

DENVER CITY COUNCIL



Proclamation No. 23-1396

A Proclamation Honoring Juan Maldonado in Celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month

WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month was enacted into law by the United States Congress and signed by President Ronald Reagan on August 17, 1988; and

WHEREAS, The Denver Police Department has a long history of strong Hispanic leadership and courage within its ranks; and

WHEREAS, The Denver Police Museum is honored to partner with the National Latino Officers Association to honor retired Denver Police Division Chief Juan Maldonado; and

WHEREAS, Juan Maldonado was born in Boncarbo, Colorado to Luis Maldonado and Simona Martinez in 1948 and Juan's father died when he was only two years old resulting in his mother raising nine children as a single mom; and

WHEREAS, Juan married his wife Linda on January 27, 1968 and shortly thereafter joined the US Army's 9th Infantry Division and serving in the Republic of Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, upon returning to the United States, Juan joined the Denver Police Department in 1971 beginning a very successful career including positions as a patrolman, Sergeant, Lieutenant in such areas of the Department including Internal Affairs, Narcotics, Intelligence Bureau, Gang Bureau, Crime Lab, Traffic Operations and Special Services Unit; and

WHEREAS, Juan pursued additional education opportunities to further enhance his service to the Denver Police Department taking courses at Red Rocks Community College, Metropolitan State University and the University of South Dakota. He also was selected to attend the FBI National Academy and graduated from the Colorado Hispanic Institute for Professional Development; and

WHEREAS, in 1998 Juan was appointed the second Hispanic Captain to lead Denver Police District 1 and in 2000 he was appointed to serve as one of the first Hispanic Division Chiefs; and

WHEREAS, Juan's strong leadership and community outreach efforts resulted in his recognition as a recipient of the Laley's Cesar Chavez Achievement Award; and

WHEREAS, Juan retired from the Denver Police Department in 2004. He is the proud father of two children John Jr. (a Thornton Police Officer), and Luanne Heronema, three grandchildren (one Jonathon is also a Thornton Police Officer) and one great grandchild.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That the Council of the City and County of Denver, acknowledge Juan Maldonado's contributions in the City of Denver.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to retired Denver Police Division Chief Juan Maldonado and the Denver Police Museum.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL October 2, 2023

PRESIDENT

