

Media Advisory...



from State Representative La Shawn K. Ford

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 17, 2019

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford

217-782-5962

Ford Hosts Birthday Celebration for Nelson Mandela

CHICAGO – State Representative La Shawn K. Ford (D-Chicago) hosts the 6th Mandela birthday celebration on July 18th. This event is an effort to raise community support to halt violence on the West Side, connect people to resources and strengthen relationships.

Nelson Mandela International Day was launched in recognition of Nelson Mandela's birthday on July 18, via unanimous decision of the UN General Assembly in 2009. It was inspired by a call Nelson Mandela made a year earlier for the next generation to take on the burden of leadership in addressing the world's social injustices when he said, "it is in your hands now".

"Mandela stood for peace, and with violence high in the Austin community, we will celebrate President Nelson Mandela's birthday and the 6th Anniversary of the naming of Mandela Road with a day of service," said Ford.

To honor Nelson Mandela, the late South African statesman, Nobel Peace Prize winner, and First President of the post-apartheid South Africa, State Representative La Shawn K. Ford, (D-CH), introduced House Joint Resolution 89 in 2014 designating the portion of Cicero Avenue from Grand Avenue to Roosevelt Road as Mandela Road. The resolution passed both the House and the Senate in unanimous, bipartisan votes. The dedication of the naming of Mandela Road occurred on July 18, 2014, Mandela's birthday.

Partners currently include: The Good Neighbors Campaign, Westside Health Authority, Loretto Hospital, Chicago Public Schools, Market 72, Habilitative Systems Inc., Chicago Park Districts, Chicago Urban League, Bobby E. Wright CBHC and Illinois State Police.

The Press Conference will be held at 4800 W. Chicago Ave on Thursday, July 18, 2019 at 11:30 a.m.

The Celebration will be held at 5051 W. Chicago Ave. on Thursday, July 18, 2019 from 12:30 pm – 2:00pm.

For more information, please contact Ford's constituent service office at 217-782-5962 or email Repford@lashawnford.com.

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