

City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia
Office of the Chief Clerk
Room 402, City Hall
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 250824)

RESOLUTION

Recognizing and honoring the life and legacy of Alice W. Ballard, a champion of justice and advocacy.

WHEREAS, Alice W. Ballard, a celebrated worker right attorney, passed away in September 2025, leaving behind a legacy of justice, compassion, and civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, Born in Philadelphia, Alice Ballard spent most of her life in the neighborhoods of Chestnut Hill, Mount Airy, and East Falls, embodying the spirit and resilience of our City; and

WHEREAS, She earned her law degree from Harvard University in 1973 during a time when female attorneys were rare, breaking barriers to become a leading voice for workers' rights, civil rights, and women's rights for over five decades; and

WHEREAS, Attorney Ballard's exemplary legal career included landmark cases such as representing workers in a class discrimination suit against U.S. Steel, advocating for whistleblowers against the School District of Philadelphia, and fighting discrimination in cases involving Major League Baseball umpires and KYW-TV news; and

WHEREAS, Beyond her legal achievements, Alice enriched the cultural life of Philadelphia through her talent as a cellist and choral singer, sharing her love of music with organizations such as the Singing City Choir, the Choral Arts Society, and the Chestnut Hill Orchestra; and

WHEREAS, Alice Ballard's commitment to justice extended beyond the courtroom through her volunteerism, voter registration efforts, community cleanups, and her thoughtful blog which celebrated the dignity and artistry of work and workers; and

WHEREAS, As a trailblazer who confronted discrimination and inequality with fierce dedication and extraordinary intellect, Alice Ballard inspired generations of women, lawyers, musicians, and Philadelphians to pursue their dreams with courage and compassion; and

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WHEREAS, Alice Ballard's family and friends remember her as a source of unconditional support, love, and joy, a woman who embodied the ideals of perseverance, kindness, and service to others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, Honors and celebrates the life and legacy of Alice W. Ballard, recognizing her invaluable contributions to the law, civil rights, women's equality, the arts, and the Philadelphia community.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Resolution be presented to her family as a token of the City's deep appreciation for her remarkable life and enduring impact.

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CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the twenty-fifth day of September, 2025.

Kenyatta Johnson
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Elizabeth McCollum
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Bass

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Bass, Phillips, Jones, Landau, Lozada, Young, Brooks, Harrity, O'Rourke, Driscoll, O'Neill, Squilla and Ahmad