



City of Chicago



R2016-512

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	6/22/2016
Sponsor(s):	Burke (14)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Congratulations extended to Fire Department Paramedic Ronald Kent and Firefighter Brendan Hehir on life-saving actions
Committee(s) Assignment:	

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Chicago Fire Department Paramedic Ronald Kent and Firefighter Brendan Hehir are being hailed as heroes for saving the life of a child who was choking on a balloon in Rogers Park; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of this event by Alderman Edward M. Burke; and

WHEREAS, Last summer, an 8-year-old girl was attempting to inflate a balloon when she suddenly inhaled the object; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Kent and Brendan Hehir responded to the scene and upon examination could see the tip of the balloon lodged in the child's airway; and

WHEREAS, Following unsuccessful attempts to remove the balloon and observing that the child had begun to turn blue for lack of oxygen, the pair used a suction device, similar to those used in dental offices, to pull the balloon out of the child's throat; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of their actions, Ronald Kent and Brendan Hehir were honored with the *Joseph McCarthy Award*, which is named for the World War II Medal of Honor recipient who helped establish ambulance services within the Chicago Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, Choking is the fourth leading cause of unintentional injury deaths in the United States, following poisonings, motor vehicle crashes and falls; and

WHEREAS, Choking can result in brain damage or death, and serious harm can happen within minutes; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Kent and Brendan Hehir's quick intervention is worthy of our admiration and esteem; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this twenty-second day of June, 2016, do hereby recognize Ronald Kent and Brendan Hehir for their lifesaving actions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Paramedic Ronald Kent and Firefighter Brendan Hehir.



Alderman - 14th Ward