



# City of Chicago



**R2017-753**

Office of the City Clerk

## Document Tracking Sheet

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| <b>Meeting Date:</b>            | 9/6/2017   |
| <b>Sponsor(s):</b>              | Burke (14)   |
| <b>Type:</b>                    | Resolution   |
| <b>Title:</b>                   | Congratulations extended to Honorable Justice Frank Clark<br>on appointment as Chief Justice and President of Ireland<br>Supreme Court |
| <b>Committee(s) Assignment:</b> |  |

## Resolution

**WHEREAS**, on July 28, 2017, the Honorable Mr. Justice Frank Clarke, prominent and esteemed jurist in the Republic of Ireland, received appointment at Áras an Uachtaráin from President Michael D. Higgins, to serve as the twelfth Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Ireland succeeding the Honorable Ms. Justice Susan Denham; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chicago City Council has been informed of this historic appointment by Alderman Edward M. Burke; and

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Mr. Justice Frank Clarke was born on October 10, 1951 in Walkinstown, Dublin, Ireland and was educated at Drimnagh Castle CBS, a Christian Brothers secondary school in Dublin; and

**WHEREAS**, he later studied at the University College Dublin where he was awarded a B.A. degree in Mathematics and Economics in 1972; and

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Mr. Justice Frank Clarke was the first in his family to attend college; and

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Mr. Justice Frank Clarke was called to the Bar in 1973 and to the Inner Bar in 1985; and

**WHEREAS**, during his time at the Bar, the Honorable Mr. Justice Frank Clarke served as external counsel to the Commission to Inquiry into Child Abuse (the Laffoy and Ryan Commissions); and

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Mr. Justice Clarke was a professor at King's Inns from 1978 to 1985 and has been Judge in Residence at Griffith College Dublin from 2010 to date; and

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Mr. Justice Clarke was appointed Adjunct Professor in the Law School in Trinity College, Dublin, in September 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Mr. Justice Frank Clarke joined Fine Gael and wrote speeches for the late Dr. Garret FitzGerald, Taoiseach of Ireland in 1981-1982 and 1982-1987, as well as acting as election agent for former junior minister George Birmingham, who is now a judge of the Court of Appeal; and

**WHEREAS**, a former barrister, the Honorable Mr. Justice Frank Clarke practiced commercial, constitutional and family law, and served as Chairman of the Bar Council from 1993 to 1995; and

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Mr. Justice Frank Clarke is a Benchler of the Honorable Society of the King's Inns since 1995 and was admitted as an honorary member of the Australian Bar Association in 2002; and

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Mr. Justice Frank Clarke received appointment to the High Court by the Fianna-Fail Progressive Democrats in 2004; and

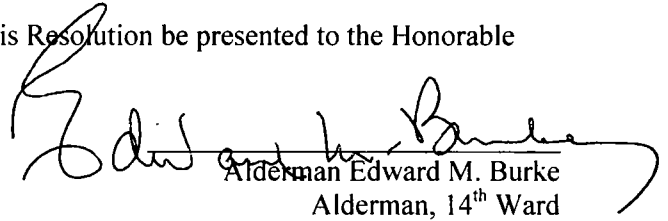
**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Mr. Justice Frank Clarke served as chairman of the Referendum Commission for the referendum on the Twenty-eighth Amendment of the Constitution of Ireland (the Lisbon Treaty) in 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Mr. Justice Frank Clarke was appointed to the Supreme Court on February 9, 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, noted for the clarity of his judgments and regarded as one of the brightest legal minds in the Republic of Ireland, the Honorable Mr. Justice Frank Clarke has earned the highest level of esteem and respect; now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council assembled this sixth day of September, 2017, do hereby congratulate the Honorable Mr. Justice Frank Clarke for his ascension to the Supreme Court of Ireland as Chief Justice and President, and for a lifetime of dedicated service to the people of the Republic of Ireland; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be presented to the Honorable Mr. Justice Frank Clarke.

  
Alderman Edward M. Burke  
Alderman, 14<sup>th</sup> Ward