



City of Chicago



R2018-333

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	3/28/2018
Sponsor(s):	Mitts (37)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Tribute to late William D. Freeman
Committee(s) Assignment:	

Memorial Resolution for William D. Freeman

WHEREAS, It is with great sadness that the members of this Chamber learn of the unfortunate departure of William D. Freeman on March 5, 2018, at Loyola Hospital in Maywood, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, The members of the City Council of the City of Chicago have been informed of the passing of William Freeman by the Honorable Emma Mitts, Alderman of the 37th Ward; and

WHEREAS, William D. Freeman was born on November 29, 1941, to the loving union of Missie Gunter Brown and Robert "Bud" Freeman, in Birmingham, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, After moving to Chicago, Illinois, William "Bill" Freeman attended Emerson Elementary and later graduated from Crane Tech High School; and

WHEREAS, Bill made countless connections with the Chicago Police Department when he parked cars at the old Chicago Stadium during his high school years. He eventually joined the Chicago Police Department in 1964 and served faithfully until his retirement in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Bill never stopped giving back to the community. In 1967, he became a founding member of the Henry Horner Alumni Association (now Henry Horner Alumni and Associates). The group was formed to support the Boys and Girls Club by providing role models and child development services; and

WHEREAS, He also coached midnight basketball at Henry Horner, worked security at Crane Tech High School and supported the South Shore Drill Team; and

WHEREAS, He met the love of his life, Gracial "Mickey" Miller, in 1978; and

WHEREAS, Bill "Chico" Freeman was a frequent back-up DJ for WVON's late DJ Herb Kent. He was also well-known in the music community, as he served as a bodyguard for Halle Berry, Michael Jackson, James Earl Jones, Robert Duvall, Miles Davis and many more. He even had a small role in the 1992 film *There Are No Children Here*; and

WHEREAS, In his free time, Bill enjoyed boating, fishing and eating, especially with his family; and

WHEREAS, Bill dedicated his life to Christ under the leadership of Dr. Al Lloyd at Pilgrim Rest M. Baptist Church in Chicago, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Bill leaves his legacy to: wife, Gracial "Mickey" Freeman; sons, Donald Freeman (Leslie) of Atlanta, Georgia, Robert Jason Freeman of Chicago, Illinois, Kenneth J. Freeman (Julia) of Novato, California and Tony Martin (Roxanne) of Wooddale, Illinois; daughter, Arlethia "Lele" Martin of Chicago, Illinois; grandchildren, Anthony, Kenneth, Jr. "KJ," Destiny, Elijah, Jireh, Kamyah, Coco and Ruth; great-grandchildren, Journee and Janae; siblings, Zakkiyah Wahid, Sadie Bryant and Robert "Bob" Freeman; nieces, Bessie Houston, Deborah Muhammad, Shahidah Muhammad, Simone Tanksley, Carol Beach and Sheila Freeman;

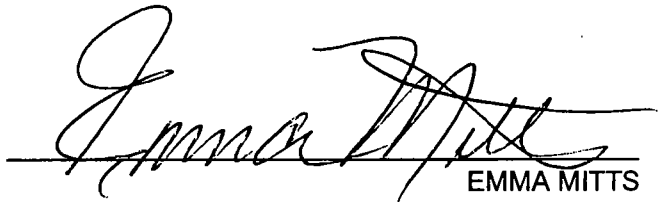
nephews, Herman Tanksley and Ronnie Miller and a host of other family members and friends;
and

WHEREAS, He is preceded in death by his parents, Missie Gunter Brown and Robert "Bud" Freeman; and

WHEREAS, Everyone who knew him will remember Bill's love, good humor, kindness and dedication to community service. He will be missed, but his memory will live on in the spirit of others; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered here in assembly this twenty-eighth day of March, 2018, do hereby express our most heartfelt condolences to the family of William Freeman.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be prepared and presented to William Freeman's family as a sign of our honor, gratitude and respect.



EMMA MITTS
Alderman, 37th Ward