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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
OAKLAND

# CITY OF OAKLAND



CITY HALL 19 APR 18 PM 3:50 1 FRANK H. OGAWA PLAZA • OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612

REBECCA KAPLAN  
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Date: April 18, 2019  
To: Members of City Council and Members of the Public  
From: Council President Kaplan  
Re: Resolution Declaring May 5, 2019 Through May 11, 2019 Municipal Clerk's Week In The City Of Oakland, Celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Of Municipal Clerks Week, And Honoring Oakland City Clerk LaTonda Simmons And Her Staff

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Dear Colleagues on the City Council and Members of the Public,

We on this City council owe a great deal of gratitude to our City clerk and her staff. It is my deepest honor and pleasure to do the following:

1. Recognize the week of May 5, 2019 through May 11, 2019 as Municipal Clerks Week on this, the 50th Anniversary of Municipal Clerk's Week.
2. Appreciate City Clerk LaTonda Simmons and her staff for their tireless efforts to serve the residents, departments, and elected officials of the City of Oakland and the public good.

Please kindly review the attached Resolution which will be heard during our ceremonial item honoring our Office of the City Clerk at the May 7<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rebecca Kaplan".

Rebecca Kaplan  
Oakland City Councilmember At Large

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Approved as to Form and Legality



City Attorney's Office

## OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT KAPLAN

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**RESOLUTION DECLARING MAY 5, 2019 THROUGH MAY 11, 2019 MUNICIPAL CLERK'S WEEK IN THE CITY OF OAKLAND, CELEBRATING THE 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK, AND HONORING OAKLAND CITY CLERK LATONDA SIMMONS AND HER STAFF**

**WHEREAS**, given the importance of the role of the City Clerk in the affairs of the City of Oakland, the City Clerk is designated as a City Official and the Office of the City Clerk is established pursuant to the Charter of the City of Oakland; and

**WHEREAS**, in the City of Oakland, the City Clerk serves as both the City Clerk and the Clerk of the City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the Office of the City Clerk serves as the information center on functions of local government and community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Office of the City Clerk provides the professional link amongst the City of Oakland and its City Departments, the citizens, and local governing bodies and agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, City Clerks have pledged to be ever mindful of their neutrality and impartiality, rendering equal service to all; and

**WHEREAS**, City Clerks continually strive to improve the administration of the affairs of the Office of the City Clerk and their government agencies through participation in education programs, seminars, workshops and the annual meetings of their county, state, national, and international professional organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, City Clerk, LaTonda Simmons has served as the City Clerk for fifteen years and served the City for seventeen years supporting thirteen (13) City Administrators, eight Assistant City Administrators, nine Police Chiefs, seven constitutions of the City Council, six Personnel Directors, six Fire Chiefs, six Deputy City Administrators, six Council Presidents, six Finance Directors, five Public Works Directors, four Mayors, four Auditors, and two City Attorneys; and

**WHEREAS**, City Clerk LaTonda Simmons is a proud member of the City Clerk's League of California Cities, City Clerk's Association of California, California Association of Clerks and Elections Officials (CACEO) the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) and she also bears the prestigious designation of Certified Municipal Clerk from the IIMC; and

**WHEREAS**, City Clerk LaTonda Simmons leads a group of hardworking staff, including KTOP TV station employees, who are highly committed to providing and improving access to government services; and

**WHEREAS**, under the leadership of City Clerk LaTonda Simmons, the Office of the City Clerk is committed to high standards of public service and continues to be committed to banishing bureaucracy by demystifying access to the City's legislative process and public information by establishing the benchmark that vital public records should be made available to the public for free and timely; and

**WHEREAS**, under the leadership of City Clerk LaTonda Simmons, the Office of the City Clerk has diligently and tirelessly progressed toward providing advancements in agenda management technology, records management, and administration of municipal elections to enable the public to access information and fully participate in governmental processes affecting the quality of their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, City Clerk LaTonda Simmons has a long list of accomplishments and commitment to expanding public access and furthering government efficiency by improving services, strengthening compliance, and supporting efficient and ethical government operations, including:

- Eliminating cost barriers to providing public information by posting agendas, reports, and adopted legislation online for free beginning 2003;
- Expanding public access to the meetings of City Council and Council Committees by adding 24-7 on demand streaming videos of City Council and Council Committee meetings in 2007;
- Expanding public access, and improving filer convenience by establishing electronic filing of elections, campaign statements, and Form 700s commencing 2010;
- Expanding public access to the meetings of the City Council and Council Committees to allow for written public comments by adding SpeakUp Oakland, a Civic Engagement Platform for Public discourse, surveying, and ideation;
- Expanding public access to those who wish to apply to City Boards and Commissions, and improving the efficacy of membership management of City Boards and Commissions by adding and implementing the online Boards and Commissions system;

- Her continued advocacy and support in performing training of Mayoral staff, training to Boards and Commissions liaisons, advancing resources to provide the means for the City Administrator's liaisons to perform required duties of the Commissions, and advocacy of other collective resources to support Boards and Commissions staff, despite the removal of the Boards and Commission staff and duties from the Office of the City Clerk in 13 years ago in 2006;
- Recognition as a thought leader for technology service providers, forums of the CCAC, and League of California Cities representing the City of Oakland's commitment to public service and progressive thinking in creating approaches to supporting public service;
- As best known, guarding the City's Public record and the relentless commitment to speaking the truth when it may be inconvenient for those she serves, which is a duty she honors; and

**WHEREAS**, the aforementioned accomplishments were achieved through more than twelve years of budget reductions to these critical services and core functions resulting in more than a 33% reduction in staff across four divisions requiring that she personally commit her personal support City Departments, residents, and elected officials of Oakland; and

**WHEREAS**, it is most appropriate that we recognize the accomplishments of the Office of the City Clerk and the unwavering dedication to serve the residents of the City of Oakland, the elected officials, City Departments, and other agencies in the City of Oakland; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That Council President Kaplan and the Oakland City Council recognizes the week of May 5, 2019 through May 11, 2019 as Municipal Clerks Week, and further extends its deep appreciation to our City Clerk LaTonda Simmons and the committed, hardworking staff of the Office of the City Clerk and to all Clerks across the nation for the vital services they perform and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent, especially on this, the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Municipal Clerk's Week in the Unites States, Canada, and 15 other countries; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the City Council of Oakland recognizes and appreciates City Clerk LaTonda Simmons and her staff for their tireless efforts to serve the residents, departments, and elected officials of the City of Oakland and the public good.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FORTUNATO BAS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, REID, TAYLOR, THAO AND  
PRESIDENT KAPLAN

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

LATONDA SIMMONS  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the  
City of Oakland, California

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