



# City of Chicago



R2017-960

Office of the City Clerk

## Document Tracking Sheet

**Meeting Date:** 11/8/2017

**Sponsor(s):** Burke (14)

**Type:** Resolution

**Title:** Sympathy for congregation of First Baptist Church and families of victims of gunman attack in Sutherland Springs, Texas

**Committee(s) Assignment:**

**WHEREAS**, on a quiet Sunday morning, November 5, 2017, in Sutherland Springs, a rural Texas community of less than four-hundred residents forty miles outside of San Antonio, a lone gunman armed with a fully automatic Ruger AR-556 weapon descended upon the First Baptist Church and opened fire upon the congregation; and

**WHEREAS**, in the deadly carnage that followed, the lives of twenty-six innocent people ranging in age from five to seventy-seven were taken, and twenty others were wounded by gunfire; and

**WHEREAS**, the attack upon Sutherland Springs First Baptist Church by a gunman dressed in black tactical gear is the largest mass murder in the history of the State of Texas; and

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

**WHEREAS**, eight members of one family, including a pregnant woman, a seventeen-month-old girl and the visiting pastor, Bryan Holcombe, were counted among the fatalities; and

**WHEREAS**, acting upon instinct, motorist John Langendorff who was driving past the church as the shooting happened responded immediately; and

**WHEREAS**, John Langendorff observed the gunman exchanging fire with another member of the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizen called out for back-up assistance and got into the John Langendorff truck to pursue the armed assailant at a high rate of speed; and

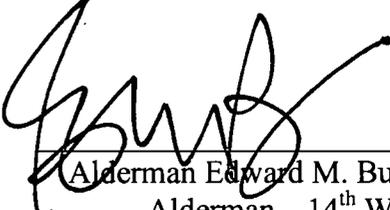
**WHEREAS**, shots fired by John Langendorff struck the assailant in the leg and stomach resulting in the suspect vehicle to crash; and

**WHEREAS**, upon investigation it was determined that the assailant was dead as a result of a self-inflicted gunshot wound; and

**WHEREAS**, if not for the swift and decisive response of John Langendorff it is probable that this mass shooting would have resulted in many more fatalities had the suspect vehicle managed to escape, now therefore

**WHEREAS**, the membership of the Chicago City Council assembled this eighth day of November, 2017 do hereby join with the nation in expressing our deepest sorrow to the community of Sutherland Springs, Texas, the victims of this brutal and senseless attack and to their families who shall forever remain in our thoughts and prayers and;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the congregation of the First Baptist Church of Sutherland Springs, Texas.

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

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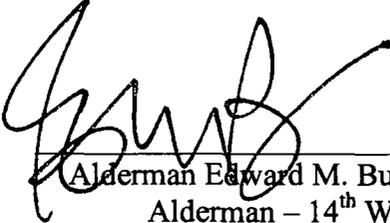
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