

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. CP14-0412 In Honor of Lawrence Martinez

WHEREAS, Lawrence Martinez will leave a legacy of community involvement and civil rights advocacy for workers and minorities across the United States and around the world; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Martinez grew up in West Denver facing adversities, going to work at age 12, and experiencing racial discrimination in his search for a job as a young husband and father trying to provide for his family, an intolerable experience that shaped the rest of his life; and

WHEREAS, his work for basic civil rights took many forms: he joined civil rights movements in the 1960s; served on the boards of Service Employment Redevelopment Corporation and the Community Development Corporation in Denver; he coordinated financing and construction of the Mile High Chapter of the American GI Forum; he was involved in organizing the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, which became the largest Latino Labor Organization, and served on its National Board as an executive board member for 25 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Martinez took his advocacy for minorities and workers to Washington, D.C. where he lobbied U.S. Presidents and Congress, negotiated in board rooms, and continued to walk picket lines in the U.S. and around the world; and

WHEREAS, through it all, Lawrence has remained the supportive husband of former Denver City Councilwoman Ramona Martinez, for 55 years, loving father of three, and devoted grandfather to five and great-grandfather to two.

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

Section 1. The Council hereby heartily honors Mr. Lawrence Martinez and thanks him for his devotion and tireless work improving the world for minorities, women and workers around the globe, across the U.S.A. and in Denver.

Section 2. 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 Mr. Lawrence Martinez.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL May 5, 2014

PRESIDENT