



# Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street  
Chicago, IL

## Legislation Text

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**File #: 23-1088, Version: 1**

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### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

#### **HONORING AND RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF SHIRLEY J. NEWSOME**

**WHEREAS**, Shirley was born on Wednesday, August 15, 1945, to Reverend Charlie Murray Sr. and Blancy Lillie Strong of New Galilee Missionary Baptist Church; and

**WHEREAS**, Shirley extensively studied at the Chicago Baptist Institute from 1974 to 1976, then the Moody Bible Institute from 1976 to 1979; and

**WHEREAS**, Shirley joined Monumental Baptist Church in 1979 soon after moving to the Oakland neighborhood; and

**WHEREAS**, Shirley began a life of service to her community in 1981 by helping to form the Lake Park-Berkeley-Ellis-Drexel Block Club Association; and

**WHEREAS**, Shirley was committed to an increased quality of life for residents of the Southeast Side with dozens of volunteer positions presiding over the area; and

**WHEREAS**, Shirley was a community representative for five Chicago Housing Authority working groups and sat on the advisory council of three local parks; and

**WHEREAS**, Shirley served as a member on sixteen local advisory committees and commissions, including the South East Chicago Commission and the Quad Communities Development Corporation; and

**WHEREAS**, Shirley retired after a storied career across the United States government as a court stenographer and legal secretary, and

**WHEREAS**, Shirley brought her professional skills to her organizing work to help efficiently document the efforts and agendas of initiatives throughout her community; and

**WHEREAS**, Shirley served as a trusted advisor to Cook County President Toni Preckwinkle, Cook County Commissioner Bill Lowry and countless other public officials; and

**WHEREAS**, After a passionate life of selfless work for her community, Shirley J. Newsome served four months as the Interim Alderman of the Fourth Ward of the City of Chicago, appointed by the vacating alderman, then-newly elected Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle; and

**WHEREAS**, Shirley J. Newsome passed on from this life on Sunday, December 25, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, Shirley was a loving wife to Howard Newsome and mother to Glenn M. Murray; and

**WHEREAS**, Shirley leaves behind her brother, sister, grand-daughter, three great-grandchildren, numerous other family members, her church family, and the community to mourn her loss; and

**WHEREAS**, Shirley's constant dedication to the development of her community left an endearing impact on the

Southeast Side of Chicago and beyond; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY, the President and its members do hereby extend their gratitude for the fruitful and blessed activism of Shirley J. Newsome as they offer their deepest condolences to her friends, family, and communities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Shirley J. Newsome as an honorable expression of appreciation for her life and work