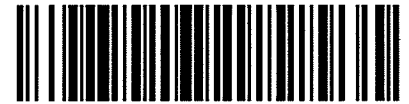




Office of the City Clerk



R2012-804

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City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 9/12/2012

Sponsor(s): Emanuel, Rahm (Mayor)
Quinn, Marty (13)

Type: Resolution

Title: Congratulations extended to firefighter Steve O'Malley

Committee(s) Assignment:

Susp.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

September 12, 2012

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith, together with Alderman Quinn, a congratulatory resolution concerning the Chicago Fire Department.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Mayor

A resolution



adopted by *The City Council*
of the *City of Chicago, Illinois*

Presented by ALDERMAN MARTY QUINN
MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL on SEPTEMBER 12, 2012

Whereas, On the windy afternoon of Saturday, August 4, 2012, a young couple was enjoying an outing with their baby on the pier at Chicago's 31st Street Harbor; and

WHEREAS, Their pleasant day suddenly became a nightmare when a gust of wind wrenched the baby's stroller from their grasp, and they watched in horror as the stroller, containing their infant son, raced away from them and plummeted into Lake Michigan; and

WHEREAS, The toddler, helplessly strapped in, began a terrible face-down descent through ten feet of water to the bottom; and

WHEREAS, Off-duty Chicago firefighter Steve O'Malley was nearby, fixing up his boat for his wife's upcoming birthday celebration, when he heard the horrified screams of the young mother; and

WHEREAS, Firefighter O'Malley looked up in time to see the frantic father dive in after his son; and

WHEREAS, A thirty-three year veteran of the Fire Department, Firefighter O'Malley acted without hesitation, thinking "Oh no, you're not going down - not on my watch", and plunged into the water to bring the baby to the surface; and

WHEREAS, Firefighter O'Malley grabbed the sinking child by his T-shirt, then realized that the time it would take to unfasten all of the straps would jeopardize the child's life; and

WHEREAS, With a burst of adrenaline-fueled strength, Firefighter O'Malley lifted stroller and child into the air, and holding his precious cargo above the surface with one hand, he managed to swim back to the pier; and

WHEREAS, The child's father helped maneuver the two to the pier, and with the help of several bystanders, pulled them to shore safely; and

WHEREAS, So rapid and effective was Firefighter O'Malley's rescue that the child did not even need an ambulance, but coughed his lungs free of water and then started crying; and

WHEREAS, The child and his family owe a life-long debt of gratitude to Firefighter O'Malley; and

WHEREAS, All of Chicago is proud of Firefighter O'Malley, who recently received a well-deserved promotion to lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, Firefighter O'Malley's courage, quick thinking and determination are in keeping with the finest traditions of the Chicago Fire Department; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this twelfth day of September, 2012, do hereby honor Firefighter Steve O'Malley for his valor, loyalty and dedication to the people of the City of Chicago; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Firefighter Steve O'Malley, and placed on permanent record in his personnel file, as a token of our appreciation and esteem.



Ral Emanuel

MAYOR

Susana A. Mendez

CITY CLERK