

City of Columbus

Office of City Clerk 90 West Broad Street Columbus OH 43215-9015 columbuscitycouncil.org

Legislation Text

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To Recognize and Congratulate Russell Goodwin for receiving the 2016 Donald R. Hallman LGBT Veterans Recognition Award

WHEREAS, Inspired by his family's long tradition of military service, Russell Goodwin served in the US Navy. He ultimately retired as a 30 year Veteran of the Navy and Naval Reserves; and

WHEREAS, Because of the Don't Ask Don't Tell policy of the United States military, Russell was constantly concerned that his sexual orientation would be revealed and he would be dishonorably discharged; and

WHEREAS, After earning his honorable discharge, Russell became an advocate in the LGBTQ community. He was the first "out" candidate in the history of Ohio to run for Congress. He has served on the board of BRAVO, President of Stonewall Democrats, worked to successfully repeal Don't Ask Don't Tell, and has become a member of the Harmony Project; and

WHEREAS, Russell has organized an LGBTQ US Military "Color Guard" to lead the Columbus Pride Parade every year since 2009 and has done much to re-invigorate Stonewall Columbus' LGBTQ Veterans Program; and

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

That this Council does hereby express its appreciation for Russell Goodwin for his service to his country and the LGBTQ community in Columbus. This Council does hereby congratulate him on receiving the 2016 Donald R. Hallman LGBT Veterans Recognition Award from Stonewall Columbus.