

RESOLUTION NO. 31 - 2025

**HONORING** Lisa Mertz for her outstanding service to Cincinnati and **CONGRATULATING** Ms. Mertz on her graduation as valedictorian from the Salmon P. Chase College of Law.

WHEREAS, Lisa Mertz is a courageous and inspiring leader in recovery whose lived experience has shaped a life of purpose and service dedicated to uplifting others struggling with addiction; and

WHEREAS, for more than four years, Ms. Mertz has served as President and CEO of the Addiction Services Council, leading efforts to provide prevention, treatment, and recovery support services to individuals and families throughout Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mertz has also worked as an addiction recovery coach, a peer mentor at the Hamilton County Justice Center, and a valued member of multiple boards and commissions advancing justice system reform and recovery-focused policies; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mertz is currently leading the development of Cincinnati's first alcohol-focused recovery center with 24/7 transportation and intake services, prioritizing access for underserved communities, and helping fill a critical service gap in Cincinnati's continuum of care; and

WHEREAS, while continuing her full-time leadership at the Addiction Services Council, Ms. Mertz pursued a law degree at the Salmon P. Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky University, where she graduated on May 9, 2025, as valedictorian of her class; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mertz's unique combination of personal experience, professional leadership, and deep empathy has made her a beloved figure in the recovery community and a source of hope and healing to so many in our city; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That this Council hereby honors and commends Lisa Mertz for her steadfast commitment to the recovery community, for her outstanding leadership at the Addiction Services Council, and for her extraordinary academic achievement as valedictorian of the Salmon P. Chase College of Law Class of 2025.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and that a copy be provided to Lisa Mertz through the Office of Councilmember Meeka D. Owens.

Passed: May 14, 2025

Attest: [Signature]  
Clerk

[Signature]  
Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Submitted by Councilmember Meeka D. Owens