math professionals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution is spread upon the permanent record of Proceedings of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, and that a suitable copy of this resolution will be prepared and presented to The Rainbow PUSH Coalition EXCEL Tech Program in recognition of their achievements..

19-1914

Sponsored by: STANLEY MOORE, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), 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, LARRY SUFFREDIN and JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION**IN CELEBRATION OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DENISE R. CARPENTER**

WHEREAS, the members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners; wishes to recognize the outstanding years of public service of Denise Carpenter; and

WHEREAS, Denise Carpenter is a proven leader in the education and business industries. She earned her Bachelor of Science Education from Chicago State University; and

WHEREAS, Denise Carpenter is a retired Chicago Public School teacher with over 30 years of service; and

WHEREAS, Denise Carpenter is a co-founder and active member of the South Shore Unified Block Club/Business Organization. A community-based organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in the South Shore neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Denise Carpenter tirelessly works to improve her neighborhood by organizing community events. As a community leader, Denise plays a vital role in keeping local businesses, property owners, and residents aware of important neighborhood developments; and

WHEREAS, Denise Carpenter serves as a court advocate addressing issues concerning the community, and a proponent for criminal justice reforms; and

WHEREAS, since 2016, Denise Carpenter has served as a volunteer Commissioner for the Calumet/Avalon Heights Commission SSA#50, to implement plans aimed to enhancing the 79th Street Corridor and local businesses in the area; and

WHEREAS, Denise Carpenter's dedication to the constituents throughout Cook County and the South Shore community is to be commended for her twenty-six years as a dedicated resident, property owner, and community leader; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners shall congratulate Denise Carpenter for her outstanding years of service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution is spread upon the permanent record of

Proceedings of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, and that a suitable copy of this resolution will be prepared and presented to Denise Carpenter in recognition of her accomplishments.