



# Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street  
Chicago, IL

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 17-2801, **Version:** 1

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### PROPOSED RESOLUTION

#### HONORING JOE MANTEGNA ON HIS ILLUSTRIOUS CAREER AND CITY OF CHICAGO HONORARY STREET DEDICATION

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Joe Mantegna is a successful actor, producer, writer, director, and voice actor; and

**WHEREAS**, Joe Mantegna was born in Chicago, Illinois on November 13, 1947, and graduated from Morton East High School and Morton Junior College in Cicero, Illinois; and

**WHEREAS**, after graduation, Mr. Mantegna began his acting and music career, starting a rock band in the 1960's called The Apocryphals that toured throughout the Midwest, later playing with another local group, The Missing Links, who went on to form the band Chicago, his favorite band; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Mantegna went on to attend the Goodman School of Drama in the late 1960's, and made his acting debut in the 1969 stage production of *Hair* and debuted on Broadway in *Working*; and

**WHEREAS**, he later earned a Tony Award for Best Featured Actor in a Play for portraying Richard Roma in the first American production of David Mamet's play, *Glengarry Glen Ross*; and

**WHEREAS**, among his many memorable film rolls, he is perhaps best known for his roles in box office hits including *Three Amigos*, *Forget Paris*, *Up Close and Personal* and of course his unforgettable role as Joey Zasa in *The Godfather Part III*; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Mantegna wrote Bleacher Bums, a play about the beloved Chicago Cubs, while he was a member of Chicago's Organic Theater Company, and was a member of its original cast; and

**WHEREAS**, he married the love of his life, Arlene Vrhel, in 1975; the couple has two daughters, Mia and Gia; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Mantegna also demonstrates a commitment to his community, participating in the National Memorial Day Concert since 2002, and he and his wife are also proud supporters of the Easter Seals Chicago and their Therapeutic School and Center for Autism Research; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2015, Mr. Mantegna received the Saint Pio Award from the Saint Pio Foundation, in recognition of his outstanding contributions in "providing relief from suffering to those in need;" and

**WHEREAS**, he has received many awards, including a Tony Award, three Emmy nominations, and a Golden Globe Award nomination. Mr. Mantegna received the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2004 at the Los Angeles Italian Film Festival and has led the singing of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" during the 7th inning stretch multiple times at Wrigley Field; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Mantegna currently lives in Los Angeles, California with his wife Arlene, but they remain Chicagoans at heart, and own a restaurant in Burbank, California called "Taste Chicago," so they would never want for a good beef sandwich or deep dish pizza; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of his storied career and his service to the community, the City of Chicago has sought fit to bestow an honorary street sign to Mr. Mantegna by dedicating the southeast corner of North Hudson Avenue and West Armitage Avenue as “Joe Mantegna Way”;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Cook County Board President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby congratulate and honor Mr. Joe Mantegna for his many accomplishments both in his career and in the community as well as his City of Chicago Honorary Street Dedication; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that a suitable copy of this Resolution be presented to Mr. Joe Mantegna in honor of his outstanding achievements.