



City of Chicago



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SUSP.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

November 1, 2016

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith, together with Aldermen Taliaferro and Mitts, a resolution honoring the life and memory of our former colleague Sam Burrell.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rahm Emanuel".

Mayor



A resolution



adopted by *The City Council*
of the *City of Chicago, Illinois*

Presented by ALDERMAN CHRISTOPHER TALIAFERRO
MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL on NOVEMBER 1, 2016

Whereas, The Members of this Chamber were deeply saddened to learn that our former colleague, Alderman Samuel Frye Burrell of the 29th Ward, passed away on September 28, 2016 at the age of 78; and

WHEREAS, Alderman Burrell was born in Panola, Alabama to Willie and Eva Mae Burrell on September 18, 1938, and was the oldest of nine children; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from North Sumter High School in 1957, Alderman Burrell enlisted in the United States Army. After completing army warfare training at Fort Benning, Georgia and medical training at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, he served as an Army Paramedic; and

WHEREAS, Alderman Burrell was honorably discharged from the service in 1960, and then relocated to Chicago to begin his career of public service as a Chicago Transit Authority bus operator; and

WHEREAS, After moving to Chicago, Alderman Burrell became politically active, joining a number of African-American civil rights organizations, including the Pan African Students Organization, the Black Panther Party, the NAACP, and independent political movements on Chicago's West Side; and

WHEREAS, Alderman Burrell married the love of his life, Rosie L. Key, in 1966. The couple went on to have nine children together; and

WHEREAS, While in Chicago, Alderman Burrell began his education in electrical engineering at DeVry University, and in 1977 he was certified as a Master Mechanic, Electrician, and Locomotive Engineer. Alderman Burrell subsequently received a degree in Finance from Roosevelt University; and

WHEREAS, During his time in Chicago, Alderman Burrell held positions with North American Phillips and General Motors Electromotive Division; and

WHEREAS, In 1984, Alderman Burrell joined Mayor Harold Washington's reform administration, whereupon his political career began to flourish, and he was elected as Alderman of the 29th Ward in 1990, serving until 1999; and

WHEREAS, During his time in office, Alderman Burrell founded the United Voter Registration League, which registered more than 50,000 voters for the 1992 presidential election, which caused the president of the local chapter of the NAACP to hail him as a freedom fighter; and

WHEREAS, Alderman Burrell worked for the City until 2002, when he founded Fuller-Burrell Electric, an electrical contracting company; and

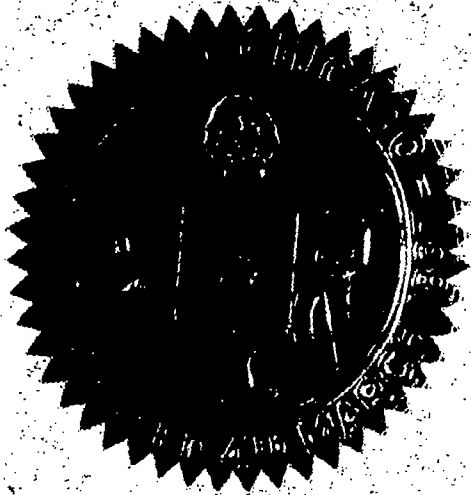
WHEREAS, Alderman Burrell will always be remembered for his strong work ethic, dedication, and contributions to African-American progress in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Alderman Burrell leaves to cherish his memory his loving and devoted wife, Rosie; daughters, Cheronne, Joye (John), and Miesha (Gary); sons, William, Edward, and Sam (Erica); brothers Willie (Dorothy), Bill (Ellen), and Charles (Barbara); sisters, Mattie and Gail (Timothy); many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and a host of family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Willie and Eva Mae Burrell; brothers, James and Jesse Burrell; and children, Ruwa, Linda and Mark Burrell; and

WHEREAS, Alderman Burrell touched the lives of all who knew him through his activism, vision, advocacy and dedication to his city. He will be deeply missed, but the memory of his character and will live on in those who knew and loved him; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this first day of November, 2016, do hereby mourn the passing of Alderman Samuel Frye Burrell, and do hereby extend our most sincere condolences to his family and friends; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Alderman Burrell as a sign of our honor, gratitude and respect.



Rafael Emanuel
MAYOR

Susana A. Mendez
CITY CLERK