

Office of the City Clerk

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Legislation Text

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City Council Agreed Calendar January 18, 2023

RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING LIEUTENANT KARINA D. AGUILAR

WHEREAS, We, the members of the Chicago City Council, wish to acknowledge Chicago Police Lieutenant Karina D. Aguilar for her service and great work she has done for the City of Chicago.

WHEREAS, Lt. Aguilar began her career in service as a transitional bilingual teacher in the Chicago Public Schools.

WHEREAS, Lt. Aguilar then became a Chicago Police Officer in 1999 and was assigned to the 005th District. She worked on the Saturation team for several years and later became a GREAT and D.A.R.E. officer in the schools. She was promoted to Sergeant and served in the 004th District, the Community Policing Office, and the Canine section, and the Training and Support group.

WHEREAS, Lt. Aguilar was promoted to Lieutenant and assigned to the Violent Crimes Section of the Detective Division in Area One. Her efforts to improve the mental wellness of her members continue. Lt. Aguilar holds monthly Wellness Days for the detectives. She has partnered with agencies such as Bank the Blue, Copline, NAMI, and Haymarket Center of Chicago to bring resources to the unit. She believes normalizing conversations about emotional/mental health will decrease the stigma around getting help. Lt Aguilar is passionate about bringing awareness to mental health because the number of suicides in the Chicago Police Department is unacceptable. Police officers see trauma and deal with high levels of stress daily. Lt. Aguilar's goal is to help members learn how to process traumatic stress, mental health wellness & resilience strategies by bringing the resources to them. This impacts the members, their families, and the community they serve.

WHEREAS, We, the members of the Chicago City Council, wish to extend our recognition to Chicago Police Lieutenant Karina D. Aguilar for promoting mental wellness for the members of her unit throughout her career. As a sergeant, she helped returning Service Officers transition back into the Department after being away from the Department due to military deployments, illness, or other circumstances. She implemented a program that would provide refresher training and address the emotional health of the members returning so that they would have assistance adapting to the changes. This would, in turn, benefit the officer, the District, and the community by ensuring the officer is mentally and emotionally healthy to transition back into service.

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and members of the Chicago City Council, gather here this Eighteenth day of January do hereby acknowledge Lt. Karina D. Aguilar for her outstanding and dedicated service to the City of Chicago; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to Lt. Aguilar

SILVANA TABARES 23rd Ward Alderman