DENVER CITY COUNCIL

Proclamation

Proclamation No. 24-0934
Honoring Denver Police Office Freddie Gene Steinmark

WHEREAS, The Denver Police Department was founded in 1859, and will celebrate its 165 years of service in 2024 and over eight thousand men and women have served the Citizens of the City and County of Denver as sworn officers during that time; and

WHEREAS, The Denver Police Museum has instituted its Legacy Program to honor the accomplishments and contributions of the late Denver Police Officer Freddie Gene Steinmark and his family to our community; and

WHEREAS, Freddie Gene Steinmark was born in Sedgwick, Colorado on October 20, 1929 to Fred and Viola Steinmark. As a young boy Freddie moved to Denver and attended Ebert Elementary School and Cole and Lake Junior High. He attended North High School where he was elected President of the Student Body and demonstrated academic excellence and athletic prowess. He lettered in football, basketball, baseball. He was selected the All-American Boy in baseball scoring a perfect 25 (scoring a 5 out of 5) in all aspects of the game. He had a number of scholarship offers from major universities. His athletic abilities did not go unnoticed by the pros and he was drafted and signed by the Cleveland Indians before graduating at 17 years of age; and

WHEREAS, while attending North High School he met Gloria Frances Marchitti and they were married in March of 1948. They were blessed with four children. Freddie Joe, who became a nationally recognized scholar-athlete whose passing from cancer in 1971 shocked and inspired our entire nation. GiGi, who made her mark as a secretary in educational administration, P.K., whose path was the fitness industry as an innovator owner/operator of clubs and programs, Sammy who played college football and was an outstanding Division I football coach for 22 years and now is an oil executive; and

WHEREAS, on January 3, 1955, Freddie Gene Steinmark joined the Denver Police Department with badge number 55-10. Officer Steinmark had several very important assignments within the Divisions of the department including walking the beat, traffic, he was one of the first K9 Officers (serving with his dog Duke) and serving in the Crimes Against Persons Division. He spent his last years of service as a bodyguard and driver for Denver Mayor William “Bill” McNichols. During his career he was a pioneer in community policing spending his off-duty time coaching young people and helping them learn important skills needed for success in their adult lives; and

WHEREAS, Officer Steinmark was very well known on the Denver Police Department for his exceptional courage and character. He was a role model for other officers and several times played a key role in helping young people make corrections and improvements in their lives which allowed them to become productive citizens. He faced his own challenges in life including the loss of his son at a very young age and his own personal battles with cancer with class and dignity; and

WHEREAS, Detective Steinmark, retired from the Denver Police Department in July of 1983, after serving 28 ½ years on the Department. He spent later years with his wife Gloria mastering golf, traveling and playing an important role in the lives of both his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Freddie Gene Steinmark passed away on February 6, 2000 at the age of 70.

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 acknowledges the many years of public safety service and community policing efforts of the late Denver Police Detective Freddie Gene Steinmark on behalf of the Citizens of 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 the Denver Police Museum and the Steinmark family.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL July 22, 2024

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PRESIDENT