

RESOLUTION NO. 18 - 2023

**RECOGNIZING** Melissa Autry as a 2023 City of Cincinnati Women's History Month honoree and **EXPRESSING** the appreciation of the Mayor and the Council of the City of Cincinnati for her historic role as the first woman Clerk of Council and her exemplary service and dedication to the City of Cincinnati.

WHEREAS, Melissa Autry began her service at the City of Cincinnati as Chief Deputy Clerk of Council in October of 1994; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Autry is a native of Cincinnati and displayed excellence through her career while raising her three children: Jasmine, Ashley, and Phillip; and

WHEREAS, in September of 2001, Ms. Autry became the first woman to serve as Clerk of Council in the City of Cincinnati's 213-year history; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Autry achieved her Certified Municipal Clerk certification in 2013, which required attendance at extensive education programs and significant, pertinent experience in a municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Clerk of Council manages vital services for the City and its citizens, which includes making and keeping proper records of the proceedings of Council, authenticating resolutions and ordinances, and publishing the Council calendar, Committee agendas, and the bulletin to inform the public about operations of City legislative actions; and

WHEREAS, the City's government has undergone many transitions during Ms. Autry's tenure as Clerk of Council, including multiple changes in leadership, the transition to a popularly elected mayor, the digitalization of City records, and the transition to the use of the internet; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Autry has always performed the duties of her office with admirable effectiveness and efficiency, through unprecedented and historic changes; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Ms. Autry, the Office of the Clerk of Council managed an incredible response to the pandemic-related challenges of 2020, so that the proceedings of Council remained accessible and safe for the public and legislators during an unprecedented increase in community involvement in local government in response to national events; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Autry has served the City of Cincinnati in the Office of the Clerk of Council for nearly twenty-nine years, and she has displayed excellence in her nearly twenty-two years as Clerk of Council while increasing community accessibility to government services and efficiently managing thousands of legislative sessions; now, therefore,

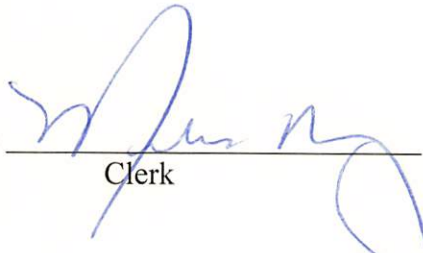
BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and City Council hereby recognize Melissa Autry as a 2023 City of Cincinnati Women's History Month honoree for her historic role as the first woman Clerk of Council and her exemplary service and dedication to the City of Cincinnati.

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

Passed March 8, 2023

  
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Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest:   
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Clerk

Submitted by: Councilmember Meeka D. Owens  
Councilmember Reggie Harris