



# City of Chicago



R2017-743

Office of the City Clerk

## Document Tracking Sheet

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	9/6/2017
<b>Sponsor(s):</b>	Beale (9)
<b>Type:</b>	Resolution
<b>Title:</b>	Tribute to late James J. Steele
<b>Committee(s) Assignment:</b>	

## **MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR JAMES J. STEELE**

**WHEREAS**, It is with great sadness that the members of this Chamber learned of the departure of Mr. James J. Steele on January 13, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, This esteemed body has been informed of his passing by the Honorable Anthony A. Beale, Alderman of the 9<sup>th</sup> Ward; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. James J. Steele was born to the union of the late Aaron James and Thelma Vann-Steele in Salem, North Carolina, on March 16, 1938; and

**WHEREAS**, James graduated from Hyde Park High School in 1957 where he played basketball and football and was a member of the boys chorus; and

**WHEREAS**, James was married to his loving wife, Shellie Petty-Steele, on December 24, 1992, to whom he was married at the time of his passing. He was previously married twice, first to Ozzie Scott, the couple was blessed with two children, Karen and Michel, and later to Linda Bryan, whose daughter Donna he considered his own; and

**WHEREAS**, James was a dedicated serviceman, serving in the U.S. Army until his honorable discharge. He gave many years of loyal service to the Chicago Police Department as a police officer until his retirement in 1997. He later went to work for the Chicago Park District until his retirement in 1999; and

**WHEREAS**, James was an active member of his community, participating in the 9<sup>th</sup> Ward Seniors Advisory Board as Sergeant at Arms and later joining the 107<sup>th</sup> & Rhodes Block Club where he was voted in charge of safety and security for the block; and

**WHEREAS**, James leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Shellie; children, Karen and Michael; son-in-law, Artie; cousin, William (Linda); grandchildren, Kimberly and Michael Jr.; great-grandchildren, Erik, Camryn, Kym'marri, and Mekelle; step-daughter, Donna; aunt, Frances; aunt-in-law, Arletha; brother-in-law, Andrew; sisters-in-law, Bessie, Rosie, Amy, Annie, Essie, Lou, Diane, and Sandra; adopted sister-in-law, Brenda, adopted daughters-in-law, Sophia and Ida; lifetime friends, Ray, Don, Ralph, Carl (Candy), Earl, Belinda, Gwen, Lois, and Denise; and a loving host of family and friends. James was preceded in death by his grandson, Erik Steele, and brothers-in-law, Ronald Bogan, John Petty, and Ervin Petty; and

**WHEREAS**, James touched the lives of all who knew him through his love and caring spirit. He will be deeply missed, but the memory of his character will live on in those who knew and loved him; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this sixth day of September, 2017, do hereby extend our heartfelt condolences to the family of Mr. James J. Steele; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That suitable copies of this resolution are presented to the family of Mr. James J. Steele as a sign of our honor, gratitude, and respect.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anthony A. Beale". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Anthony" written in a more stylized, connected manner.

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ANTHONY A. BEALE

Alderman, 9<sup>th</sup> Ward