

CALLING FOR THE RENAMING OF THE CITY-COUNTY BUILDING AS THE PRESIDENT
BARACK OBAMA CITY-COUNTY BUILDING FOR THE CITY OF MADISON AND DANE
COUNTY

President Barack Obama is the only sitting President of the United States to ever step foot in the City-County Building. The President held an event outside the building on November 5, 2012, drawing thousands of people to downtown Madison.

Through its many years as the central home of government for the County of Dane and City of Madison, the City-County Building has never had a formal name, other than the generic designation which describes its function.

President Obama ended his second term as the 44th President of the United States on January 20, 2017. During his eight years, he served the state and nation with dignity and grace. He advocated for the principles held dear by our community: equality, social justice, and stewardship for our neighbors, communities, and the environment.

As Americans we benefited from the grace and wisdom of the First Lady, Michelle Obama, and got to watch their daughters, Malia and Sasha, grow from children to the young women they are today.

Caroline Kennedy, the daughter of the 35th President of the United States, presented the Profile in Courage award to former President Obama in March of this year. She stated that "President Kennedy called on a new generation of Americans to give their talents to the service of the country. With exceptional dignity and courage, President Obama has carried that torch into our time, providing young people of all backgrounds with an example they can emulate in their own lives."

Given the shared values of President Obama and those which Dane County government advocates for, along with the recent end to President Obama's term in office, it seems appropriate to rename the building that serves as the central home of county and city government after former President Obama.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City-County Building be renamed the "President Barack Obama City-County Building" as it continues to serve local government offices and functions for the City of Madison and Dane County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be presented to the Madison Common Council and the City-County Liaison Committee.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a plaque memorializing President Barack Obama's service and this designation be placed outside the City County Building, to further honor his legacy as America's 44th President.