



# Office of the City Clerk

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## Legislation Details (With Text)

**File #:** R2017-917  
**Type:** Resolution                      **Status:** Adopted  
**File created:** 11/8/2017              **In control:** City Council  
**Final action:** 11/8/2017

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

**Sponsors:** Emanuel, Rahm, Reboyras, Ariel, Burke, Edward M., Sposato, Nicholas, Villegas, Gilbert, Santiago, Milagros, Maldonado, Roberto, Moreno, Proco Joe, Solis, Daniel, Ramirez-Rosa, Carlos, Curtis, Derrick G., Munoz, Ricardo, Lopez, Raymond A., Napolitano, Anthony V., Cardenas, George A., Waguespack, Scott, Arena, John, Sadlowski Garza, Susan, Pawar, Ameya, Mell, Deborah

**Indexes:** COMMENDATIONS & DECLARATIONS

**Attachments:** 1. R2017-917.pdf

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
11/8/2017	1	City Council	Rules Suspended - Immediate Consideration	
11/8/2017		City Council	Adopted	Pass

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.

Mayor

Very truly yours,

H resolution

adopted by The City of Chicago

City of Chicago, Illinois

Presented by Mayor Rahmi Emanuel

Aldermen Milagros Santiago, Susan Sadlowski Garza, Daniel Splis, Ariel Reboyras, Gilbert Villegas, Joe Moreno,

John Arena, Edward M. Burke, Anthony V. Napolitano, Ameya Pawar, George A. Cardenas, Raymond A. Lopez,

Niabofcis Sposato, Derrick G. Curtis, Ricardo Munoz, Roberto Maldonado, Carlos Ramirez-Rosa, Scott Waguespack

November 8, 2017

WHEREAS, In the span of less than two weeks, Puerto Rico was stricken by two of the most devastating

WHEREAS, On September 7, Hurricane Irma, a Category 5 storm, struck a catastrophic blow to Puerto Rico, flattening homes, causing 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 Category 4 storm

causing sustained winds that gusted to 155 mph. Hurricane Maria pummeled Puerto Rico, flooding the business, and cutting out the Island's power grid; and

WHEREAS, Coming on the heels of Hurricane Maria, the impact largely destroyed many neighborhoods and without effect, 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 damage to 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 of Chicago for relief efforts, and 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 of the hurricane 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 percent 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

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• .| '|; | Ghicdgb/iqs^emb^d^h's eighth day df :N'9v.e)rjj^  
and congratulations to David Claudio, Eric Clqudio; Steven M. Collazo, Luis-E. Cbrdero, ; - ^  
Rd'ui De .Leon, Carlos J, Delgado, Jdson'Tiores, GdfmeTo .Flores Jr., Juan C... Hernandez,: ..."  
Curtis D'. Hudson, Eric Izquierdo, Fernando L.-";Nieves, Jason O. Ortiz, Luis S. Quihones, /;•  
Carlos E. Robles,' Richard Rpsado, Robert R. Simpson, Juan. D. Sotomgyp'r, Marilyn .Vjega, • :v '?'  
.-" Francisco Velez,"and Louis C. Zamora.on their return from q successful humanitarian ... "':!";  
mission to Puerto-Rico; :and/- . . '

!.. BE FT FURTHER RESOLVED, that suitable copies of this resolution be presented to  
each/.of-These Ohiedyp fine,;Dein their respective  
personnel files, as d sign- df our appreciation and gratitude for their exceptional •;  
humanitarian service to the people of Puerto.Rico. r—: