



City of Chicago



R2018-1164

Office of the City Clerk Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 10/31/2018
Sponsor(s): Burke (14)
Type: Resolution
Title: Tribute to late Jamal Ahmad Khashoggi
Committee(s) Assignment:

WHEREAS, Jamal Ahmad Khashoggi, journalist, commentator, author, former general manager and editor-in-chief of the Al-Arab News Channel and a voice of moderation and tolerance in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was brutally slain for his beliefs while visiting the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul, Turkey, on October 2, 2018; and

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

WHEREAS, Jamal Ahmad Khashoggi was born in Medina on October 13, 1958 and received his elementary and secondary education in Saudi Arabia before obtaining a bachelor's degree in business administration from Indiana State University in 1982; and

WHEREAS, as a working journalist he served as a correspondent for the *Saudi Gazette*, assistant manager for *Okaz* and as a free-lance reporter for various publications including *Asharq Al-Awsat*, *Al Majalla* and *Al Muslimoon* from 1985-1990; and

WHEREAS, in 1991 Jamal Ahmad Khashoggi became managing editor and acting editor-in-chief of *Al Madina* continuing on in that position until 1999; and

WHEREAS, during this busy eight-year period Jamal Ahmad Khashoggi served as a foreign correspondent in Afghanistan, Algeria, Kuwait, Sudan, and in the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, he then was appointed a deputy editor-in-chief of *Arab News*, serving from 1999 to 2003; and

WHEREAS, as a forceful advocate for tolerance, freedom of expression, equal rights for women in the Arab world and an end to policies of brutal repression, Jamal Ahmad Khashoggi moved to a more secular point of view in his writings, and was frank in his criticisms of Saudi politics and its on-going war in Yemen in his reporting for the *Washington Post*; and

WHEREAS, facing harsh criticism and censure from the Saudi government for his liberal views and advocacy for a reform agenda, he was banned by government authorities from publishing or appearing on television; and

WHEREAS, Jamal Ahmad Khashoggi went into self-imposed exile in June 2017, moving to Washington D.C. where he commenced his regular column for the *Post* espousing pro-democracy movements in the Middle East; and

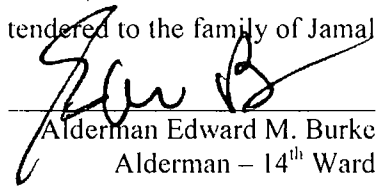
WHEREAS, in 2018, Jamal Ahmad Khashoggi established a new political party called *Democracy for the Arab World Now*, which was seen in some quarters as a direct political threat to Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman; and

WHEREAS, although declared officially missing, evidence of the appalling murder of Jamal Ahmad Khashoggi emerged in the form of a graphic audio recording; and

WHEREAS, by his worthy example, Jamal Ahmad Khashoggi will remain an inspiration to freedom-loving people across the world; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this thirty-first day of October, 2018 do hereby condemn the heinous act perpetrated against Jamal Ahmad Khashoggi, and express our deepest feelings of sorrow and remorse on his passing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be tendered to the family of Jamal Ahmad Khashoggi.



Alderman Edward M. Burke
Alderman – 14th Ward