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Councilmember Phil Mendelson

Councilmember Charles Allen

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To recognize and honor Clifford T. Keenan for his years of service to the District of Columbia as the Director of the Pretrial Services Agency.

WHEREAS, Clifford T. Keenan was born in August 29, 1953 in Jersey City, New Jersey;

WHEREAS, Clifford T. Keenan completed his undergraduate studies at Georgetown University in 1976 and earned his Juris Doctor from The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law in 1983;

WHEREAS, Clifford T. Keenan joined the Metropolitan Police Department (“MPD”) in 1973, where he worked until 1985 as an officer and sergeant in various units;

WHEREAS, Clifford T. Keenan joined the United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia (“USAO”) in 1985 as an Assistant United States Attorney, where he served in a number of roles, including Chief of the Chronic Offender Unit/Violent Crime Section and Chief of the Community Prosecution/Major Crimes Section;

WHEREAS, Clifford T. Keenan was selected to lead the Community Prosecution Pilot Project for the USAO in 1996, which focused on solving problems and forming partnerships with the community and police to improve the quality of life for people living and working within the District of Columbia;

WHEREAS, in 2000, Clifford T. Keenan was asked by then United States Deputy Attorney General Eric Holder to work on expanding community prosecution efforts throughout the country as the Special Counsel for Community Prosecution within the United States Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs;

46 WHEREAS, Clifford T. Keenan returned to the USAO from 2001 to 2004 to serve as Chief
47 of the Superior Court Division, which has a staff of more than 170 Assistant United States
48 Attorneys and is responsible for the prosecution of most of the local crimes occurring within the
49 District of Columbia;

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51 WHEREAS, Clifford T. Keenan was selected as the Deputy Director of Operations for the
52 Pretrial Services Agency (“PSA”) in 2004 and became Deputy Director for the entire PSA in 2005;

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54 WHEREAS, Clifford T. Keenan became Director of PSA in 2012 and has collaboratively
55 ensured that the District provides effective pretrial justice through a non-money bail, informed risk
56 assessment system;

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58 WHEREAS, under Clifford T. Keenan’s leadership, PSA expanded the physical plant and
59 work of PSA’s drug testing laboratory and fostered collaboration with the Office of the Chief
60 Medical Examiner on testing of synthetic drugs, which has been critical in assessing the prevalence
61 of emerging drugs in the District;

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63 WHEREAS, Clifford T. Keenan has demonstrated his commitment to effectively
64 supervising young defendants by collaborating with Superior Court Social Services and the
65 Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services;

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67 WHEREAS, Clifford T. Keenan launched the “Evidence-to-Practice” series at PSA, a four-
68 part program that brought in nationally-recognized experts in performance measurement and
69 evaluation to enhance PSA’s understanding of performance measurement and to identify ways to
70 better utilize data for performance improvement;

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72 WHEREAS, Clifford T. Keenan proactively sought opportunities for PSA to support the
73 annual community initiatives of partner agencies, such as MPD’s Beat the Streets and National
74 Night Out and the USAO’s Youth Violence Summit;

75
76 WHEREAS, Clifford T. Keenan served as Board Member of the Council for Court
77 Excellence (“CCE”) and chaired a subcommittee that examined the District’s unique post-arrest
78 process for the purpose of making recommendations for improvement, resulting in the Council’s
79 Judiciary Committee proposing Bill 20-323, the “Post-Arrest Process Clarification Amendment
80 Act of 2013”;

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82 WHEREAS, Clifford T. Keenan served as Vice-Chair to the Board of Trustees for the
83 Pretrial Justice Institute (“PJI”), the nation’s only nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring
84 informed pretrial decision-making for safe communities; and

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86 WHEREAS, Clifford T. Keenan has instilled within PSA the importance to always “Do
87 the right thing, and do it well,” and will be long remembered for his commitment to enhancing
88 public safety in the District of Columbia.

90 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that the Council
91 of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors Clifford T. Keenan for his years of service to
92 the District of Columbia as the Director of the Pretrial Services Agency.

93
94 Sec. 2. This resolution may be cited as the “Clifford T. Keenan Recognition Resolution of
95 2017”.

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97 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in
98 the District of Columbia Register.