



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

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

Consent Agenda

Wednesday, October 23, 2019, 1:00 PM

Consent Calendar Meeting - Fourth Set

[19-6374](#)

Sponsored by: DENNIS DEER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING REV. DR. VERA M. BONDS CONQUEROR AND AUTHOR

WHEREAS, Dr. Vera Bonds is a 10 Year Breast Cancer Survivor. She has been courageous and has endured these obstacles of her life. Dr. Vera Bonds is a leading lady advocate for Breast Cancer Awareness, she has spoken the importance of awareness in several states to perishers' as well as family members; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Vera Bonds has been married to the Rev. Dr. Michael Bonds Sr. the Pastor of Restoration Missionary Baptist Church for 47 years. They have three adult children and (10) grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Vera Bonds has a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministry Education, from Trinity International University and a Master of Divinity -Religious Studies and a Doctor of Theology from Gospel Ministry Outreach Theological Institute in Houston Texas. She also studied Domestic Violence, Interior Design, and Real-Estate from Prairie State College; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Vera Bonds was one of the organizers of the Restoration Missionary Baptist Church. Dr. Vera Bonds was licensed to preach in 1998 and Ordained as Co-Pastor in 2009. Dr. Vera Bond is also an organizer of three mentoring groups and along with her husband, they run a six-week camp for the Auburn Gresham and Englewood Communities, offering field trips, breakfast and lunch and teaching youth different strategies of coping; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Vera Bonds worked under four Presidents of the Cook County Board and is no stranger to Cook County. She worked at Provident Hospital, Markham Court House, Cook County Forest Preserves and retired from the Board of Commissioner as an Administrative Assistant to Cook Commissioner Robert Steele; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Vera Bonds is a caterer and cooks for more than a thousand people a year, Dr. Vera Bonds was honored as one of the 2018/2019 Women in Ministry Award and received a Lifetime Conquer Award on October 17, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Vera Bonds is in her Community with their Operation Restoration Community Development Center, which oversees an Annual Health Resource Fair, and an Annual Rite of Passage for young men in Chicago& the surrounding Suburbs. Dr. Vera Bonds is an author of plays and poems; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Vera Bonds latest book was released in August 2019 entitled "Women in the Pulpit".

When Dr. Bonds is not busy, she indulges in her passion as an Interior Designer. She is also a member of the (PUP) Pastor's United for Change, 22nd District Caps, a founder and board member of Women of Steele Foundation, which give scholarships to young adults.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents, do hereby recognize Dr. Vera M. Bonds for her contributions in being a Conqueror, Successful Author commitments to the Ministry, and the Community for bettering the lives of the people and so wish her every continued success in her future endeavors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceeding of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to Dr. Vera Bonds in recognition of this honor.

[19-6375](#)

Sponsored by: DENNIS DEER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING MRS. ANTOINETTE RATLIFF, CONQUEROR AND COMMUNITY ACTIVIST

WHEREAS, Mrs. Antoinette Ratliff is the Co-Founder of Celestial Ministries School of Fine Arts; and

WHEREAS, it was established by her and her husband Stanley Ratliff; and

WHEREAS, they have three sons Antonio, Antwane, and Andrew all who assist in their ministries; and

WHEREAS, Celestial Ministries reaches out to the children of the incarcerated as well as other children in the North Lawndale Community; and

WHEREAS, Antoinette is the survivor of late advanced stage of breast cancer; and

WHEREAS; In 2007, she had to battle this unwanted disease for many months; and

WHEREAS, After chemo, radiation, a radical mastectomy, dozen surgeries much prayer and determination she's back with Celestial Ministries in full force; and

WHEREAS, after going through this fight to live, Antoinette decided to continue her education by graduating from School of Ministry at Living Word Christian Center in 2012 to support women going through cancer by teaching on Faith; and

WHEREAS, Antoinette also graduated from Joseph Business School at Living Word Christian Center in 2013 to support Celestial Ministries first recording studio which their sons are managing now; and

WHEREAS, Cook County Government acknowledges Mrs. Antoinette Ratliff for transforming lives through community engagement with unwavering faith.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Toni Preckwinkle President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners as well as the Board of Commissioners along with the 5.3 million residents of Cook County do hereby recognized Mrs. Antoinette Ratliff for being a woman of faith, Conqueror, who exhibits invaluable leadership, dedication and commitment her family and residents of North Lawndale community and herewith express our sincere gratitude for your service to the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution is forwarded to Mrs. Antoinette Ratliff and copy be placed upon the official record of the honorable body recognizing this auspicious occasion