



Office of the City Clerk

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Legislation Text

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CONGRATULATIONS EXTENDED TO JAMES M. POLACEK ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CHICAGO FIRE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, Captain James M. Polacek, an outstanding public servant and member of his community, will retire from the Chicago Fire Department on December 31, 2013; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of this event by the Honorable Matthew O'Shea, Alderman of the 19th Ward; and

WHEREAS, Though having earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Knox College and a Master's Degree in Hospital Administration from Governor's State University, James chose to serve the people of Chicago by joining the Fire Department on March 1, 1980 beginning his illustrious and variegated career; and

WHEREAS, Captain Jim rose from Firefighter to Engineer, earned the rank of Lieutenant and ultimately became a Captain of the "East Side Alley Rats" at Engine 74, while having served the Department at Engine 30 and Engine 123, as well as in its Research & Planning and Manpower divisions, in its Office of Fire Investigation, the Fire Prevention Bureau and as an officer in Air Sea Rescue; and

WHEREAS, While for Captain Jim, the world's culinary treasures will never quite satisfy as deeply as fire house cuisine, it will prove impossible to savor a bowl of popcorn in front of a big-screen television as fully as when in the company of the "Alley Rats," and the sound of a bell will forever roil the blood of the old fire dog; and

WHEREAS, A long-time resident of the Nineteenth Ward, Captain Jim proudly and honorably extended a familial tradition of public service begun by his late father, John, a Detective for the Chicago Police Department; and continued by his brother, John, a retired Managing Editor with the Office of the City Clerk; his sister-in-law, Hollis, an Administrator with the Illinois Department of Revenue and the Illinois Department of Employment Security; his late uncle, Val, and cousin, Bill, both retired Chicago Police Officers; and

WHEREAS, Captain Jim has devoted over thirty-three years of his life in service to the people of Chicago and in so doing has personally ensured that the City of Chicago is the safe, healthy, vibrant community it is today; and

WHEREAS, Captain James M. Polacek will bring to a close his long and storied career, thus embarking upon a well-deserved retirement that will afford him the opportunity to more fully enjoy time with his wife of twenty-two years, Janet; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered this eleventh day of December, 2013, do hereby express our gratitude and heartiest congratulations to Captain James M. Polacek as he retires from thirty three years of outstanding service to the people of this great city and we extend our very best wishes for his continued success and fulfillment; and

Alderman, 19th Ward

Be it further resolved, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to Captain James M. Polacek