



# Office of the City Clerk



R2012-1113

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## City Council Document Tracking Sheet

**Meeting Date:** 11/15/2012

**Sponsor(s):** Ervin, Jason C. (28)

**Type:** Resolution

**Title:** Congradulations extended to Marshall Metropolitan High School Chess Team on achieving top rank as African American high school in Illinois

**Committee(s) Assignment:**

**CONGRATULATING THE MARSHALL METROPOLITAN HIGH SCHOOL CHESS TEAM**

WHEREAS, The Marshall Metropolitan High School Chess Team, located in the 28th Ward on Chicago's great West Side, is among the top 20 school chess teams in Chicago and is ranked as the top African-American high school chess team in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, The Marshall Chess Club has garnered five state medals and 4 out-of-state medals, including two team trophies in high school chess tournaments. During this school year, four of its members have been officially rated by the United States Chess Federation, the nation's the highest chess body, thereby enabling them to qualify for college scholarships as well as grants for chess-related activities; and

WHEREAS, The Marshall Metropolitan High School Chess Team was created in 2006 and is coached by Joseph M. Ocol who joined the Marshall faculty in 2005. At its inception, Ocol and the Chess Club started visiting the Michael Faraday Elementary School, a nearby public school, where he recruited over one hundred students for a chess team of their own, resulting in the creation of the Michael Faraday Elementary Chess Team; and

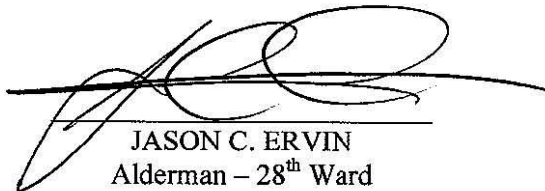
WHEREAS, With its impressive performance this past year, the Marshall Chess Team has emerged out of 110 public and private schools as the top African-American school chess team in the city. Additionally, in the Illinois State Chess finals last year, Marshall ranked among the top 30; and

WHEREAS, Located in the 28th Ward on Chicago's West Side, Marshall has more than 50% of its population coming from below-poverty level households. The same statistics hold true for the Marshall Chess Team, proving that poverty is no barrier to success in intellectual pursuits such as the game of chess; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Jason C. Ervin, Alderman of the 28<sup>th</sup> Ward has apprised this august body of the remarkable feats of the members of the Marshall Metropolitan High School Chess Team, to wit: Jerome Akins, Datreion Levenson, Malcolm Richards, Shantanika Scott, Delano Horn, Bradley Green, Fredrick Johnson, LaCrystal Sims, Bobby Blankenship, Devell Conway, Michael Hobbs, Davonte Palmer and their outstanding and exemplary coach and teacher, Joseph M. Ocal; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and members of the City of Chicago City Council, assembled here this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2012 AD, do extend our congratulations to Marshall Metropolitan High School and all the members of the chess team.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be prepared and presented to the coach and members of the Marshall Metropolitan High School Chess Team.



JASON C. ERVIN  
Alderman - 28<sup>th</sup> Ward