

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 399

Approved July 12, 1991

WHEREAS, Rose M. Mendonca was born in Providence, the daughter of the late John E. Coury and Anna Stevens Coury. She grew up in the Fox Point section with two brothers, Fred P. Coury and the late Joseph J. Coury, and attended the Arnold Street and Thayer Street Schools, Nathan Bishop Jr. High and Hope High School, and

WHEREAS, shortly after graduation from Hope High School, Rose began her career with the City of Providence, a Clerk Stenographer I, at a salary of \$26.46 per week, and

WHEREAS, the late City Clerk D. Everett Whelan got Rose in the habit of working long hours early in her career. He also instilled in her a deep respect for the importance of city documents and the unique role which the City Clerk's office plays as keeper of the City's records and guardian of the City's History. Rose took these lessons very much to heart, and has seen to it that they have become a tradition in the City Clerk's department and,

WHEREAS, Rose took a couple of years off in 1956 and 1957 to begin her family, which would eventually consist of daughter Karen, stepdaughter Donna, granddaughter Chelsey and grandsons Victor, Wayne and newly arrived Tyler. Upon her return to the City Clerk's office in 1959, Rose began a series promotions which culminated in her unanimous election as City Clerk in 1977. She was the first woman to head a department in the City of Providence, and

WHEREAS, Rose has served under five mayors - Dennis J. Roberts, Walter J. Reynolds, Joseph A. Doorley, Vincent A. Cianci, and Joseph R. Paolino, Jr. As City Clerk alone she has dealt with more than fifty members of the City Council, and perhaps the only thing that all of those mayors and all of those City Council members would agree on is that Rose Mendonca's service to this city has been nothing less than exemplary, and

WHEREAS, all of City Government has come to rely on the knowledge and experience Rose has acquired through years of experience and painstaking research. For questions involving the City Charter, Council Rules and procedures, and City Ordinances, the answer, for the rest of us, has been simple: "Ask Rose".

The career of Rose Mendonca truly sets an example for all public servants. Her cheerful disposition and charming personality conveyed to every citizen and co-worker a sense that she truly enjoyed serving the public. Her work ethic and attention to detail proclaimed her belief that the public's work was worth doing right. And her unquestioned integrity and unwaivering commitment to defend the Charter and Ordinances of the City demonstrated that she truly valued the public trust.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of this City Council do express, on behalf of all previous members of the City Council and a generation of Providence citizens, their sincere gratitude to Rose M. Mendonca for her dedicated service, along with their very best wishes for a long and happy retirement, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Rose M. Mendonca be, and hereby is designated "City Clerk Emerita"; said title granting to her at all times permission to enter within the rail in the Chamber of the City Council at all City Council Meetings, and further granting her permission to use the Seal of the City of Providence, Rhode Island on her personal stationery to be supplied by the City as "City Clerk Emerita", and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that her successor in the office of City Clerk is directed to cause all subsequent copies of Supplements to the Code of Ordinances be made available to Rose M. Mendonca as "City Clerk Emerita".

Councilman Allen

IN CITY COUNCIL

JUL 3 1991
READ AND PASSED

James R. Rosinelli
PRES.

Bob M. Menlove
CLERK

