

City of Chicago



R2019-363

Office of the City Clerk Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:

Sponsor(s):

Type:

Title:

5/29/2019

Cardenas (12)

Resolution

Commemoration of life and legacy of Police Officer Joseph Francis Ferguson

Committee(s) Assignment:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on December 27, 1968, Officer Joseph Francis Ferguson and his partner, Officer Daniel Cambric, stopped three men on the 3000 block of South Indiana Avenue to question them; and

WHEREAS, The officers recognized one man as a parolee and another as a narcotics user; and

WHEREAS, A gunfight erupted, with four shots striking Officer Ferguson; and

WHEREAS, He was transported to Michael Reese Hospital where he succumbed to his wounds; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Francis Ferguson, Star #6892, aged 25 years, was a 3 year, 6 month, 13 day veteran of the Chicago Police Department, assigned to the 2nd District – Wabash; and

WHEREAS, Joseph was born May 17, 1943, and grew up in the McKinley Park neighborhood on Chicago's southwest side; and

WHEREAS, He graduated Kelly High School where he met his wife, Tanya Vegel; and

WHEREAS, Becoming a police officer was a lifelong dream of Joseph's and he received his Probationary Appointment to the Chicago Police Department in 1965; and

WHEREAS, Officer Ferguson earned 1 Award of Valor (Posthumously), 1 Blue Star Award (Posthumously) and 4 Honorable Mentions during his short career; and

WHEREAS, As a husband, father, police officer, and vital member of his community and our city, Joseph touched the lives of all who knew him with his kindness, generosity, and spirit; and

WHEREAS, He is deeply missed, but the memory of his character, intelligence, and compassion lives within his beloved wife Tanya Vegel, his son Joseph F. Ferguson, his daughter Elizabeth Ferguson, and in all those who knew and loved him; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago City Council has been informed of his tragic death by Alderman George A. Cardenas; and

WHEREAS, The legacy of Joseph's dedication, strength, perseverance, and sacrifice serves as an example to us all, and has earned him the respect of all who knew him; now, therefore.

BE IT RESOLVED That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council, honor this heroic and honored public servant that gave his life to protect the great citizens of the City of Chicago; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to Elizabeth Ferguson.

Alderman/George A. Cardenas, 12th Ward