SALUTE TO THE RETIREMENT OF QWATEVYIA EDWARDS

WHEREAS on June 6, 2024, Chief Petty Officer Qwatevyia Edwards, an outstanding citizen and member of her community, is retiring from the United States Navy after more than two decades of exemplary leadership and remarkable dedication; and

WHEREAS Chief Edwards began her illustrious naval career in 2000, commencing with basic training at the Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, Illinois, and subsequently fulfilling her first duty assignment at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot on Parris Island, South Carolina; and

WHEREAS Chief Edwards' tenure in the Navy included diverse global deployments, including invaluable contributions to Operation Enduring Freedom and humanitarian endeavors in the Middle East, pivotal support for the CNO Women Initiative Program in Okinawa, Japan, and instrumental roles in training the Philippine military and multiple Barangays in Tactical Combat Casualty Care and basic First Aid; and

WHEREAS Chief Edwards' pursuit of academic excellence while concurrently serving in the Navy is commendable, having earned a bachelor's degree in healthcare management from Westwood College and a master's degree in healthcare administration from Ashford University; and

WHEREAS Chief Edwards' rise to the rank of Chief Petty Officer in July 2019 stands as a testament to her exceptional leadership qualities and professional acumen. Her distinguished service has been recognized by her many accolades, including the Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medals, and Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal as well as multiple campaign and service honors; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable William E. Hall, Alderman of the 6th Ward has apprised this august body of the significant milestone achieved by Chief Petty Officer Qwatevyia Edwards; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that we, the mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered this 22nd day of May 2024, extend our heartfelt congratulations to Qwatevyia Edwards on the occasion of her retirement and wish to convey our best wishes for continued success in all her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to Chief Qwatevyia Edwards as a token of our profound esteem and admiration.