



Proclamation No. 23-0568
Honoring Deputy Chief Barb Archer For More Than 36 Years of Service

Whereas, Deputy Chief Archer is a proud native of the City and County of Denver. Born to Lynn and Elizabeth Willcockson and raised near Bible Park, she attended Denver Public Schools, graduating from George Washington High School. She continues to live in the City; and

Whereas, she has been a lifelong member of Trinity United Methodist Church, a downtown Denver landmark, and performs as a member of the church's Bell Choir; and

Whereas; in 1986, Deputy Chief Barb Archer began her career with the City and County of Denver as a civilian employee in the Clerk's Office where one of her many duties as Clerk was to read the introduction of new bills at City Council meetings in these very chambers; and

Whereas; in 1988 Deputy Chief Archer transferred to the Denver Police Department and served in a non-sworn capacity in the Property Crime Bureau, first as a clerk in the Juvenile Section and later as a secretary in the Auto Theft Section. It was this experience working with the Department that fueled her desire to become a police officer; and

Whereas; on November 11, 1990, Deputy Chief Barb Archer was sworn in as an officer with the Denver Police Department and where, as a recruit in the Police Academy, she began building a positive reputation as a strong role model and leader among her peers; and

Whereas; Deputy Chief Archer began her Denver Police career assigned as a patrol officer in District 2 before being promoted to the rank of detective in 1995, where she served in the Crimes Against Persons Bureau. A promotion to the rank of Sergeant followed in February of 2000, and she returned to serve the District 2 community until March of 2004, before returning to Crimes Against Persons as a supervisor in the Assault Unit; and

Whereas; on June 1, 2006, Deputy Chief Archer was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and served in several assignments, including District 1 as both a detail lieutenant and administrative aide to the district commander, which led to her selection as an Aide and Chief of Staff to the Deputy Chief of Operations in the Office of the Chief of Police. Among her many achievements as lieutenant, Deputy Chief Archer was instrumental in the implementation of the TeleStaff time and attendance program, which is still in use today; and

Whereas; on July 31, 2015, Deputy Chief Archer was appointed to the rank of Commander by the Chief of Police, serving first as Commander of the Operations Support Division and then as Commander of the Major Crimes Division; and

Whereas; on July 15, 2018 she was appointed Deputy Chief and served as second in command of the Denver Police Department until the day of her retirement. She served under two Chiefs who led this department in support of the city through a worldwide pandemic and times of unrest with exceptional leadership and service. While this five-year assignment was tumultuous at times, it also brought moments of unique celebration with the 2021 All-Star Games and the 2021 Avalanche win of the Stanley Cup.

Whereas; throughout the course of her career she has received seven official commendations, three merit awards, one leadership award, five commendatory letters, fourteen letters of appreciation from community members, and the Optimist Award; and

Whereas; Deputy Chief Barb Archer has established a reputation as a quiet, compassionate leader and an exemplary role model to all officers. She is approachable, has offered wise counsel to many colleagues over the course of her career, and has proudly served as a member of the Peer Support team for 20 years. As the highest-ranking female member of the Denver Police Department, she is a mentor to all female officers, providing support and encouragement professionally and personally. She has played a vital role in raising the bar of professional standards in the realm of women and family support, through her engagement in 30 by 30, Senate Bill #23-277, and the DPD Women's Collective; and

Whereas; Deputy Chief Archer has served the community outside of her official duties, by serving on the boards of several organizations such as the Salvation Army, the Rocky Mountain Law Enforcement Credit Union, the Denver Police Officers Foundation, and the Citizens Appreciate Police; and

Whereas; On May 21, 2023 Deputy Chief Archer is retiring after 33 years of unparalleled service to the Denver Police Department and a total of 36 years of service to the City and County of Denver. Chief Archer leaves behind a legacy of service exemplifying the seven points of the Denver Police badge: honesty, integrity, temperance, fortitude, faith, hope, and charity. Chief Archer's style of leadership is genuine and from the heart. It's a style that others aspire to; she will leave behind a memory of what being a leader truly means. "The things you do for yourself are gone when you are gone, but the things you do for others remain as your legacy" — Kalu Ndukwe Kalu. Thank you for your service to the City and County of Denver and especially to the men and women, sworn officers and professional staff of the Denver Police Department.

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 applauds Chief Barb Archer for her 36 years of service to the people of Denver and declares May 8 as Chief Barb Archer Day in the City and County of Denver.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Chief Barb Archer.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL May 8, 2023

COUNCIL PRESIDENT