



Office of the City Clerk

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Legislation Text

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CITY COUNCIL: September 9, 2020

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CHICAGO:

Section 1. Pursuant to Section 2-8-040 of the Municipal Code of Chicago, which allows erection of honorary street name designations, the Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Transportation shall take the necessary action for the standardization of N. Oleander Steet, between W. Addison and W. Waveland as "Honorary Via Santa Fara di Cinisi".

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication.

**NICHOLAS SPOSATO * ALDERMAN,
38TH WARD**

Societa Santa Fara dl Clnisi (Chicago chapter)

Our society goes back to 1934 when a few Italian immigrants living on the near west side decided to start a religious and mutual Aid society named after the patron saint of our home town of Cinisi, Sicily, (there are also chapters in Detroit and New York city) The purpose was to help out our fellow immigrants in need and a place to socialize with fellow immigrants, the first clubhouse was at the corner of Halstead and Taylor street, a mass was held every year at Our Lady of Pompeii Parish, like other organizations by the 1960's most members were elderly and the society disbanded in the late 1960's. With the arrival of new post war immigrants from Cinisi the society was resurrected in the 1980's by Paul Butera, Joseph Salamone, Pietro Amato, Steve Butera and Salvatore Galati and others for the purpose of having an organization for the new arrivals and also a place for our elderly towns folks to congregate. In 1990 with the help of Paul and Joe Butera our organization was able to purchase a storefront on Addison and Oleander where most of our towns folk lived, we commissioned a statue of our patron saint to be made and with the help of our members we built a chapel in our building dedicated to Santa Fara where we hold masses throughout the year and also fund raisers. Over the years we have organized many events, many fund raisers for worthy causes, we had a television station come from Italy to do a 6 part documentary on our organization in Chicago and the local Italian Businesses and organizations on Harlem ave. Little Italy area, we also dedicated a bronze plaque to Saint Francis Cabrini at the old Cabrini hospital on the near west side on the 100th anniversary, Also over the years we have hosted the different mayors of Cinisi on their visits to the U.S. Our last fund raiser was to purchase a defibrillator for a adult handicap organization in our hometown of Cinisi. At the present time we are working to collect artifacts and photos to create a cultural center at our headquarters. To have an honorary street named to our society in the city of Chicago would truly be an honor since we have chapters in other U.S. cities and we are proud to be Chicagoans. We hope that our organization will continue for many years to come and be part of the community in helping others while promoting our culture and to keep the Cinisi-Chicago bridge open.

thank you, Carlo Vaniglia, president

Date:

