

**2014 RES-192**

**RECOGNIZING THOSE WHO HELPED THE FIRST SAME SEX COUPLES IN WISCONSIN WED**

**WHEREAS** the constitutional ban on same sex marriage was challenged in federal court by the ACLU of Wisconsin, and Judge Barbara Crabb, on June 6, 2014, made history by overturning this discriminatory ban in the Wisconsin State Constitution, allowing a window of time for same sex couples to get married in Dane County and Wisconsin; and

**WHEREAS** the Dane County Clerk asked for help from City and County staff and other volunteers in handling the expected deluge of marriage license requests; and

**WHEREAS** Judges Ellen Berz and Rhonda Lanford as well as Attorney Tamara Packard requested assistance from veteran officiants to help couples who wished to get married right away; John Smallwood from Fair Wisconsin helped coordinate couples who had their marriage license find their officiant and helped ensure couples had the legal documents necessary; and Melanie Conklin and Casey Becker from the County Executive's office helped communicate to the public and to same sex couples what they needed in order to get married; and

**WHEREAS** during the evening of June 6<sup>th</sup> and Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup> volunteers and staff helped process and marry over 130 couples, including the first same sex couple to be married in Wisconsin history; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors recognizes and thanks the dozens of volunteers who briefly but memorably made Madison the "City of Love"; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution be presented to the volunteers and staff who assisted in making history.

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Sharon Corrigan  
Dane County Board Chair

Signed and sealed before me this  
26th day of June, 2014

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Scott McDonell  
Dane County Clerk