

Resolution honoring JoAnn Smith for supporting the Fifth Precinct and stronger police-community relations

WHEREAS, Kentucky native JoAnn Smith arrived in Detroit as a newlywed with her husband John and settled in the Jefferson Chalmers community, where they raised three daughters. For over 50 years, Mrs. Smith has shown a strong passion and commitment for her family and neighborhood while continuously working to improve the quality of life and public safety for everyone; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith has led or participated in organizations closely aligned with the mission of the Board of Police Commissioners. A member of the Board of the Jefferson Chalmers Citizens' District Council, she is a long-time president of an active Chalmers Block Club. She has organized and rallied neighbors to participate in countless community safety and beautification programs. She routinely patrolled her area during the Halloween period for many years. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, she checked on seniors and other vulnerable residents and helped provide food. She is a driving force for donations and support for the Fifth Precinct's monthly Keno Night and annual events for Police Week, National Night Out, and Trunk or Treat; and

WHEREAS, Past and present police commissioners have worked with and known Mrs. Smith through her work with the Fifth Precinct and its community outreach programs. Her current projects also include championing the transformation of the Manistique-Philip alley into a safe and beautiful space. In an area without a city recreation center, Mrs. Smith is a member of the Manistique Community Treehouse, a project dedicated to a community-run center for youth, including those with disabilities. A retiree, Mrs. Smith never stopped working in the community. She wears many hats as a community leader and always endeavors to improve the quality of life for her eastside community and all Detroit residents.

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, congratulates and salutes Mrs. JoAnn Smith for her contributions to the Fifth Precinct, police-community relations, public safety, and the quality of life in Detroit through her community service and leadership.