



# City of Chicago



R2014-369

Office of the City Clerk

## Document Tracking Sheet

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	5/28/2014
<b>Sponsor(s):</b>	Fioretti (2)
<b>Type:</b>	Resolution
<b>Title:</b>	Tribute to late Honorable Anthony Lynn Burrell
<b>Committee(s) Assignment:</b>	

**TRIBUTE TO JUDGE ANTHONY LYNN BURRELL**

WHEREAS, On Wednesday, May 14, 2014, the Honorable Anthony Lynn Burrell, an outstanding judge and member of his community, lost his long battle with cancer; and

WHEREAS, Judge Burrell was an African-American Horatio Alger success story. A Chicago native, he was born and raised in a single-parent family of four. Economic circumstances forced him to leave school after his high-school freshman year to work in a factory. However, he continued his education on his own, studying at the public library, to realize his dream of becoming an attorney. He went to Loop College (currently known as Harold Washington College) to take the test for a G.E.D and pursued criminal justice classes at Malcolm X College; and

WHEREAS, Anthony Burrell enrolled himself at Loyola University where he graduated with honors. Due to his scholarship, he won a place at Cornell University, one of the nation's top Ivy League schools, where he received his law degree. After Cornell, he was hired as a commercial litigator at the prestigious East Coast law firm of Riker & Danzig but returned to Chicago to accept a position as a Cook County Assistant States Attorney; and

WHEREAS, It was the death of a family member at the hands of a repeat felony offender that motivated him to dedicate himself to steering youth away from lives of crime and violence. He became an advocate at Maryville Academy and a consultant to the former Superintendent of Schools Paul Vallas on issues of neighborhood safety and youth violence prevention; and

WHEREAS, Judge Burrell was elected to Cook County Circuit Court bench in 2002 and won re-election in 2008. Serving 12 years in the Chancery Division at the Richard J. Daley Civic Center, one of the court's busiest calls. At one time, he was featured in a Chicago Sun-Times article for his willingness to go outside of the courtroom to ensure a fair trial; and

WHEREAS, In light of the current epidemic of senseless violence that continues to plague Chicago's children, Judge Burrell actively involved himself in youth advocacy. He created a comprehensive violence prevention proposal and hosted a cable show dealing with these issues, "Have Gavel, Will Travel" on CAN-TV. In addition, he was also an advisory member of Brad's Kids Pediatric Cancer Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Judge Burrell is survived by his sisters, Pamela Burrell and Lavette Bradford; his nieces, Tamika Burrell, Samara Wiley, Alicia Wiley and Jasmine Wiley; his nephew, Shaun Burrell, as well as eight grand-nieces and four grand-nephews; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Robert W. Fioretti, Alderman of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward, has informed this august body of the passing of this remarkable member of the legal fraternity; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED That we, the Mayor and members of the City of Chicago City Council, gathered together on this 28<sup>th</sup> Day of May, 2014, do hereby express our sincerest sorrow upon learning of the passing of Judge Anthony Lynn Burrell and extend our deepest sympathies to his family, his many friends and all those whose lives he touched.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the family of Judge Anthony Lynn Burrell.

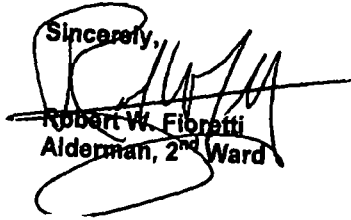
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Fioretti', is written over the printed name and title. The signature is stylized with a large initial 'R' and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Robert W. Fioretti  
Alderman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward