

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 20-0613

Honoring Michael Eugene Somma for 35 years of service to the City and County of Denver

WHEREAS, Michael Eugene Somma, 65, was born and raised as a third-generation north Denverite and has chosen to live in northwest Denver his entire life, attending local schools and graduating from North High School in 1972; and

WHEREAS, Mike's lifetime of public service started with a part-time position in the Colorado Department of Revenue mailroom, working his way up to full-time work with the Colorado Department of Transportation, where he dedicated his professional life for 13 years; and

WHEREAS, Mike realized his dream of becoming a police officer when he joined the Denver Police Department in 1985, serving as a patrol officer in Police District 4 and being promoted to hazmat technician with the Denver Police Traffic Bureau, where he was required to work closely with Denver firefighters; and

WHEREAS, because of this association, in 1992 Mike realized he was meant to be a firefighter, and joined the Denver Fire Department, where he climbed the ranks and became a lieutenant, specializing in firefighting response to hazardous materials, and took pride in continually advocating for his fellow firefighters, including fighting for benefits that would ensure their safety and wellbeing and that of their families; and

WHEREAS, Mike served his firefighter colleagues as the government affairs director for Denver Firefighters Local 858 Executive Board for 10 years and as an active member for 19 years, working closely with Denver City Council and other elected officials to foster good relationships between the fire department and various government agencies; and

WHEREAS, Mike believes in community service and has served on the Denver Fire Department Federal Credit Union Supervisory Committee since 2017, and he has organized charitable events such as the Denver Fire Local 858 Car Show where proceeds go to the Denver Fire Charitable Foundation, and he also helped organize the Denver Fire Local 858 Boxing Smoker where proceeds were given in support of local youth boxing gyms; and

WHEREAS, Mike is active in his community as a lifelong member of the Mount Carmel Catholic Church where he is a part of the men's club, as member of the Northwest Denver Optimist Club for 10 years, and has assisted with a Punt, Pass and Kick event, engaging with youth along with Denver Bronco Alumni to create a link between young people and firefighters; and

WHEREAS, Mike has been instrumental in helping with many projects, including providing honorees for the club's "Firefighter of the Year" award, and he was awarded Firefighter of the Year in 2010. and he assists annually with the Sam Sandos Christmas Basket Program; and

WHEREAS, Mike served the citizens of Denver at the Denver Fire Department for 28 years and retired from service on June 16, 2020, and is ready to spend time fixing up his cabin and golfing.

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

Section 1. The Council hereby recognizes and honors the service of Michael Eugene Somma and his combined service of 35 years to the Citizens of the City and County 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 delivered to Mike Somma.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL July 27, 2020

PRESIDENT