

City of Chicago



R2016-857

Office of the City Clerk

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Meeting Date:

11/1/2016

Sponsor(s):

Burke (14)

Type:

Resolution

Title:

Tribute to late Kenneth Thompson

Committee(s) Assignment:

RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Kenneth Thompson has gone to his eternal reward at the age 50; and

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

WHEREAS, Kenneth Thompson was the loving husband of Lu-Shawn; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Thompson was the much-adored father of Kennedy and Kenneth Jr. to whom he imparted many of the fine and noble qualities that he possessed in abundance; and

WHEREAS, A native of New York, Kenneth Thompson graduated from John Jay College and New York University Law School; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Thompson served as a Special Assistant to the U.S. Treasury Department Undersecretary for Enforcement in Washington, D.C., and as a federal prosecutor for the Eastern District of New York where he won a case against a New York City police officer accused of the 1997 beating and torture of a Haitian immigrant; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Thompson enjoyed a high-profile career in private practice and co-founded the law firm Thompson Wigdor; and

WHEREAS, In 2013 Kenneth Thompson became the first African-American elected to serve as Brooklyn District Attorney after campaigning to restore confidence in the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure in office, Kenneth Thompson established a Conviction Review Unit which moved to vacate or support the dismissal of 21 wrongly convicted people within only three years; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Thompson also enacted a policy not to prosecute low-level marijuana possession arrests; and

WHEREAS, The hard work, sacrifice and dedication of Kenneth Thompson serve as an example to all; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Thompson was an individual of great integrity and accomplishment who will be dearly missed and fondly remembered by his many relatives, friends and admirers; and

WHEREAS, To his beloved family, Kenneth Thompson 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 first day of November, 2016, do hereby commemorate Kenneth Thompson for his grace-filled life and do hereby express our condolences to his family; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Keyneth Thompson.

Alderman - 14th Ward