



City of Chicago



R2015-190

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	3/18/2015
Sponsor(s):	Burke (14)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Gratitude extended to Raymond Robinson and Zet Smith for heroic life-saving efforts
Committee(s) Assignment:	

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, On the evening of February 14, 2015, Chicago Police Officer Mark Czapla and his partner Officer Joseph Groh stopped at a Walgreens Store in the 5400 block of North Clark Street so that Officer Czapla could buy his wife a Valentine's Day card; and

WHEREAS, Upon pulling in to the Walgreens parking lot, Officers Groh and Czapla encountered Thomas Thompson, a 6-foot-3, 270 pound man, who was fleeing the Walgreens after allegedly shoplifting \$150 worth of vitamins; and

WHEREAS, While attempting to subdue and arrest Thompson, the hulking offender somehow managed to break free from Officers Czapla and Groh and started beating both officers; and

WHEREAS, During the desperate and bloody struggle, the offender took hold of one of the officer's weapons from its holster, turned it on both officers, and fired a shot that fortunately missed everyone; and

WHEREAS, With one bullet still in the chamber and having not noticed that the loaded magazine had fallen out of the gun during the struggle, Thompson continued to pull the trigger three or four more times, but fortunately the trigger block within the weapon prevented it from firing; and

WHEREAS, Two witnesses to the altercation, a Walgreens' employee named Raymond Robinson, and a customer named Zet Smith, upon hearing the gunfire, rushed into action to help the bleeding officers who were now in grave danger; and

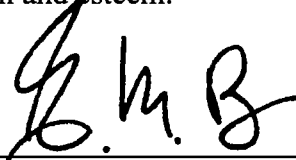
WHEREAS, Raymond Robinson grabbed Thompson's arm and managed to pull the offender's finger from the trigger, while Zet Smith yanked the offender's feet out from underneath him; and

WHEREAS, Were it not for the heroic and selfless efforts of Raymond Robinson and Zet Smith the outcome of the event would have been much different; and

WHEREAS, Without regard for their own safety, Raymond Robinson and Zet Smith acted decisively and courageously to rescue two Chicago Police officers from a violent offender; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this eighteenth day of March, 2015, do hereby honor Raymond Robinson and Zet Smith for their valor and bravery to the Chicago Police Department as well as the City of Chicago; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be presented to Messrs. Robinson and Smith as a token of our appreciation and esteem.



Edward M. Burke
Alderman, 14th Ward