



OFFICIAL STREET NAME SIGN APPLICATION

City Hall, Room 205
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

PLEASE NOTE: A \$100 PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY THIS FORM

1. Applicant information:

Applicant's Name Kim A. Robinson sr
Organization or Company
Street Address 5422 W. Melvin St City/State Milw, WI Zip 53216
Telephone 414 322-1927 Fax Email KimFoto39@sbcsbcglobal.net

2. Official Street Name Request

Street name requested Milwaukee Fire Department Administration Bldg
Location of proposed designation: (for example, West Main Street from North 12th Street to North 15th Street)
711 W. Wells St Milwaukee, WI 53233

3. Required Submittals:

- Refer to Chapter 113-3, Milwaukee Code of Ordinances (a copy of which is attached to this application)
A typed statement containing no fewer than 500 words describing the significance of the person, place, or event being honored. The statement should indicate why the official street name has been requested to be changed.
The City will conduct a post card survey to be sent to all property owners and to each address along the street. The cost of this postcard survey, which is approximately \$2.00 per property surveyed, may be required to be paid by the applicant prior to its being sent. A street renaming proposal shall not be given further consideration by the City unless the results of the post card survey indicates that at least 50% of all owners/residents along the street support the proposal. The applicant will be notified of the results of the post card survey to determine whether the request has enough support to continue through the process.

4. City Review and Approval Process:

Upon submission of this application, please allow six to eight weeks for City staff to review your request. Upon completion of the City's review and the favorable response from the post card survey of at least 51% of those polled; this request will be scheduled before the Street Naming Committee. All owners/residents along this street affected by the proposed official street name change will be notified of the meeting. The committee will then make its recommendation to the Public Works Committee (PW). Prior to its being scheduled before the PW Committee, the applicant must pay the city the cost to fabricate and install the signs. The PW Committee will make its recommendation to the Common Council. The applicant will be notified of the Common Council's action.

5. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT:

My application consists of the following items necessary to a complete the application. Please check:

- [X] \$100 fee (check made payable to "City Treasurer")
[] Completed Application Form
[] Autobiography or statement regarding the person, place, or event being considered for an official street name change

Submit your application to the City Clerk, 200 East Wells St, Room 205

Signature Kim Robinson Date 10-12-2020
Printed Name Kim A. Robinson

Fire Department Narrative **Alonzo Robinson (513 words)**

Alonzo Robinson has the distinction of being the first Black to become a licensed and registered architect with the State of Wisconsin and for quite a while, he was the only registered African American architect in the state. At the age of 33, Robinson, who at the time worked as an architectural designer in Milwaukee's Bureau of Bridges and Buildings, earned a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C. Robinson and his wife had four children—the eldest, Wayne, followed in his father's footsteps and was once a designer for the Kohler Company. Another son, Kim, is a retired Milwaukee Police Officer.

Robinson became fascinated with architecture at an early age, after discovering that he liked working with his hands. His background in art, with pencil sketching, ceramics, math, calculus, and engineering helped him pursue a degree in architecture during a time when the architecture was not very popular on college campuses—particularly among African Americans.

Robinson is credited with designing many buildings throughout Milwaukee County, among them: the Polish Association of America on Oklahoma Avenue, the Milwaukee Fire Department Headquarters, the North Side YWCA, the Doyne Park Shelter house, a new sixth-floor courtroom in the Courthouse, Multi-Use Center, the Milwaukee County Courthouse Cafeteria remodel, the Community Correctional Center, Dining Room remodel, and most notably, the only Black-owned and operated business complex in the United States—the Central City Plaza located on N. 6th and West Walnuts Streets which still stands today, after undergoing many transformations. Robinson was one of the original individuals who worked on the initial concept and design of the Central City Plaza. He worked with the Central City Development Corporation's investors which included Milwaukee notables like Kenneth C. Coulter (who served as President of the Central City Development Corporation and was publisher of the Milwaukee Star Newspaper), Felmers Chaney (former Milwaukee police sergeant), Will Sherard (realtor), James H. Gore, Avery Goodrich (former educator and MPS principal), Hurley Jones, Beechie O. Brooks (pioneer realtor) and James Pendleton, from its initial conception into its full development. When it opened, the complex once housed black-owned businesses, a bowling alley, a restaurant, and cocktail lounge, barbershop and a supermarket. Robinson also designed several Milwaukee area churches, including The Church of the Living God, located on North Teutonia Avenue.

A religious man, during one interview Robinson likened the history of architecture to the history in the Bible. He said, "When you study it (architecture), you see the reason why many things are done." He traced the history of basilicas, churches and theatres, and the types of material used in their construction to the economy of the period, and their appeal to the masses.

Robinson was also Milwaukee County's Assistant Architect and for a time was affiliated with the construction firm of Dequardo, Robinson and Crouch located in Waukesha.

Very involved in the community, he mentored students interested in drafting and architecture. In 1970, he served as vice president of Northcott Neighborhood House. And, in 1968 he was one of 21 parents who sued the Milwaukee School Board for de facto segregation.