

PRESS RELEASE

| <u>DATE</u> | Tuesday, July 16, 2019 |
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| FROM: | Kareemah Fowler, City Clerk |
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Resignation of City Clerk Kareemah Fowler

I'd like to thank the residents of South Bend and all who have supported me for their vote of confidence in 2015, by electing South Bend's 22nd City Clerk and first minority to seat a full-time executive office and giving me the opportunity to serve in the community I love, for which I'm humbled and honored.

I'd like to thank the mayor and his administration, each and every one of my common council colleagues and last but not least my amazing staff for trusting me to lead and fill our mission of open, transparent and checked government. The City Clerk's office has accomplished much, including the implementation of Parking Ticket Amnesty Day, a Special Event Parking Map, the digitization of all City records from 1865 to present day, and the use of a digital application and tracking system for Council Standing Committees, Boards and Commissions.

But, more importantly what we've all been able to accomplish together collectively during my tenure as Clerk this term for our citizens has made this the most rewarding job I've held.

This decision did not come easy, with careful thought and consideration with my family, I have accepted an offer for an opportunity to serve the community in a different capacity. As a graduate of Riley High School, I'm honored to serve the South Bend Schools. The local schools are the heart of our communities and our children are the guide to the trajectory of our economic future.

Therefore, I respectfully submit/announce my resignation as South Bend City Clerk, effective Aug. 1st, 2019. Going forward, I will be assisting The Office of the City Clerk and Common Council. My goal will be to facilitate the operations of the office as smoothly and efficiently as possible. All questions regarding the Democratic caucus, replacement and vacancy etc. should be addressed to the party chairman.

"Kareemah Fowler has been a dedicated public servant for long as I've known her and her historic service as City Clerk has set a high bar for whoever comes next. I was proud to support her for Clerk, and now wish her well in this new opportunity to serve children and families in South Bend" -Mayor Pete Buttigieg

Again, it has truly been a privilege and honor to serve the South Bend Community at-Large, South Bend City Clerk, Kareemah Fowler.

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