



Office of the City Clerk

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Title: Gratitude extended to Chicago Firefighters William Monaco and James Sewnig for heroic actions
Sponsors: Emanuel, Rahm, Reboyras, Ariel, Laurino, Margaret, O'Shea, Matthew J.
Indexes: COMMENDATIONS & DECLARATIONS
Attachments: 1. R2017-305.pdf

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| 4/19/2017 | 1 | City Council | Rules Suspended - Immediate Consideration | |
| 4/19/2017 | | City Council | Adopted | Pass |

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

April 19,2017

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith, together with Aldermen Reboyras, Laurino and O'Shea, a congratulatory resolution concerning the Chicago Fire Department.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Mayor

Very truly yours,

April 19, 2017

, Aldermen Ariel Reboyras, Margaret Laurino, -'K^'.
Matthew j. O'Shea, and : ^
Mavor Rahm Emanuel OM

'Whereas

, In the late evening of January 20, .2017, firefighters William Monaco and;
D'-f ire Depdrtmentjesponded;to^g.fire:..
iruthe 7TOO block of South Fairfield Avenue, in the Mdrquette,Park'neighborh66&; an6

' WHEREAS, • Members of .Squad_Co:mpdpy, -5 arrived with their special rescue, fire ^company and
saw heavy fire and thick blkck'smoke billowing from a two-story building;
and :..X " .■'; i:- ■ ' X." •• J-"-, ..'

• WHEREAS/ Firefighters observed d heavy volume of, fire comingsfrom the' basement and blowing like a
torch that reached the eaves of the roof;, and V \o

_> .'" WHEREAS, Acting quickly, the first .engine company Used a deck water gun. to extinguish jhe fire, but
the heat was so intense that the blaze flared up a^ihrdnd^^P

WHEREAS, The 20th Battalion Chief, Louis,Bongiornp, ordered Squad Company 5
to search.the two-unit building.., Firefighters Monaco and Sewni'g, despiteehcountering
thick, heavy,-black smoke, began to search.the first-floor apartment.' Visibility was zero
and therrnal imaging camera equipment was ineffective. As-a result, these firefighters
had to.rely on-feeling around in the engulfed structure jp their search for possible;victims;
and "!' '■'■'":■ . ..' ':{<"'" •- "' >' ■'"■ ' , -.,.■'■'. :<:f_0 ,v

WHEREAS, Firefighter-Sewnig-came upon a'bedroom and felt what seemed: to be a lifeless body.
With the dssistance of Firefighter Monaco;! Sewhig carried thepepson to the exterior of the,building; and, ;: . •
Jv ^.iJh^ X ' .-'7"-X.." ;' :- ..'

. WHEREAS, Both firefighters immediately began administering 'life' saving ■ techniques tothe victim,-
q To' year-old girl,. who was not ; breathing and was unresponsive.^ Along.wjth dssistance from^he-
ambulance company, they were able to revive the girl using CP.R..Xthe girl was'Ftransported. to Holy Cross
Hospital 'and later 'transferred to Loyola Hospital and.-into a hyperbolic chamber. The girl wds'- released.--
from the hospital, less than; a :week dfter nearly dying and is'/expectedJo--'i7i'dke;qifull' recovery; and ... '■'.
"o* V ..;--,-■'; "-X.-C ^^v,-. / '■'■"- X "yf "-. ' ;,-/> : V ■ -.. :;,, .

: WHEREAS, Firefighters Monaco and Sewnig acted quickly, efficiently and with total disregard for their personal safety in performing a successful rescue and averting what could have been a tragedy. Firefighters Monaco and Sewnig performed their duties in the highest tradition of the Chicago Fire Department; now, therefore, "■"

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City

of Chicago, assembled; this nineteenth day of, April, 2017, do hereby commend

Firefighters William Mondaco and James Sewnig for their skill and courage in rendering

vital assistance to those in desperate need; and, - . - . • "

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That suitable copies, of this resolution be presented to

Firefighters Monaco and Sewnig, and placed on permanent record in their personnel

files, as a token of our appreciation and esteem.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK

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