

## **MEMORANDUM**

Agenda Item No. 3(A)(3)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** November 1, 2022

**FROM:** Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution approving the City of  
Miami's codesignation of that  
portion of Northwest 1st Court  
between Northwest 5th Street  
and Northwest 8th Street as  
"Lightbourne Place"

Resolution No. R-1034-22

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Keon Hardemon.



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Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

GBK/jp




# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** November 1, 2022

**FROM:**   
Gen Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 3(A)(3)

Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Statement of social equity required
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☒ No committee review
- ☐ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present \_\_\_\_, 2/3 membership \_\_\_\_, 3/5's \_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) \_\_\_\_ to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 3(A)(3)  
11-1-22

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ R-1034-22

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY OF MIAMI'S  
CODESIGNATION OF THAT PORTION OF NORTHWEST 1ST  
COURT BETWEEN NORTHWEST 5TH STREET AND  
NORTHWEST 8TH STREET AS "LIGHTBOURNE PLACE"

**WHEREAS**, on September 13, 2022, the Commission of the City of Miami (the "City") adopted Resolution No. R-22-0332, codesignating that portion of Northwest 1st Court between Northwest 5th Street and Northwest 8th Street in the City as "Lightbourne Place"; and

**WHEREAS**, a copy of Resolution No. R-22-0332 is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

**WHEREAS**, Alexander C. Lightbourne ("Lightbourne") was a Miami pioneer who was significant to the development of the City and lived at the area once known as 520 Northwest 4th Street, Miami, Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1896, Florida law required a minimum of 300 registered voters for a city to be incorporated; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Miami was incorporated with 444 citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, Lightbourne was one of the 162 black men who voted for the City's incorporation and his name appears in the incorporation papers; and

**WHEREAS**, but for these votes, including Lightbourne's, the City would perhaps not have existed; and

**WHEREAS**, in March 1896, Lightbourne founded the Greater Bethel African Methodist Episcopal ("AME") Church in his home; and

**WHEREAS**, being a schoolteacher, Lightbourne played a critical role in ensuring that the African American children of Miami were provided with access to education, imploring the City's Commission to provide funding for African American children, and serving as the school superintendent for the African American school; and

**WHEREAS**, Lightbourne, a Bahamian native, first arrived in the United States in 1866 and made his way to Tallahassee; and

**WHEREAS**, Lightbourne worked as a teacher with the Freed Men's Bureau, became an active member in the Republican Party, and was elected as Sergeant at Arms in the Florida Legislature in 1869; and

**WHEREAS**, it was during this time that Lightbourne caught the attention of then Governor Harrison Reed, who appointed Lightbourne as a Justice of the Peace in 1871 for Gadsden County, where he also sat on the Board of Commissioners, became trustee of Quincy AME church, and worked as a teacher; and

**WHEREAS**, Lightbourne also worked for the Railway Mail Service before moving to Jacksonville in 1885 and becoming master workman for the Knights of Labor Union; and

**WHEREAS**, Lightbourne moved further down the east Florida coastline until he made his way to Miami in the spring of 1896; and

**WHEREAS**, while in Miami, Lightbourne was active in the Republican Party serving as a local party chairman; and

**WHEREAS**, Lightbourne remained active in the church, politics, and education up to his death in 1908; and

**WHEREAS**, Lightbourne is buried in the Miami City Cemetery; and

**WHEREAS**, in February 2021, the City Commission paid honor to Lightbourne's contributions during their commission meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, in March 2021, the Greater Bethel AME church also honored Lightbourne during their 125th anniversary; and

**WHEREAS**, there is one building in Overtown, on the grounds of the Greater Bethel AME church, that pays homage to Lightbourne's many contributions to the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the City would like the County to install signage indicating this codesignation on County street signs and traffic signal masts arms; and

**WHEREAS**, Northwest 1st Court from Northwest 5th Street to Northwest 8th Street is a City-maintained road located in the City; and

**WHEREAS**, this codesignation is located in County Commission District 3; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board would also like to honor Lightbourne by approving the City's codesignation of that portion of Northwest 1st Court between Northwest 5th Street and Northwest 8th Street, Miami, Florida as "Lightbourne Place",

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that this Board:

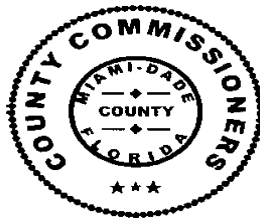
**Section 1.** Approves the City of Miami's codesignation of that portion of Northwest 1st Court between Northwest 5th Street and Northwest 8th Street as "Lightbourne Place".

**Section 2.** Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Miami, the United States Postal Service, the Traffic Signals and Signs Division of the Department of Transportation and Public Works, the Development Services Division of the Regulatory and Economic Resources Department, the City of Miami Fire Rescue Department, and the City of Miami Police Department.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Keon Hardemon. It was offered by Commissioner **Sally A. Heyman**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman	<b>aye</b>		
Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Vice-Chairman	<b>aye</b>		
Sen. René García	<b>aye</b>	Keon Hardemon	<b>aye</b>
Sally A. Heyman	<b>aye</b>	Danielle Cohen Higgins	<b>aye</b>
Eileen Higgins	<b>aye</b>	Kionne L. McGhee	<b>aye</b>
Jean Monestime	<b>aye</b>	Raquel A. Regalado	<b>aye</b>
Rebeca Sosa	<b>aye</b>	Sen. Javier D. Souto	<b>aye</b>

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 1<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2022. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

**Basia Pruna**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.

D.P.C

Dale P. Clarke



# City of Miami

## Resolution R-22-0332

City Hall  
3500 Pan American Drive  
Miami, FL 33133  
www.miamigov.com

### Legislation

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**File Number: 12444**

**Final Action Date: 9/13/2022**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI CITY COMMISSION CODESIGNATING NORTHWEST 1ST COURT BETWEEN NORTHWEST 5TH STREET AND 8TH STREET MIAMI, FLORIDA, AS "LIGHTBOURNE PLACE"; FURTHER DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE HEREIN DESIGNATED OFFICES.

**SPONSOR(S): Mayor Francis X. Suarez, Commissioner Christine King**

WHEREAS, Alexander C. Lightbourne ("Lightbourne"), a Miami pioneer who was significant to the development of early Miami and lived at this area once known as 520 Northwest 4th Street, Miami, Florida; and

WHEREAS, in 1896 Florida State law required a minimum of 300 registered voters for a city's incorporation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami ("City") was incorporated with 444 citizens; and

WHEREAS, Lightbourne was one of the 162 black men who voted for the incorporation of Miami to become a city and whose name appears in the incorporation papers; and

WHEREAS, Lightbourne is noted by another Miami pioneer, Isidore Cohen as giving the most significant speech at the incorporation meeting of the city on July 28th, 1896; and

WHEREAS, but not for him and these men, Miami would not have existed; and

WHEREAS, Greater Bethel African Methodist Episcopal ("AME") church, a church having the distinction of being older than the City, was founded by Lightbourne in March of 1896 in his home; and

WHEREAS, being a schoolteacher, Lightbourne played a critical role in ensuring that the African American children of Miami were provided with access to education, imploring the City's Commission to provide funding for African American children, and serving as the school superintendent for the African American school; and

WHEREAS, before he moved to Miami, the very young Bahamian native first arrived in the United States in 1866 and made his way to Tallahassee; and

WHEREAS, Lightbourne worked as a teacher with the Freed Men's Bureau, became an active member in the Republican Party, and was elected as Sergeant at Arms in the Florida Legislature in 1869; and

WHEREAS, it was during this time that Lightbourne caught the attention of then Governor Harrison Reed, who appointed Lightbourne as a Justice of the Peace in 1871 for

Gadsden County, where he also sat on the Board of Commissioners, became trustee of Quincy AME church, and worked as a teacher; and

WHEREAS, Lightbourne also worked for the Railway Mail Service before moving to Jacksonville in 1885 and became master workman for the Knights of Labor Union; and

WHEREAS, Lightbourne moved further down the east Florida coastline until he made his way to Miami in the spring of 1896; and

WHEREAS, while in Miami Lightbourne was active in the Republican Party serving as a local party chairman; and

WHEREAS, Lightbourne remained active in the church, politics, and education up to his death in 1908. He is buried in the Miami City Cemetery; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Commission paid honor to Lightbourne's contributions during their commission meeting in February 2021, and the Greater Bethel AME church did the same during their 125th anniversary in March of the same year; and

WHEREAS, there is one building in Overtown, on the grounds of the Greater Bethel AME church, that pays homage to Lightbourne's many contributions to City; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission wishes to honor Alexander C. Lightbourne's numerous contributions to the city by co-designating Northwest 1<sup>st</sup> Court between Northwest 5<sup>th</sup> Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Miami, Florida, as "Lightbourne Place";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA:

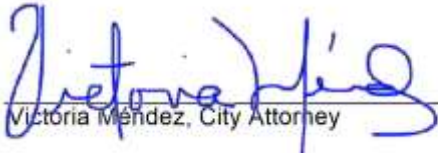
Section 1. The recitals and finding contained in the Preamble to this Resolution are adopted by reference and incorporated as if fully set forth in this Section.

Section 2. The City Commission hereby co-designates that portion of Northwest 1<sup>st</sup> Court between Northwest 5<sup>th</sup> Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Miami, Florida as "Lightbourne Place".

Section 3. The City Clerk is directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Departments of Police, Fire-Rescue, Solid Waste, the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works, the United States Postal Service, and, if a State of Florida road, to the Florida Department of Transportation, District Six Secretary for sign installation within the newly designated roadways.

Section 4. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS:

  
Victoria Méndez, City Attorney 8/26/2022