



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL

Legislation Text

File #: 15-1167, **Version:** 1

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE RONALD J.P. BANKS

WHEREAS, Ronald J. P. Banks, a former Cook County judge, passed away on January 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Judge Banks received his law degree from DePaul University and started his career as a Cook County prosecutor. He went on to supervise traffic court; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Banks was elected as a circuit court judge in 1982 and served diligently and honorably until his retirement in 2000; and

WHEREAS, Judge Banks presided over a landmark murder trial of the president, the manager and the foreman of the now-defunct Film Recovery Systems, where an employee died after inhaling cyanide fumes from a solution at the company's factory; and

WHEREAS, although it was over-turned by a state appeals court, the conviction was the first of its kind in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, after decades of a prominent career in law, Judge Banks enjoyed his retirement by spending time with family and friends, and loved entertaining them all with his storytelling. He treasured the many Jamaican vacations spent with his beloved wife, Donna; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated husband, father and grandfather, Judge Banks particularly relished time spent with his family. He was proud of his sons, Ronald, Jr. (Shelly) and Samuel (Rosella) and his daughters, Lynn, Heather and Hope (Dean) Jaeger and adored his grandchildren, Ariana, Marisa, Miles, Matthew and Jacob.; and

WHEREAS, Judge Banks always instilled in his family the importance of respect, hard work and strong family values. His example of how to live life well will continue through the generations the follow him.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby offer sincere condolences to Donna Banks, her children and grandchildren and the siblings, nieces, nephews and many friends of Ronald J. P. Banks. The Board of Commissioners also honors his rich and purposeful life and legacy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the Banks family as evidence of the esteem in which Ronald J. P. Banks is held by this Honorable Body and the residents of Cook County.