

**CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK**

**RESOLUTION NO. R01-2016**

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO THE BRADY CENTER TO  
PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE AND TO CHRISTOPHER B. WILSON OF  
PERKINS COIE LLP**

**WHEREAS**, on June 24, 2013, following a series of tragic mass shooting incidents across the nation, and in an effort to protect the safety and welfare of its residents, businesses, and visitors, the City Council adopted an ordinance prohibiting the possession, sale, or manufacture of assault weapons and large capacity magazines within the City; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 12, 2013, litigation was commenced against the City, captioned *Arie S. Friedman and the Illinois State Rifle Association v. City of Highland Park*, challenging the assault weapon ban ordinance on the theory that it violated the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, the litigation proceeded through the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois and the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit; and

**WHEREAS**, the City prevailed at each level of the federal court litigation; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 7, 2015, the United States Supreme Court upheld the validity of the City's ordinance when it denied a Petition for Writ of Certiorari that was filed by the plaintiffs in the federal court litigation and supported by National Rifle Association of America and 24 of the 50 State Attorneys General of the United States of America, among others; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's success in the federal court litigation was due in large part to the outstanding defense that was provided to the City by the City's stellar legal defense team; and

**WHEREAS**, at the recommendation of the City's Corporation Counsel and in an effort to avoid the expenditure of significant legal fees in the federal court litigation defense, the City's legal defense team included the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence and Christopher B. ("Chris") Wilson of Perkins Coie LLP, both of whom agreed to serve the City on a pro bono basis throughout the litigation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the prevention of gun violence, and is one of the country's foremost and highly acclaimed experts on passing, enforcing, and protecting sensible laws and public policy that address gun violence at the federal and local levels; and

**WHEREAS**, the Legal Action Project of the Brady Center works with, and provides legal advice and assistance to, public officials throughout the country to help defend gun laws and policies that are under attack, and represents local governments and individual victims of gun violence in litigation aimed at reducing gun deaths and injuries; and

WHEREAS, Chris Wilson, a graduate of the Northwestern Pritzker School of Law and former clerk for the Honorable William Bauer in the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, is the Managing Partner of the Chicago office of the Perkins Coie law firm, and is one of the most prominent and respected litigators in the country, representing companies in complex commercial litigation, antitrust, product liability and constitutional law matters;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF HIGHLAND PARK, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, as follows:

**SECTION ONE: RECITALS.** The foregoing recitals are incorporated into, and made a part of, this Resolution as findings of the City Council.

**SECTION TWO: RECOGNITION.** The Mayor and City Council do hereby recognize the outstanding legal work performed by the attorneys and staff at the Legal Action Project of the Brady Center and by Chris Wilson and his team at Perkins Coie LLP in defending, on a pro bono basis, the assault weapon ban ordinance throughout the federal court litigation. The Brady Center and Mr. Wilson worked with our Corporation Counsel to develop a legal defense strategy that resulted in the granting of the City's Motion for Summary Judgment by United States District Judge John Darrah, and favorable affirming decisions in both the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court. In particular, Mr. Wilson worked tirelessly to draft the excellent briefs filed at all three federal court levels, and did an outstanding job presenting the oral argument on behalf of the City in the United States District Court and in the Seventh Circuit.

On behalf of the residents of the City of Highland Park, the Mayor and City Council do hereby express their sincere gratitude and appreciation for the exceptional and extraordinary legal talent of, and the brilliant legal work performed selflessly by, the Brady Center, Christopher Wilson, and the law firm of Perkins Coie LLP.

**SECTION THREE: EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Resolution will be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval by a majority of the members of the City Council.

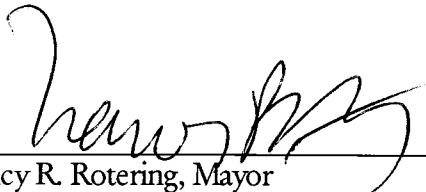
**AYES:** Mayor Rotering, Councilmen Stone, Frank, Kaufman, Blumberg, Knobel, Holleman

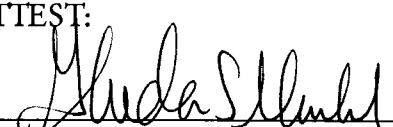
**NAYS:** None

**PASSED:** January 11, 2016

**APPROVED:** January 11, 2016

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Nancy R. Rotering, Mayor

**ATTEST:**  
  
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Ghida S. Neukirch, City Clerk

