

ILLINOIS JUDICIAL COUNCIL



A RESOLUTION IN LOVING MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE BLANCHE M. MANNING

WHEREAS the Illinois Judicial Council mourns the passing of the Honorable Blanche M. Manning and wishes to express its deepest respect for her contributions to the Illinois legal community; and

WHEREAS the Hon. Blanche M. Manning, a native of Chicago, Illinois, earned a Bachelor of Education degree from Chicago Teachers College in 1961, a Juris Doctor from John Marshall Law School in 1967, a Master of Arts degree from Roosevelt University in 1972 and a Master of Laws Degree from the University of Virginia School of Law in 1982; and

WHEREAS the Hon. Blanche M. Manning began practicing law as an Assistant State's Attorney with the Cook County State's Attorney Office in 1968 serving until 1973; served as a supervising trial attorney with the EEOC from 1973 through 1977; served as an Assistant United States Attorney from 1978 to 1979; and

WHEREAS the Hon. Blanche M. Manning served as an Associate and Circuit Court Judge in Cook County Illinois from 1979 through 1987; served as an Illinois Appellate Court Justice from 1987 through 1994, making her the first Black woman to serve on the Appellate Court; and

WHEREAS on August 9, 1994, the Hon. Blanche M. Manning was confirmed as a Judge in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, assuming Senior Status on February 1, 2010 until her retirement in 2012; and

WHEREAS the Hon. Blanche M. Manning served as an Adjunct Professor at DePaul University College of Law from 1992 through 1994; and

WHEREAS the Hon. Blanche M. Manning was one of the original founders of the Illinois Judicial Council formed in 1982, serving as its first Treasurer where she remained an active, loyal, and committed member of the Illinois Judicial Council until the date of her passing; and

WHEREAS the Hon. Blanche M. Manning was a jazz musician and enthusiast playing in many bands as a clarinetist and saxophonist; served both the legal and Chicago Communities in many capacities, including serving as a Board Member for the Sherwood Music Conservatory, the Chicago State University Alumni Association, and the John Marshall Law School Alumni Association; and

WHEREAS Hon. Blanche M. Manning was a loving guardian to her nieces and nephews and devoted wife to William Manning who preceded her in death; and

BE IT RESOLVED that Hon. Blanche M. Manning's life was a life well lived and she shall be forever revered for her keen knowledge of the law, equitable administration of justice, and her dedication of more than fifty-three years to the legal field; 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, Hon. Blanche M. Manning; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that as a just and lasting tribute to the memory of the Hon. Blanche M. Manning, 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 her example.

Adopted this 25th day of September 2020 by the Illinois Judicial Council.

Handwritten signature of Thaddeus L. Wilson in black ink.

Honorable Thaddeus L. Wilson, President

Handwritten signature of Steven G. Watkins in black ink.

Honorable Steven G. Watkins, Secretary