



# City of Chicago



R2016-896

Office of the City Clerk

## Document Tracking Sheet

**Meeting Date:** 11/9/2016

**Sponsor(s):** Burke (14)

**Type:** Resolution

**Title:** Recognition extended to O. Lawton Wilkerson on military service as a Tuskegee Airman

**Committee(s) Assignment:**

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, O. Lawton "Wilk" Wilkerson served his country with distinction as a member of the famed Tuskegee Airmen during World War II; and

**WHEREAS**, A native of Chicago Heights. O. Lawton "Wilk" Wilkerson graduated from Bloom Township High School and joined the United States Army Air Force's Aviation Cadet Training Program at Tuskegee Alabama; and

**WHEREAS**, O. Lawton "Wilk" Wilkerson received commission as a 2nd Lieutenant and earned his wings as B-52 Pilot; and

**WHEREAS**, O. Lawton "Wilk" Wilkerson was flying B-52 bomber training missions when World War II ended; and

**WHEREAS**, O. Lawton "Wilk" Wilkerson O. Lawton Wilkerson returned to the Chicago Heights area, where he was born and raised, and became the first black bus driver for the South Suburban Bus Company; and

**WHEREAS**, O. Lawton "Wilk" Wilkerson attended the New York Institute of Photography and then worked as an event photographer and was a weekend disc jockey for *WBEE* in Harvey on "sunup to sundown duty" becoming known as "Weekend Wilkie"; and

**WHEREAS**, O. Lawton "Wilk" Wilkerson then went to work for *WMAQ* radio in Chicago, retiring as program manager in 1988; and

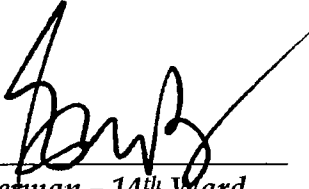
**WHEREAS**, O. Lawton "Wilk" Wilkerson will be honored at a special celebration on the eve of Veteran's Day at Wintrust's Grand Banking Hall, 231 South La Salle Street, Chicago, Illinois; and

**WHEREAS**, O. Lawton "Wilk" Wilkerson is truly an example of what journalist Tom Brokaw called "Our Greatest Generation;" and

**WHEREAS**, O. Lawton "Wilk" Wilkerson is exceedingly worthy of our highest admiration and esteem; now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this ninth day of November, 2016 do hereby express our sincere appreciation to O. Lawton "Wilk" Wilkerson for his military service; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to O. Lawton "Wilk" Wilkerson.



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*Alderman - 14<sup>th</sup> Ward*