



Office of the City Clerk

City Hall
121 N. LaSalle St.
Room 107
Chicago, IL 60602
www.chicityclerk.com

Legislation Text

File #: R2020-337, **Version:** 1

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Honorable Judge Mitchell Ware has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of 86; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of his passing by Alderman Edward M. Burke; and

WHEREAS, Judge Ware is survived by his five children, Pamela Marie Ware, Mitchell Stephen Ware, Gregory Patrick Ware, Bobby Ware, and Michael Paul Ware, eleven grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Judge Ware attended St. Ambrose College on an academic and athletic scholarship; and

WHEREAS, Following St. Ambrose College, Judge Ware was drafted into the United States Army where he was recognized for his athletic skill and assigned to play on the United States Army football team in Europe, eventually playing for the Chicago Bears; and

WHEREAS, After football, Judge Ware launched a career in law enforcement and became one of Illinois' first Black state troopers; and

WHEREAS, Judge Ware also became a news reporter for WBBM and CBS News; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure as an agent with the Illinois Bureau of Narcotics & Dangerous Drugs, Judge Ware attended law school at DePaul University College of Law and clerked for Judge Parsons at the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Judge Ware taught Criminal Law at DePaul University and then commenced his private law practice career with the law firm of Mazza, Massio, & Ware; and

WHEREAS, In 1970, President Richard Nixon appointed Ware to the National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse. For the rest of the 70s, Judge Ware rose to become Superintendent of the Illinois Division of Narcotics Control, Superintendent of the Illinois Bureau of Investigation and the Deputy Superintendent of the Chicago Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Ten years after starting his first practice, Judge Ware joined LaFontant, Wilkins, Jones & Ware and in the early 1980s Ware went on to become a founding partner of what became known as one of the largest and most respected minority law firms in the country, Jones, Ware & Grenard; and

WHEREAS, In 1998, Ware's distinguished career culminated as a judge in the Circuit Court of Cook County

Illinois where he served with distinction until retiring in 2006. Judge Ware was subsequently inducted into the Cook County Bar Association Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, To his beloved family, Judge Mitchell Ware imparts a legacy of faithfulness, service and dignity; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this twentieth day of May, 2020, do hereby commemorate Judge Mitchell Ware for his grace-filled life and do hereby express our condolences to his family; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Judge Mitchell Ware.

Edward M. Burke Alderman, 14th Ward