

# City of Cincinnati

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AWB

## An Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_

- 2020

**DECLARING** that Oak Street at May Street shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of Bennington-Seiffert Memorial Way, in memory of Cincinnati Police Officer Robert Seiffert and in recognition of his service to the City of Cincinnati.

WHEREAS, Officer Robert Seiffert was born on March 5, 1948 to parents Margaret M. and Edwin J. Seiffert; and

WHEREAS, while attending Glassboro State College in 1967, Officer Seiffert joined the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, Officer Seiffert was shot down twice as a helicopter pilot in the Vietnam War, once being wounded, for which service he was awarded a Purple Heart and a Silver Star; and

WHEREAS, on February 28, 1971, Officer Seiffert joined the Cincinnati Police Department as a Police Recruit, and was promoted to Patrolman on June 27, 1971, issued Badge 735, and assigned to District 4; and

WHEREAS, in 1978 Officer Seiffert was assigned to the Robbery Task Force, a position usually reserved for the most exceptional officers, to focus on the annual increase in robbery offenses occurring between Thanksgiving and Christmas; and

WHEREAS, as of March 1979, Officer Seiffert had served eleven years on the police force and received five letters of appreciation and/or commendation; and

WHEREAS, Police Chief Lawrence Whalen described Officer Seiffert as “an outstanding officer in all respects, extremely knowledgeable, and looked upon by younger, less experienced officers for guidance”; and

WHEREAS, Officer Seiffert was a skilled athlete, earning a silver medal in racquetball in the Ohio Police Olympics; and

WHEREAS, Officer Seiffert coached the sixth- and seventh-grade St. Aloysius Gonzaga soccer team, and further served his church as a religious education leader and baptismal program participant; and

WHEREAS, Officer Seiffert loved his wife, Janet Margaret Schutte, whom he married in 1971, and his children, Laura, Heather, and Robby, born in their eight years of marriage; and

WHEREAS, Officer Seiffert spent much time with the neighborhood’s children, who would always congregate in and near his yard; and

WHEREAS, his neighbors characterized Officer Seiffert as a good and loving father, with a strong religious faith, thereby significantly impacting many lives, then and thereafter; and

WHEREAS, Officer Seiffert lost his life in the line of duty on March 6, 1979; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That Oak Street at May Street shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of Bennington-Seiffert Memorial Way by legislative action of the Mayor and City Council in memory of Cincinnati Police Officer Robert Seiffert and in recognition of his service to the City of Cincinnati.

Section 2. That the appropriate City officials are hereby authorized to do all things necessary and proper to implement the provisions of Section 1 herein, including the generation and installation of appropriate secondary street signage, which shall designate Oak Street at May Street as Bennington-Seiffert Memorial Way in accordance with the Department of Transportation and Engineering's procedures relating to street designation and related signage.

Section 3. That a copy of this ordinance be sent to the family of Cincinnati Police Officer Robert Seiffert via the office of Councilmember Christopher Smitherman.

Section 4. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed: \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Cranley, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk