



City of Chicago



R2017-917

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:

11/8/2017

Sponsor(s):

Emanuel (Mayor)
Reboyas (30)
Burke (14)
Sposato (38)
Villegas (36)
Santiago (31)
Maldonado (26)
Moreno (1)
Solis (25)
Ramirez-Rosa (35)
Curtis (18)
Munoz (22)
Lopez (15)
Napolitano (41)
Cardenas (12)
Waguespack (32)
Arena (45)
Sadlowski Garza (10)
Pawar (47)
Mell (33)

Type:

Resolution

Title:

Congratulations extended to volunteer members of Chicago Fire Department on humanitarian mission to Puerto Rico

Committee(s) Assignment:

Susp



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

November 8, 2017

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

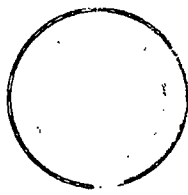
Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith, together with Aldermen Reboyras, Burke, Sposato, Villegas, Santiago, Maldonado, Moreno, Solis, Rosa, Curtis, Munoz, Lopez, Napolitano, Cardenas, Waguespack, Arena, Garza, Pawar and Mell, 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*



Aldermen Milagros Santiago, Susan Sadlowski Garza, Daniel Solis, Ariel Reboyras, Gilbert Villegas, Joe Moreno, John Arena, Edward M. Burke, Anthony V. Napolitano, Ameya Pawar, George A. Cardenas, Raymond A. Lopez, Nicholas Sposato, Derrick G. Curtis, Ricardo Munoz, Roberto Maldonado, Carlos Ramirez-Rosa, Scott Waguespack
Presented by _____ **and Mayor Rahm Emanuel** **on** _____ **November 8, 2017**

Whereas, In the span of less than two weeks, Puerto Rico was stricken by two of the most powerful storms of the 2017 hurricane season; and

WHEREAS, On September 7, Hurricane Irma, a Category 5 storm, struck a catastrophic blow to Puerto Rico, flattening homes, causing flooding and widespread destruction, and leaving more than 1 million residents without power; and

WHEREAS, Less than two weeks later, on September 20, Hurricane Maria made a direct hit on Puerto Rico as a strong Category 4 storm, bringing torrential downpours and devastating, sustained winds that gusted to 155 mph. Hurricane Maria pummeled Puerto Rico, flooding and destroying roads, homes, and businesses, and knocking out the Island's power grid; and

WHEREAS, Coming on the heels of Hurricane Irma, Hurricane Maria's destructive impact largely destroyed many neighborhoods and communities, and left millions without electricity, running water, food, shelter, or any communication services; and

WHEREAS, Hurricane Maria is one of the costliest natural disasters to ever hit Puerto Rico, causing billions of dollars of destruction and economic loss, and devastating the Island's infrastructure, further hindering relief efforts; and

WHEREAS, Through a partnership the City of Chicago has developed with Puerto Rico, Puerto Rican officials requested assistance from the City for disaster relief efforts on the Island. Several City and community leaders began collaborating to deliver the type of assistance Puerto Rico needed most; and

WHEREAS, Upon hearing about the devastating effects Hurricane Maria had on Puerto Rico, and the ongoing and growing humanitarian crisis on the Island, several Chicago Fire Department personnel expressed an interest in volunteering their time and services in Puerto Rico. Volunteers solicited donations from local businesses of items to bring and distribute to those suffering; and

WHEREAS, On October 4, 2017, a group of twenty-two volunteers, made up of firefighters, paramedics, EMTs and engineers from the Chicago Fire Department, and joined by Alderman Ariel Reboyras, embarked on a ten-day mission trip, bringing much-needed supplies, such as food, water, defibrillators, stretchers, communication equipment, flashlights, and other equipment to the hurricane-ravaged island. Along with these much-needed supplies, the volunteers brought their critical emergency response skills and expertise to help local officials with rescue and relief missions; and

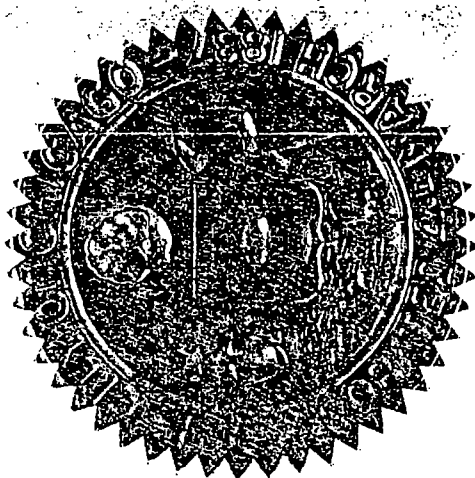
WHEREAS, The volunteers spent their time providing assistance in some of the most remote parts of the Island, supporting fifty-eight different missions that included individual rescues, clearing roadways of debris, delivering food and water to isolated towns, providing medical assistance to the wounded and injured, and gathering important information about the condition of roads, towns, and populations to help further assist future aid missions; and

WHEREAS, Despite the many dangers, difficulties, and uncertainties the volunteers faced on their journey, all twenty-two of the volunteers returned from Puerto Rico safely, having suffered a few minor cuts and scratches. The impact of their service in Puerto Rico over just a short period of time is truly immeasurable; and

WHEREAS, The truly selfless and heroic actions taken by these twenty-one Fire Department volunteers in Puerto Rico is another example of the exemplary character and dedication to those in need that the men and women of the Chicago Fire Department display every day in their line of work; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this eighth day of November, 2017, extend our most heartfelt thanks and congratulations to David Claudio, Eric Claudio, Steven M. Collazo, Luis E. Cordero, Raúl De León, Carlos J. Delgado, Jason Flores, Carmelo Flores Jr., Juan C. Hernandez, Curtis D. Hudson, Eric Izquierdo, Fernando L. Nieves, Jason O. Ortiz, Luis S. Quinones, Carlos E. Robles, Richard Rosado, Robert R. Simpson, Juan D. Sotomayor, Marilyn Vega, Francisco Velez, and Louis C. Zamora on their return from a successful humanitarian mission to Puerto Rico; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be presented to each of these Chicago Fire Department volunteers, and placed in their respective personnel files, as a sign of our appreciation and gratitude for their exceptional humanitarian service to the people of Puerto Rico.



Rafael Emanuel

MAYOR
Andrea M. Valencia

CITY CLERK