

# ILLINOIS JUDICIAL COUNCIL



## A RESOLUTION IN LOVING MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE ALBERT S. PORTER, JR.

**WHEREAS** the Illinois Judicial Council mourns the passing of the Honorable Albert Sylvester Porter, Jr. and wishes to express its deepest respect for his contributions to the Illinois legal community; and

**WHEREAS** the Hon. Albert S. Porter, Jr. was born in Laurel, Mississippi to Albert Porter, Sr. and Ora Dase Porter; and

**WHEREAS** after the family moved north in search of a better life, Porter attended Stephen A. Douglas Elementary School and then Wendell Phillips High School, graduating in 1948; then attending Wilson Junior College and later the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, where in 1955, he received his Bachelor of Arts Degree, with a major in Chemistry and a minor in Mathematics; and

**WHEREAS** his first job out of college was working as a metallurgist at Argonne National Laboratory; he would then go on to teach Chemistry and Math at Phillips High School; and

**WHEREAS** while teaching at Phillips, Porter met fellow science teacher, Mildred Viola Birge; they married on December 28, 1959, and began a family with the arrival of children: Alvita Monique, Darryl Craig, Richard Keith and Kimberly Joi; and

**WHEREAS** Porter attended law school, while still teaching high school, and received his Juris Doctorate Degree from the John Marshall Law School in 1962; and later became an adjunct professor at John Marshall; worked as a Cook County Assistant State's Attorney; served as a Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Investigation; and as a partner in the law firm Walton, Freeman & Porter; and

**WHEREAS** in 1969, the Hon. Albert S. Porter, Jr. was appointed to a vacant position as a Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County, and the following year was elected to that position; serving on the Circuit Court of Cook County for 20 years in the Criminal, Domestic Relations, Chancery, and Law divisions of the court; and

**WHEREAS** upon his retirement from the judiciary in 1990, Judge Porter went into private practice with the law office of Martin, Duckworth & Porter, P.C.; worked as Deputy Chief Attorney for the Forest Preserve of Cook County from 1999 to 2005; served as chair of the State of Illinois Board of Elections from 2007 to 2009; and engaged in mediations and arbitrations until he was nearly 80 years old.

**WHEREAS** the Hon. Albert S. Porter, Jr. was one of the original founders and incorporators of the Illinois Judicial Council formed in 1982 and incorporated on October 18, 1983; and served as its Chair (1989 -1990) where he remained an active, loyal, and committed member of the Illinois Judicial Council until the date of his passing;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Hon. Albert S. Porter, Jr.'s life was one well-lived and he shall be forever revered for his keen knowledge of the law, equitable administration of justice, and dedication to the Illinois Judicial Council and the legal profession; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Illinois Judicial Council does hereby extend its deepest respect and expresses its greatest appreciation and love for the services of its member, the Hon. Albert S. Porter, Jr.; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that as a just and lasting tribute to the memory of the Hon. Albert S. Porter, Jr., this resolution will be entered into the permanent archives of the Illinois Judicial Council, so that future generations can read it and be inspired by his example.

Adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of January 2021 by the Illinois Judicial Council.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thaddeus L. Wilson".

Honorable Thaddeus L. Wilson, President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven G. Watkins".

Honorable Steven G. Watkins, Secretary