



# City of Chicago



R2010-1392

Office of the City Clerk

## Tracking Sheet

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>12/8/2010</b>
<b>Status:</b>	Introduced
<b>Sponsor(s):</b>	Balcer, James Burke, Edward
<b>Type:</b>	Resolution
<b>Title:</b>	United States Justice Department urged to pursue legal remedies against WikiLeaks founder, Julian Assange
<b>Committee(s) Assignment:</b>	Committee on Finance

Finance

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the WikiLeaks website has published large quantities of sensitive documents that contain information harmful to United States interests; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to a substantial release of sensitive diplomatic cables, the U.S. State Department's top lawyer warned Julian Assange, the founder of the WikiLeaks website, that American lives and military operations would be put at risk if the cables were released; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Assange was also warned by U.S. officials that the release of the documents would violate U.S. law; and

**WHEREAS**, in utter disregard for the risk to American lives, military operations, U.S. foreign policy interests, and the rule of law, Mr. Assange, through his WikiLeaks website, released 250,000 diplomatic cables between the U.S. State Department and over 270 U.S. diplomatic outposts around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, WikiLeaks' release of said documents has placed at immediate risk, the personal safety of American diplomats, intelligence professionals, and people around the world who come to the United States for assistance in promoting democracy and open government; and

**WHEREAS**, the release has further impacted U.S. foreign policy interests by hindering diplomatic efforts by compromising private discussions with foreign governments and opposition leaders; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 7, 2010, Julian Assange surrendered to British authorities in response to the issuance of a Swedish warrant stemming from a sex-crimes investigation; and

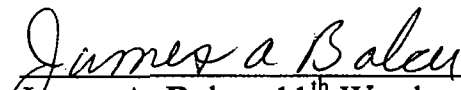
**WHEREAS**, U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, has called for the prosecution of Mr. Assange under the Espionage Act of 1917; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Justice Department is conducting an ongoing investigation into the criminal nature of the WikiLeaks' releases; **NOW THEREFORE**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the Mayor and Chicago City Council, do hereby urge the United States Justice Department to pursue any and all legal remedies, both civil and criminal, against Julian Assange, and any persons assisting in obtaining, storing, publicizing, or releasing the diplomatic cables on the WikiLeaks website; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the United States Justice Department is urged to formally request the extradition of Julian Assange to face criminal charges on American soil for the release of said documents; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the United States Attorney General, Eric H. Holder Jr.

  
James A. Balcer 11<sup>th</sup> Ward

