



Office of the City Clerk



R2012-839

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City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	9/12/2012
Sponsor(s):	Burke, Edward M. (14)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Tribute to late Ora A. Higgins
Committee(s) Assignment:	

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Ora A. Higgins has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of one-hundred one; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of her passing by Alderman Edward M. Burke; and

WHEREAS, The great-great aunt of First Lady Michelle Obama, Ora A. Higgins was a civic leader, educator and trailblazing business professional; and

WHEREAS, Ora A. Higgins was the mother of Murrell and William and the much-beloved matriarch of her family; and

WHEREAS, Ora A. Higgins was the grandmother of thirteen, the great-grandmother of twenty-six and the great-great-grandmother of three; and

WHEREAS, A personnel expert devoted to social justice, Ora A. Higgins broke down racial barriers in the workplace, demanding equal pay and equal opportunity for minority employees; and

WHEREAS, Ora A. Higgins was the first African-American Personnel Director at Spiegel's Inc., where she implemented a plan which successfully diversified the company's workforce; and

WHEREAS, Ora A. Higgins taught for thirty-one years at Dunbar Vocational Evening School, and founded the Ora A. Higgins Youth Foundation, which for thirty-five years has provided academic scholarships to high school students in throughout the Chicago area; and

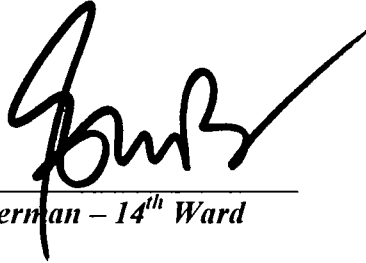
WHEREAS, Ora A. Higgins served as national chairman of Women in Industry, and was a member of the Metropolitan YWCA's executive board, the National Conference of Christian and Jews' Women's Division, the Chicago Urban League and many other civil rights organizations; and

WHEREAS, Ora A. Higgins received numerous awards, including the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry and the Distinguished Service Award from Tuskegee Institute; and

WHEREAS, To her beloved family, Ora A. Higgins imparts a legacy of faithfulness, service and dignity; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this twelfth day of September, 2012, do hereby commemorate Ora A. Higgins for her grace-filled life and do hereby express our condolences to her family; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Ora A. Higgins.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. B. B.", is written above a horizontal line. Below the line, the text "Alderman - 14th Ward" is printed.

Alderman - 14th Ward

John