

January 25, 2021

Mr. Vince V. Marti
City of Milwaukee
Central Drafting & Records
841 N. Broadway Room 802
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mr. Marti:

I would like to add my support to the naming of the 731 W. Wells Street Fire Department Main Headquarters in the honor of its original architect, Mr. Alonzo Robinson, Jr.

At a time when so many things are changing, yet most indeed remain the same, it is important to pause and create opportunities to show how diverse, as well as how far reaching Architect Robinson was when he designed the 731 W. Wells Street building. It continues to service its original purposes now years later; and it was the first public building Alonzo Robinson, Jr. designed, which gives credence to his professional ability as the first licensed African American Architect in the State of Wisconsin, a cadence of firsts.

I knew Mr. Robinson; we chronicled many of his creative designs over his active years in the Milwaukee Community Journal newspaper. This building continues to bear witness to his breadth, depth and brilliance.

We believe it noteworthy for the city, Mr. Robinson's family, and the many youngsters who are learning about their city and the people who have made it a lovely city on the lake, that we capture opportunities to make this historical asset even more valued..

This designation permanently engraves Alonzo Robinson, Jr. as the architect/designer and emboldens his cultural significance for the city, county and the state.

Please strongly consider its significance particularly in these times. I thank you and am available for questions should you so deem it.

Respectfully,



Patricia O'Flynn Pattillo, Publisher cell: 404-285-0176