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R2013-75

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City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 1/17/2013
Sponsor(s): Foulkes, Toni (15)
Type: Resolution
Title: Tribute to late Theodore "Ted" Thomas.
Committee(s) Assignment:

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF THEODORE THOMAS

WHEREAS, Almighty God, in His Infinite Wisdom, has called Theodore "Ted" Thomas, an outstanding public servant and representative of his community, to his eternal reward on November 10, 2012 at the age of 76; and

WHEREAS, Ted Thomas was born to the union of the late Walker and Ruby Thomas on August 3, 1936 in Houston, Texas. He was the eldest son of 6 children who blessed the Walker family. He was preceded in passing by his daughter Janis and grandson Benjamin as well as a great granddaughter Amaria Toney; and

WHEREAS, In 1954, Ted Thomas graduated from George Washington High School in San Francisco then proudly joined the United States Air Force, serving his country for 21 years. He matured into a young man filled with an abundance of intelligence and admiration for his country. While in the military, he met and was united in Holy Matrimony to his loving wife of 49 years, Hattie Brown, on December 8, 1962 in Roswell, New Mexico and settled this city where they raised their grandchildren and, in later years, foster children; and

WHEREAS, In 1984, Ted Thomas worked for the United States Postal Service as a maintenance mechanic and electric equipment repair technician until his retirement in 1999. After leaving the Postal Service, he served as the president of the Chicago Chapter of ACORN, an organization that advocates for social justice and building stronger communities, along with spending years of service as a Deacon of his church; and

WHEREAS, Ted's passion of making a difference in his community led him to pursue running for local office. He was elected Alderman of the 15th Ward in 1999, serving two successful terms under former Mayor Richard M. Daley. As Alderman, he contributed to revitalizing the neighborhoods of his ward by seeing that the streets were repaired and vacant lots were cleaned up as well as working with the 7th and 8th Chicago Police Districts to reduce crime and improve their relations with community residents; and


WHEREAS, During his term, two new schools were developed along with a much-needed homeless shelter, a daycare center and a library. He retired from office in 2007 due to health issues; and

WHEREAS, Theodore Thomas leaves behind to cherish his memories and celebrate his life, his beloved wife, granddaughters Thea and Antoinette, great grandchildren Victor, Amarion and A'Mieyah and a host of extended family members; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Toni Foulkes, the current Alderman of the 15th Ward, has informed this august body of the passing of this noteworthy and caring man; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and members of the City of Chicago City Council, gathered together this 17th day of January, 2013 AD, do hereby express sincere sorrow upon learning of the passing of our former colleague and extend our deepest condolences to the family of Theodore Thomas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the family of Theodore "Ted" Thomas.


TONI FOULKES
Alderman - 15th Ward

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