



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

Virtual Meeting

Consent Agenda

Thursday, January 28, 2021, 10:00 AM

Second Set

[21-1227](#)

Sponsored by: JOHN P. DALEY, LARRY SUFFREDIN, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, 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 and DEBORAH SIMS, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION**CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF JUDGE ALBERT PORTER JR**

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the Cook County Board of Commissioners that former Cook County Circuit Court Judge Albert Porter Jr. made his transition to eternal life, at his home in the Beverly Hills neighborhood of Chicago, on January 5, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Albert Porter Jr. was born in Laurel, Mississippi, the only child of Albert Porter, Sr. and Ora Dase Porter and moved with his family to the South Side of Chicago where he would reside for the remainder of his life; and

WHEREAS, Albert Porter Jr. attended Stephen A. Douglas Elementary School and Wendell Phillips High School, where he played on the junior basketball team and was a member of the National Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, Albert Porter Jr. attended Wilson Junior College and then enrolled at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. In 1955, he received his Bachelor of Arts Degree, with a major in Chemistry and minor in Mathematics; and

WHEREAS, Albert Porter Jr. worked as a Metallurgist at Argonne National Laboratory and then taught chemistry and math at Phillips High School where he met his bride-to-be, fellow science teacher, Mildred Viola Birge. They married on December 28, 1959, and soon after, began a family with the arrival of their children Alvita Monique, Darryl Craig, Richard Keith and Kimberly Joi; and

WHEREAS, Albert Porter Jr. attended law school at night and received his Juris Doctorate Degree from the John Marshall Law School in 1962, and, that same year, passed the Illinois State Bar exam; and

WHEREAS, Albert Porter Jr. began a long and illustrious legal and judicial career. He became an adjunct professor at John Marshall and worked as a Cook County Assistant State's Attorney and served as a Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Investigation; and

WHEREAS, in 1969, Albert Porter Jr. appointed to a vacant position as a Judge of the Circuit Court of the Circuit Court and the following year he was elected to that position. He served on the Circuit Court of Cook County for 20 years, in the Criminal, Divorce, Chancery, and Law Divisions; and

WHEREAS, Albert Porter Jr. was honored by Operation PUSH with an Award of Excellence, a Distinguished Service Award from the National Black Prosecutors Association, and received both the University of Illinois' Outstanding Black Alumnus Award and an Outstanding Alumnus Award from the John Marshall Law School, and

WHEREAS, Albert Porter Jr. was a founding member and incorporator of the Illinois Judicial Council and he served as its Chairperson from 1989 to 1990. From 1991 to 1996, Albert Porter Jr. served as a Review Board Member for the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission of the Supreme Court of Illinois. He was a member of the National Bar Association, as well as the Cook County Bar Association, which honored him with the Special Judicial Award in both 1971 and 1980, and as the 1983 Judge of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Albert Porter Jr. was a beloved grandfather, neighbor, and friend to many known for his legal advice and his love of painting, golfing, gardening, and chess; and

WHEREAS, all who knew him will attest that Judge Albert Porter Jr. 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; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County that the Board does hereby offer its sympathy to the family of Judge Albert Porter Jr.; 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 Judge Albert Porter Jr.

[21-1214](#)

Sponsored by: DENNIS DEER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING DR. EDWARD J. MORRIS SR. FOR HIS LEADERSHIP COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION TO THE ENGLEWOOD & WOODLAWN COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Edward Joseph Morris, Sr. has been serving as the Senior Pastor of the Parkway Garden Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) for the past 21 years; and;

WHEREAS, Pastor Morris holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Elmhurst College, a Master of Divinity Degree from Chicago Theological Seminary (University of Chicago) and an earned Doctor of Ministry Degree from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, OH; and

WHEREAS, among his many blessings, Pastor Morris is married to First Lady Bernadine Morris, his wife of 49 years. They have 5 children: Edward Jr, VP of Programs and Services at Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity, Gregory, a Project Manager in the Building/Construction Industry, Menia Johnson in

the Banking Industry and Symone, a recent graduate of Fisk University and entrepreneur. Christopher, their youngest son, has gone on to be with the Lord. In addition, Pastor and Sister Morris have been blessed with 3 grandchildren: Jonathan, Ethan and Alana and;

WHEREAS, Pastor Morris believes strongly in servant leadership and seeks to teach, encourage and develop other servant leaders in the service of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ. and;

WHEREAS, Pastor Morris works diligently within the Parkway Garden/Woodlawn community. His involvement includes but is not limited to: partnerships with Dulles Elementary School and the community to provide a safe haven for neighborhood children to enjoy the safety of church campus during spring and summer breaks and;

WHEREAS; as part of his ministry and commitment to the community Pastor Morris visits Parkway community center, comprises of reading to the children, assisting them with homework partnering with 3rd. District CAPS to institute community bonding between neighborhood and police, providing food pantry and clothing at least twice a month and hot meals to the community at holidays.; and

WHEREAS, in collaboration with TEECH foundation he provides an after-school computer lab and employment training for those in several recovery programs, partnering with Movie Makers, Inc instructing community children on technology and movie making, providing school supplies to students of the community at the start of each school year; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Morris has been honored with Humanitarian Awards from the Greater Harvest Missionary Baptist Church, the Chicago Police Department Area Central Community Action Response Team (CART) as well as the 3rd. District Police Community Policing Program, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc , all for his service to the community; and;

WHEREAS, Pastor Morris has traveled extensively on Mission assignments to South Africa , South America, Guatemala and Jamaica. The ministry partners with PHRESS organization to help provide financial and healthcare support to the poverty stricken in Sierra Leone; and

WHEREAS, Cook County Government acknowledges Pastor, Dr. Edward J. Morris Sr. for transforming lives through community engagement.

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 Pastor Edward J. Morris Sr. for his invaluable, leadership, dedication and commitment to the residents of the Englewood & Woodlawn Communities 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 Pastor Edward J. Morris Sr. and copy be placed upon the official record of the honorable body recognizing this auspicious occasion

[21-1215](#)

Sponsored by: DENNIS DEER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION**HONORING PASTOR JAMES L. BROOKS FOR HIS LEADERSHIP, COMMITMENT, AND DEDICATION TO THE NORTH LAWNSDALE COMMUNITY**

WHEREAS, Pastor James L. Brooks is the son of the late James and Mary Brooks, serves as the Senior Pastor of Harmony Community Church and the Vice President of Mission & Community Engagement at Lawndale Christian Health Center. He formerly served as the Coordinator of Youth Ministry at Grace Lutheran Church in River Forest, IL, and was the first African American to be called to serve this historic Lutheran congregation; and

WHEREAS, Pastor James L. Brooks is a summa cum laude graduate of Concordia University where he majored in organizational management. He holds a Master of Divinity degree from Northern Theological Seminary, where he was the first Dr. John Perkins Scholar graduate; and

WHEREAS, Pastor James L. Brooks also completed his youth and theology certification at Princeton Theological Seminary and a clinical pastoral education unit at the University of Illinois Medical Center. In November 2020, he completed the Community Health Center Executive Fellowship at the University of Kansas Medical Center. To add to his wide array of empowering strategies and techniques, he is a highly sought-after John Maxwell Certified Life Coach. He is currently a doctoral student at Northern Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, Pastor James L. Brooks James is grateful to participate in God's work of proclaiming liberty to the oppressed and breaking down the walls that so easily divide us from one another. In addition, he provides a weekly food pantry and provides hot meals to the community during the holidays; and

WHEREAS, He enthusiastically facilitates workshops in leadership development, spiritual resiliency, margins, boundaries, and Christian community development. For his service, Pastor James L. Brooks humbly received numerous awards and accolades, including being a recipient of Northern Seminary's distinguished Bryan F. Archibald Award for Excellence in Preaching; and

WHEREAS, Pastor James L. Brooks sits on various boards for institutions and organizations within his community, including, North Lawndale College Prep High School, UCAN, and the Lawndale Christian Legal Clinic. As a proud member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., he believes in serving with excellence; and

WHEREAS, Pastor James L. Brooks is happily married to his beautiful wife, Jacqueline, a Registered Nurse specializing in transplant care. They have two brilliant and energetic daughters, Jaylah and Janay; and

WHEREAS, Cook County Government acknowledges Pastor James L. Brooks for transforming lives through community engagement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that President Toni Preckwinkle, the Cook County Board of Commissioners, the board of Commissioners and on behalf of the over 5.3 million residents of Cook County, do hereby recognize Pastor James L. Brooks for his invaluable, leadership, dedication and commitment to the residents of the North Lawndale Community and herewith express our sincere gratitude for your service to the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be tendered to Pastor James L. Brooks, and a copy is spread upon the official proceedings of this honorable Body recognizing this auspicious occasion

21-1216

Sponsored by: DONNA MILLER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIVES LOST IN THE 6TH DISTRICT DUE TO COVID-19

WHEREAS, the Covid-19 pandemic has been the worst healthcare and economic crisis in most of our lifetimes, disrupting our lives in innumerable ways, and far too many have been lost to this insidious disease; and

WHEREAS, the unprecedented level of disparities in healthcare outcomes during the Covid-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic especially in the African-American and Latinx Communities in Chicago and Cook County has been particularly devastating; and

WHEREAS, in Suburban Cook County the South Suburbs has been hit particularly hard by the virus and the 6th District alone ended 2020 with 1,105 deaths due to Covid-19; and

WHEREAS, due to the highly contagious nature of Covid-19, many have lost their lives alone, not having the chance for their loved ones to be with them, but only our heroic health care workers who have not only cared for them, but comforted them as they succumbed to this disease; and

WHEREAS, their deaths serve as a tragic reminder that we must remain vigilant even as we are being vaccinated so that we can protect our friends, loved ones and neighbors and hopefully overcome this pandemic and return to a more normal way of life; and

WHEREAS, we must resolve to work together to address and improve on the inequities that still exist in our government, our workplaces and in society that have led to these unacceptable outcomes to create a

better county, state and country;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County, commemorates the lives of the Cook County 6TH District residents who died from Covid-19 in 2020, and does hereby offer its deepest condolences and heartfelt sympathy to their families and loved ones; and

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

[21-1243](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING THE ROLLING MEADOWS HIGH SCHOOL AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Rolling Meadows High School offers an innovative and unique agriculture program to students; and

WHEREAS, the Agricultural, Food and Natural Resources program is one of 16 nationally recognized career clusters; and

WHEREAS, the RMHS Agriculture Program offers career training in areas of Environmental Science Systems, food products and processing systems, plants and animal systems, and Power, Structural and Technical Systems; and

WHEREAS, Rolling Meadows' agriculture pathway offers students an array of career opportunities often overlooked in the suburbs, including veterinary science, agricultural engineering, food science and more; and

WHEREAS, part of this program includes a greenhouse onsite at Rolling Meadows High School; and

WHEREAS, when COVID-19 first hit, District 214 and Rolling Meadows High School looked for different ways to help their community; and

WHEREAS, Rolling Meadows Principal Eileen Hart and Dave Wietrzak, Rolling Meadows High School's division head for career and technical education worked hard to launch a way to help the surrounding community by utilizing the greenhouse and expertise of the agriculture program; and

WHEREAS, District 214 Education Foundation Executive Director Erin Holmes created a donation opportunity to make the effort's costs neutral, working with Home Depot to secure necessary supplies at

no cost to the school or district; and

WHEREAS, the program grew hundreds of tomato plants and red and green peppers that were then distributed to community members to continuing growing those plants; and

WHEREAS, food is also grown that is included in a weekly meal bag pickup; and

WHEREAS, as COVID-19 has been difficult for many residents this opportunity has not only utilized a school resource but has given back to the community; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby honor Rolling Meadows High School and District 214 for their outstanding work to provide fresh produce to our local community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that suitable copies of this resolution are presented to Principal Eileen Hart and Dave Wietrzak at Rolling Meadows High School and Superintendent Dr. David Schuler and Erin Holmes at District 214.

[21-1247](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING THE HAPPINESS PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Happiness Project is a clothing brand started by Arlington Heights entrepreneurs with a focus on raising awareness for mental health; and

WHEREAS, the Happiness Project's mission is to elevate happiness throughout the world, while supporting those impacted by mental health issues; and

WHEREAS, the Happiness Project strives to show the world that it's okay to not be okay; and

WHEREAS, the Happiness Project has shared that they hope the encouragement from their fun-loving community gives everyone the strength to do what makes them happy; and

WHEREAS, Jake Lavin started the Happiness Project after a classmate at Hersey High School lost his battle with mental health; and

WHEREAS, Joey DeFilippo, Mike Jones and Joey Ruben joined the initiative offering different expertise and a passion for the mission; and

WHEREAS, the Happiness Project gives 15% of their proceeds to NAMI (National Alliance on Mental

Illness); and

WHEREAS, the Happiness Project's website and Instagram also provide mental health resources for those that need it; and

WHEREAS, the entrepreneurs hope that the brand will bring positivity and remove stigma around mental illness; and

WHEREAS, as COVID-19 has been difficult for many residents and their mental health, the Happiness Project is a beacon of hope and positivity; and

WHEREAS, these young entrepreneurs and their innovative spirit and passion represent the best of Cook County; and

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that suitable copies of this resolution are presented to Jake Lavin, Joey DeFilippo, Mike Jones and Joey Ruben.

[21-1232](#)

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MICHAEL SAUL HUCKMAN, M.D. AND BEVERLY JOY BLACHMAN

WHEREAS, Michael Saul Huckman, M.D., Professor Emeritus of Radiology at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, died on January 19, 2021, suddenly and peacefully at home, in the presence of his sons. He was 84 years old; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Huckman was born in Newark, New Jersey, on August 20, 1936, the son of Dr. Louis Fillmore Huckman and Mollie (Lehman) Huckman; and

WHEREAS, a 1958 graduate of Princeton University, he received his medical degree from St. Louis University School of Medicine in 1962. Following his internship at Philadelphia General Hospital, Dr. Huckman served two years as a Lieutenant in the United States Navy, including a year as Medical Officer aboard the USS Sandoval; and

WHEREAS, after a residency in radiology at Philadelphia General Hospital, he completed a fellowship in Neuroradiology at the Edward Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology at Washington University in St. Louis. In 1970 Dr. Huckman became Director of Neuroradiology at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago,

where he practiced for the next 42 years until retirement; and

WHEREAS, Michael was a Fellow of the American College of Radiology and active in the Radiological Society of North America. As a member of the American Society of Neuroradiology, he served two years as its President and as Editor in Chief of the American Journal of Neuroradiology, its scholarly publication, from 1989 to 1997. He was elected to honorary membership in the Indian Society of Neuroradiology, the Japanese Society of Neuroradiology, the Turkish Society of Neuroradiology and the European Society of Neuroradiology and served as President of the World Federation of Neuroradiological Societies from 2002 to 2006. In 1998 he was awarded the Gold Medal of the American Society of Neuroradiology and received the Gold Medal of the Radiological Society of North America in 2002. Upon retirement he was awarded the 2012 Alumni Merit Award by St. Louis University School of Medicine and in 2016 Rush University Medical Center established the Michael and Beverly Huckman Endowed Research Fund in the Department of Radiology; and

WHEREAS, Michael was a passionate book collector and a member of the Caxton Club. Dr. Huckman had a special interest in medical history; his reflections on the role of Princeton University in the history of Philadelphia medicine is in the Princeton University Library and the archives of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. He was a member of the Society of the Fifth Line, dedicated to the limerick, and once was a man who wrote rhymes and poetry dedicated to friends and family; and

WHEREAS, Michael is predeceased by his wife, Beverly Joy Blachman, who died in 2019 after 54 years of marriage. Beverly grew up in Portsmouth, Virginia. Public schools at that time in Virginia were segregated. She was class valedictorian and also a state debate champion. She majored in government with a particular interest in African studies. She graduated with honors from Smith College in Northampton, MA, in June of 1963. That summer she was on the Mall in Washington when Martin Luther King Jr. gave his *I Have a Dream* speech. It had a permanent effect on her life; and

WHEREAS, married to Michael in 1964, they spent three years in Philadelphia before moving to St. Louis for his two-year fellowship. While in St. Louis, Beverly volunteered to represent the tenants in the St. Louis Public Housing rent strike of 1968. The rent strike was eventually settled in favor of the tenants, and Beverly helped write the settlement which, among other things, established the St. Louis Civic Alliance for Housing, paving the way for tenant management in public housing; and

WHEREAS, after they moved to Evanston in 1970, Beverly worked with Adele Neems, an Evanston alderman, writing the innovative Condominium Conversion and Landlord Tenant Ordinances. Beverly was a consultant to the Human Relations Commissions of both Evanston and Skokie and was instrumental in the establishment of public housing in both communities. She eventually served as Chair of the Evanston Housing Commission and steered legislation for adoption of the Group and Family Care Ordinance. She later served as Chair of the Northshore Community Housing Resource Board; and

WHEREAS, in 1974, she became Equal Opportunity Coordinator for Academic Affairs at Rush University Medical Center until she retired in 2012 as Associate Vice President for Equal Opportunity and Diversity. At Rush, she was responsible for the development and implementation of the Rush Diversity,

Equal Opportunity, and Affirmative Action programs, the Policies and Procedures on Harassment, programs related to the Americans With Disabilities Act and other civil rights policies and programs. Largely due to her efforts, Rush received the Henry Betts, M.D. Award for significant contributions in promoting disability rights and employment advocacy. She was also instrumental in the hospital's receiving the U.S. Department of Labor "EVE Award" for Exemplary Voluntary Efforts in Equal Opportunity for Minorities, Women, Individuals with Disabilities, and Veterans in 2007, and in the hospital receiving the LGBT Healthcare Equality award from the Human Rights Campaign for the years 2009 to 2012. At Rush, she also received the 1997 Eugene J-MA Thonar Award for outstanding contributions to advancing opportunities for people with disabilities, the 2005 Henry P. Russe, M.D. Humanitarian Award, and the J. Robert Clapp Diversity Leadership Award; and

WHEREAS, Beverly also served on the board of Beth Emet Synagogue. She chaired its Social Action Committee and served as a Trustee of the Beth Emet Foundation. She was a founding member of the Evanston Catholic-Jewish Dialogue which began in 1986 and still exists today. Since 1986 she served on the Executive Board of the Chicago Region Chapter of the American Jewish Committee and served as its Vice President and Chair of its Interreligious Affairs Commission from 2005 to 2007. In 1999, she was a member of AJC's delegation to Berlin, sponsored by the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung to foster German-American Jewish understanding; and

WHEREAS, Beverly has multiple other accomplishments. She became a member of the Benefit Steering Committee of Access Living, a group that advocates for disability rights, and served on boards for the Citizens Committee for Victim Assistance, and Housing Options for the Mentally Ill of Evanston. She was a public member of the Board of Trustees of the Radiological Society of North America Research and Education Foundation from 2003 to 2009 and was one of two non-attorney members of the Board of Directors of the Center for Conflict Resolution, established by the Chicago Bar Association, from 2000 to 2010. From 2015 until her passing, she was a public member of the Residency Review Committee of the American Board of Allergy and Immunology. She also won the Association of American Medical Colleges Women in Medicine Silver Achievement Award and a Distinguished Service Award from the Center for Conflict Resolution; and

WHEREAS, both Michael Saul Huckman and his wife, Beverly Joy Blachman led exemplary lives; and

WHEREAS, Michael is preceded in death by his parents, Dr. Louis Fillmore Huckman and Mollie (Lehman) Huckman, and sister Lenore (the late Richard Turteltaub). He is survived by sons Andrew (Elaine Serafim) of Chicago and Robert (Jennifer Burbridge) of Newton, Massachusetts, and grandson Noah, also of Newton.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County, honors the life and contributions of Michael Saul Huckman, M.D. and Beverly Joy Blachman, and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions they made to the Citizens of Cook County, Illinois; and

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

proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of same be tendered to the family of Michael Saul Huckman, M.D. and Beverly Joy Blachman.