



# City of Chicago



O2014-9340

Office of the City Clerk

## Document Tracking Sheet

**Meeting Date:** 11/12/2014

**Sponsor(s):** Burke (14)  
O'Connor (41)  
O'Connor (40)

**Type:** Ordinance

**Title:** Honorary street designation renaming as "Chief Justice Mary Ann Grohwin McMorrow Plaza Dr"

**Committee(s) Assignment:** Committee on Transportation and Public Way

**ORDINANCE**

**WHEREAS,** Born Mary Ann Grohwin in Chicago, Justice McMorrow grew up during the Great Depression in a house near Addison Street and Central Park Avenue; and

**WHEREAS,** Justice McMorrow graduated from Immaculata High School in Uptown, followed by Rosary College (now Dominican University) in River Forest, and then Loyola University School of Law, where she was the only woman in her graduating class, and served as Class President and Associate Editor of the Law Review; and

**WHEREAS,** After a short stint in private practice, Justice McMorrow made her first foray into the public sector in 1954 with her appointment as an Assistant State's Attorney, becoming the first woman to prosecute felony cases in Cook County; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1963, Justice McMorrow and her husband Emmett, a Chicago Police officer, celebrated the birth of their daughter, Mary Ann; and

**WHEREAS,** After more than ten years of private practice out of her home, Justice McMorrow was elected a Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1976; and

**WHEREAS,** Recognizing her tireless and distinguished service as a trial judge, the Illinois Supreme Court appointed Justice McMorrow to the Appellate Court in 1985; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1992, after seven years on the Appellate Court, Justice McMorrow became the first woman to serve on the Illinois Supreme Court in its 173-year history, and, with her ascension to the position of Chief Justice in 2002, became the first woman to head any branch of the Illinois government; and

**WHEREAS,** Justice McMorrow retired from the bench in 2006 a revered and highly decorated figure, whose myriad well-deserved honors included the Medal of Excellence Award from the Loyola University School of Law Alumni Association, the Fellows of the Illinois Bar Foundation Award for Distinguished Service to Law and Society, Chicago Lawyer Magazine's Person of the Year, the American Bar Association's Margaret Brent Award, and, perhaps most fittingly, the Women's Bar Association of Illinois's Myra Bradwell Woman of Achievement Award, which is named after the first woman admitted to the Illinois Bar; and

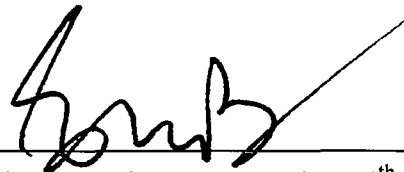
**WHEREAS,** The Honorable Justice McMorrow was called to eternal life by the wisdom of God on February 23, 2013; NOW THEREFORE

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:**


**SECTION 1.** East Congress Plaza Drive is hereby renamed as "Chief Justice Mary Ann Grohwin McMorrow Plaza Drive."

**SECTION 2.** The Commissioner of the Department of Transportation is authorized and directed to do all such acts and things he deems necessary, advisable or appropriate to effectuate this ordinance, including without limitation, the placement of street name signs with the new street name, and to furnish and install a commemorative marker near the intersection of Chief Justice Mary Ann Grohwin McMorrow Plaza Drive and East Congress Parkway honoring Chief Justice Mary Ann Grohwin McMorrow.


**SECTION 3.** This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication.



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



40<sup>th</sup> Ward



41<sup>st</sup> Ward