



City of Philadelphia

City Council
Chief Clerk's Office
402 City Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19107

RESOLUTION NO. 250586

Introduced May 29, 2025

Councilmember Young

RESOLUTION

Also naming the 1500 block of Girard Avenue as “Alphonso Deal Way.”

WHEREAS, Alphonso Deal was born on April 15, 1923 in Watertown, Columbia County, Florida to Robert and Sammie Alexander, and moved to East Mt. Airy in Northwest Philadelphia in 1983; and

WHEREAS, Deal attended the Fels Institute of Government at the University of Pennsylvania before joining the United States Army and achieving the rank of Sergeant during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Deal joined the Philadelphia Police Department in 1954 and was a police officer for nearly 25 years; and

WHEREAS, In 1956, Deal founded the Guardian Civic League, a chapter of the National Black Police Association, to bring together members of the Philadelphia Police Department with civic minded citizens to create close cooperation between the police and the communities in which they served; and

WHEREAS, Deal was known for challenging racial issues citywide, especially the accusations of police brutality associated with then-Mayor Frank L. Rizzo, with his “Action Branch” based in Northern Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, Deal was elected as a Democrat to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for the 1981 term and served 3 consecutive terms thereafter; and

WHEREAS, Deal was appointed to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and the Select Committee to Investigate the Pennsylvania State Police; and

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RESOLUTION NO. 250586 continued

WHEREAS, Deal is credited as one of the key individuals who saved Philadelphia's NAACP chapter; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That the 1500 block of Girard Avenue shall be also named as "Alphonso Deal Way."

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this Resolution be presented to the Guardian Civic League as evidence of the true and sincere admiration and respect of this legislative body.