



Office of the City Clerk

City Hall
121 N. LaSalle St.
Room 107
Chicago, IL 60602
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Legislation Text

File #: R2013-522, **Version:** 1

TRIBUTE TO NORMA IDA REYES

WHEREAS, In His Infinite Wisdom, Almighty God has granted Norma Ida Reyes, an outstanding public servant and member of her community, eternal rest on May 6, 2013; and

WHEREAS, On July 5, 1956, Norma Reyes started life as one of seven children born to Clara Luz Reyes and grew up in the Humboldt Park community. When she was a teenager, she was taken in by foster parents, Paddy and Barry McNamara, who were both attorneys and she followed in their footsteps, earning both her Bachelors and Juris Doctorate degrees from the University of Notre Dame; and

WHEREAS, Norma Reyes spent nine years in the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, rising through the ranks to eventually become Supervisor of the Juvenile Division. In 1990, she became chief assistant corporation counsel and eventually a deputy corporation counsel in the Law Department under incoming Mayor Richard M. Daley; and

WHEREAS, In 2001, Norma Reyes served as deputy chief of staff for the Mayor. In 2003, she was appointed Commissioner of the Department of Buildings and, in 2004, Commissioner of the Department of Consumer Services (that became the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection in 2008) where she remained until her retirement in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Norma Reyes never forgot her Puerto Rican roots and was a generous contributor to scholarship funds for young Latinos. Her other civic contributions included serving as past President of the Puerto Rican Bar Association as well as being on the boards of the Institute of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture, Chicago Abused Women Coalition, and Access Living. Her professional affiliations included membership in the Chicago Bar Association, the International Association of Transportation Regulators, the Chicago Council of Lawyers and the City Club of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Norma Ida Reyes leaves behind to celebrate her memory and mourn her loss her loving sister Lillian, her brothers, attorney Edwin Reyes, Barry (and his wife Stephanie), Juan Antonio and Samuel, nephews Kevin, Jacob, Damien, Anthony, Dominic, Zachary, Marcos and Noble Jr. and her nieces Kamryn, Natalie, Michelle, Clara Luz and Dorothy; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Ray Suarez, Vice-Mayor of the City of Chicago and Alderman of the 31st Ward and the Honorable Edward M. Burke - Alderman of the 14th Ward, has informed this august body of the untimely passing of Norma Ida Reyes; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED That we, the Mayor and members of the City of Chicago City Council, gathered together this 5th Day of June, 2013 AD, do hereby express our sincerest sorrow upon learning of the passing of Norma Ida Reyes and extend our deepest sympathies to her family, friends and all others whose lives she touched.

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