

RESOLUTION NO. 53 - 2025

EESW

RECOGNIZING Frank “Bo” Wood III and **EXPRESSING** the appreciation of the Mayor and Council for his leadership, innovations, and commitment to using his platform to positively impact Cincinnati through his media innovations and the creation of the Riverfest fireworks celebration.

WHEREAS, Frank “Bo” Wood III was a pioneering force in Cincinnati broadcasting who transformed FM radio and entertained countless Cincinnatians through his work at WEBN; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wood is recognized as an innovator of FM radio who returned to Cincinnati to build WEBN from the ground up, establishing the station at “102.7” from a small house on Considine Avenue in Price Hill, then transforming it into a cornerstone of Cincinnati culture; and

WHEREAS, under Mr. Wood’s leadership, WEBN became nationally recognized for its daring, offbeat, and creative programming, including his creation of a “Fool’s Day Parade” and Brute Force Cybernetics, where fictional products and stunts such as “Tree Frog Beer” and “Negative Calorie Cookies” turned advertising into an art form; and

WHEREAS, in 1977, to mark the ten-year anniversary of WEBN, Mr. Wood created the now-iconic fireworks display over the Ohio River known as Riverfest, which has since grown into one of the largest annual community celebrations in the Midwest, and which continues to draw hundreds of thousands of people to Cincinnati’s riverfront each Labor Day weekend; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, Mr. Wood’s larger-than-life personality, wit, and imagination earned him the honor of being Cincinnati’s first (and only) “Commissioner of Fun” as a testament to the joy and creativity he brought to the City; now, therefore,

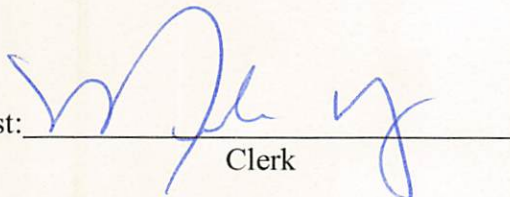
BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

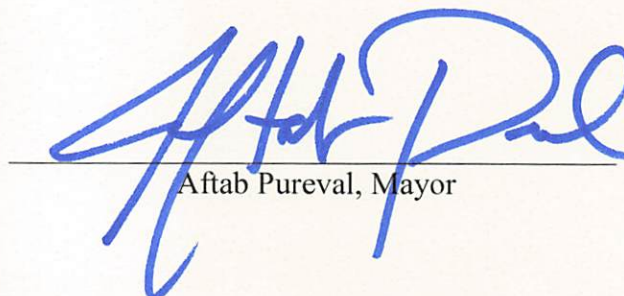
Section 1. That the Mayor and Council hereby recognize Frank “Bo” Wood III for his leadership, innovations, and commitment to using his platform to positively impact Cincinnati through his media innovations and the creation of the Riverfest fireworks celebration.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and that a copy be provided to the family of Mr. Wood through the office of Councilmember Seth Walsh.

Passed: September 24, 2025

Attest:


Clerk


Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Submitted by Councilmember Seth Walsh