



City of Chicago



O2022-1600

Office of the City Clerk

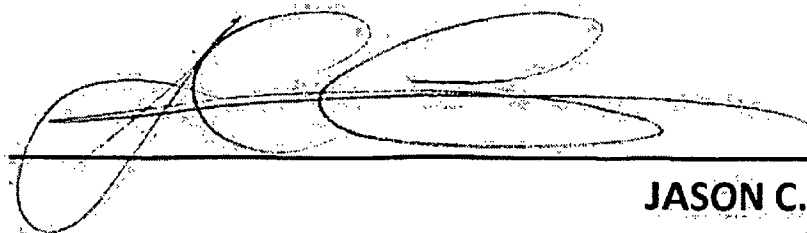
Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	5/23/2022
Sponsor(s):	Ervin (28)
Type:	Ordinance
Title:	Honorary street designation as "Officer Nicol Walker Way"
Committee(s) Assignment:	Committee on Transportation and Public Way

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

SECTION 1. Pursuant to an ordinance heretofore passed by the City Council which allows erection of honorary street-name signs, the Commissioner of Transportation shall take the necessary action for standardization of Jackson Boulevard, between Kildare Avenue and Kostner Avenue extended as "Officer Nicol Walker Way"

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above a solid horizontal line.

**JASON C. ERVIN
28TH WARD**



City Council

City Hall - Room 200
121 North La Salle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602

JASON C. ERVIN

City of Chicago

Alderman, 28th Ward
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Chicago, Illinois 60612
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May 17, 2022

Committee Memberships

Aldermanic Black Caucus, Chairman
Budget & Government Operations
Contracting Oversight & Equity, Chairman
Finance
License & Consumer Protection
Public Safety
Workforce Development, Vice Chairman

Office of Budget and Management
121 N. LaSalle, Room 604
Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern: I, Jason C. Ervin, Alderman of the 28th Ward, hereby authorize the Office of Budget Management to withdraw the funds associated with the cost of installation for this honorary street designation for Officer Nicol Walker from my:

Ward's annual menu program budget

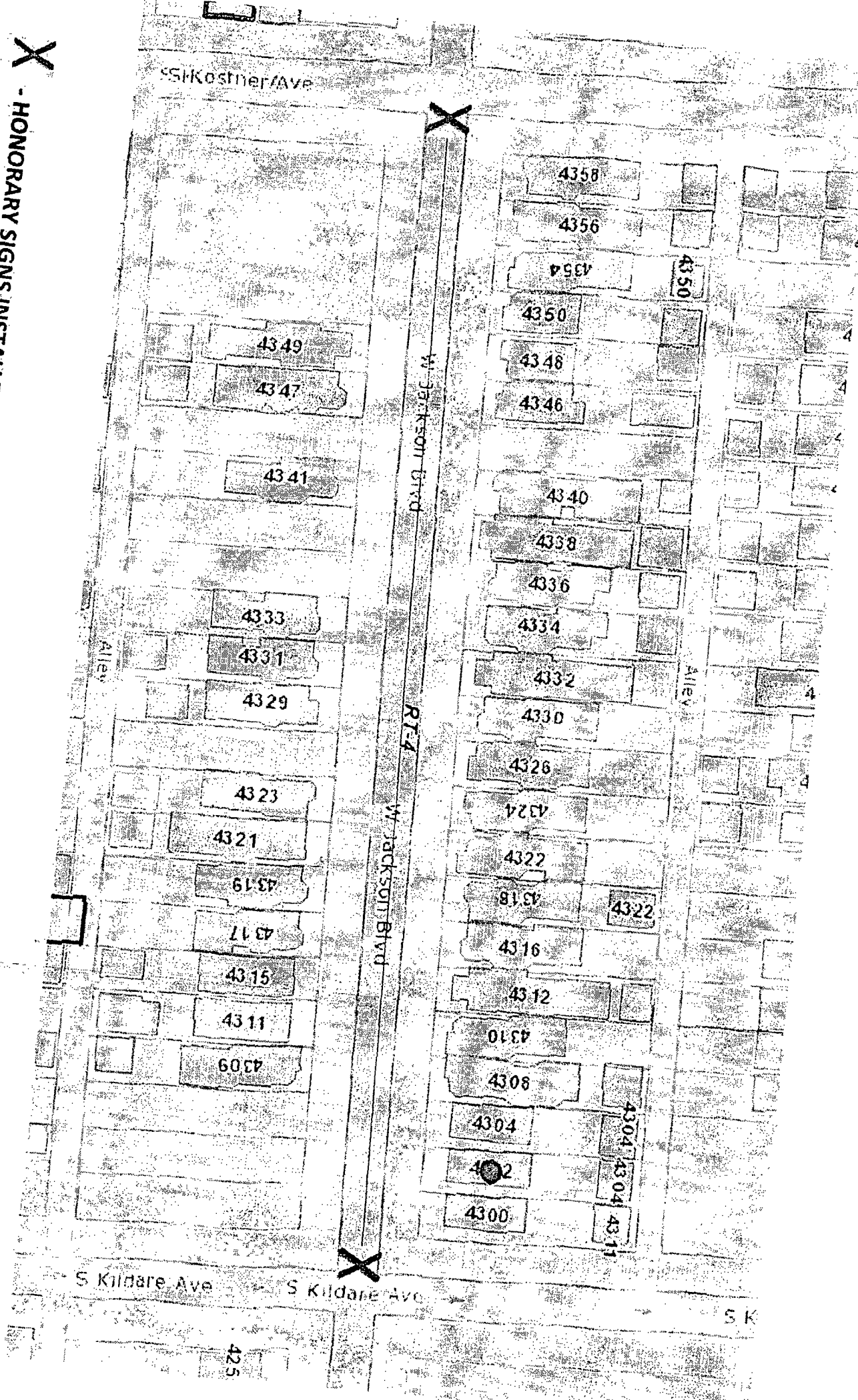
Ward's aldermanic expense allowance

upon passage of this designation ordinance, pursuant to Section 2-8-040 of the Chicago Municipal Code.

Sincerely,

Jason C. Ervin
Alderman, 28th Ward

X - HONORARY SIGNS INSTALLED ON JACKSON BLVD, BETWEEN KILDARE AVENUE AND KOSTNER AVENUE



S K

28th Ward Alderman Jason Ervin
2622 W. Jackson Blvd. Suite 200A
Chicago, IL 60612

Dear Ald. Jason Ervin/Ms. Trina Mangrum & all respective parties,

I am writing to request a monument in honor of my husband, Officer Nicol Walker. I am making this request as a tribute to a great man who lived in this community. He was not only a family man, but he god-fearing and a great officer who believed in saving and inspiring lives.

My husband was a well-respected man within his family and within the Police Department. He was a man who wanted to save other people who had been misguided. When he made arrests, he would talk to them and provide resources to them to let them know there was a better way. I have witnessed firsthand that my husband was well liked by those who thought crime was the way. What we are seeing today by the community and their relationship with the police is totally opposite of the relationship my husband had when dealing with people. Even if he had arrested them, by the end of the day that person would be thanking my husband. Young men would call his name and say, "thank you Officer Walker, what you said to me when you arrested me stuck with me and because of that, I turned my life around, I have a job now", or they would say, "I took your advice, I'm taking care of my family, I'm trying to stay away from trouble, I'm doing good now". He knew what it meant to be a young black man growing up in Chicago.

Nicol grew up in Henry Horner Chicago Housing complex with his mother, father, and siblings. His father was best childhood friends with Rev./Dr. Johnny L. Miller of JLM Abundant Life Center. It was tough growing up in Henry Homer not to mention to face negative behavior from police officers patrolling the area. At age 11, Nicol was falsely accused of snatching a woman's purse. While police were certain they had the right person, the owner of the convenient store & game room spoke up in his defense telling officers that they had the wrong kid. The owner telling officers that he was certain because Nicol had been in his game store playing his favorite arcade game all day and had never left out. My husband told me that he felt very scared and vulnerable. At that point is when my husband said he made a promise to become a police officer so that he could make a difference within the police force because he did not want any other child to go through what he had gone through. And that is what he did.

Before becoming a police officer, he enlisted in the US Navy to serve this country. He was called to duty to fight in the Gulf War. He was honorably discharged. Afterwards, he attended college to secure his degree in Criminal Justice and from there he applied to become a Chicago Police Officer. Around 2010 my husband was confirmed as a Chicago Police Officer.

Since moving into our home on west Jackson Blvd., my husband accepted the responsibility of keeping the neighborhood safe, when he saw something wrong, he made sure to confront it head on. From Gladys and Kildare, Jackson and Kildare, to Adams and Kildare. All three intersections are within feet of our home. He watched over our neighbors and anyone who passed through. On September 30, 2016, my husband helped save the life of a school bus driver who was driving down Jackson Blvd. The bus was traveling west, transporting kids from Christ the King High School when the bus driver was struck by a stray bullet. My husband sacrificed his own life, not worrying whether there would be more bullets flying, checked on the driver who was slumped over with blood gushing from his face. My husband immediately grabbed anything he could find to apply pressure to help slow down the bleeding. He did this until help arrived. This story was on the news but somehow his heroism went unmentioned as he did not even speak with news reporters about what he had done.

I am asking for this recognition to be honored within the parameter of our home because I would like for it to be considered a safe zone (although, it should already be a safe zone due to the school in the area). My husband was the reason why drug dealers did not plague Jackson Blvd., Kildare, and Adams. He was working on ridding

Gladys of the illegal activity that is presently there today. Since the passing of my husband, drug dealers realize the absence of my husband and now has planted their feet on Adams and Kildare on the doorsteps of Goldblatt Elementary School. It truly hurts to see this taking place when my husband worked so hard to keep that space free of criminal activity. I am sure my husband would want me to fight on his behalf.

Being that he was a family man who was god-fearing, a well-respected Police Officer, War Veteran and one who believed in advocacy, I would like to honor my husband to inspire the community that they can do better and be better. Despite facing challenges and beating the odds of being another black kid swallowed up by the justice system, he showed that you do not have to be a statistic or a product of your environment. Within every word spoken in this letter, I am requesting that my husband receive an honorary staple in this community. I do not know what the options are in showing such honor but if reasonable, I was thinking maybe an honorary street sign at Jackson & Kildare and something to signify a safe zone in my husband's name from Gladys & Kildare to Adam's & Kildare. If you have any other ideas or options, I would love to discuss. My contact number is 773-885-8971.

Thank you for your time and attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Demetris Walker