



Office of the Chicago City
Clerk



R2011-860

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 7/6/2011
Sponsor(s): Mayor Emanuel
Type: Resolution
Title: Congratulations extended to Chicago Fire Department
Committee(s) Assignment:

Susp.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

July 6, 2011

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith a congratulatory resolution concerning the Chicago Fire Department.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Mayor

A resolution

adopted by *The City Council*
of the *City of Chicago, Illinois*



Presented by MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL on JULY 6, 2011

Whereas On the afternoon of Monday, January 3, 2000, two men went to the home of a resident of the 1000 block of West 112th Street, determined to collect on a drug-related debt; and

WHEREAS The pair broke a window in the back door and forced their way into the home. Once inside, they beat the 66-year-old resident on the head with a heavy object found in his home and also savagely beat his 68-year-old brother. Both victims then had their hands, feet and mouths bound with duct tape; and

WHEREAS In a scene of unimaginable cruelty, the offenders then doused the two seriously wounded elderly men with gasoline, poured gasoline in three other areas of the home, then set the victims on fire, killing both; and

WHEREAS After being caught by the police, the pair of wrongdoers admitted to the beatings but did not admit to setting fires in the home. In their defense, they claimed that a pilot light from the stove must have ignited the gasoline they poured on one of the victims; and

WHEREAS Fire Marshal Victor Megaro of the Chicago Fire Department's Office of Fire Investigations investigated this fire and determined that flammable liquid had been poured onto both victims, then ignited, as well as in three distinct areas throughout the home; and

WHEREAS A separate jury trial was held for each defendant and Fire Marshal Megaro testified as the expert witness in both trials; and

WHEREAS Drawing on his comprehensive investigation of the crime scene, Fire Marshal Megaro provided clear proof to both juries that the defendants were lying and that each of the five fires had been separately ignited; and

WHEREAS, The prosecutions were hard-fought battles that stretched on for years as defense attorneys tried to exclude evidence. Fire Marshal Megaro stayed with the case and continuously made himself available to help prosecutors prove the two defendants guilty beyond a reasonable doubt; and

WHEREAS, Thanks in large part to Fire Marshal Megaro's hard work and commitment, both defendants were convicted of two counts of first-degree murder, as well as aggravated arson, and were sentenced to spend the rest of their lives in prison; and

WHEREAS, Fire Marshal Megaro, who is to be commended for his painstaking and professional work in this grueling court case, was recently honored as the Investigator of the Year by the International Association of Fire Investigators for his fine work; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this sixth day of July, 2011, do hereby honor Fire Marshal Victor Megaro for his professionalism, dedication and exceptional efforts on behalf of the citizenry of Chicago; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Fire Marshal Victor Megaro, and placed on permanent record in his personnel file, as a token of our esteem.



R. Emanuel
MAYOR

Susana A. Mendez
CITY CLERK