

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 07-0839
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Young, D'Adamo, Kraft, Middleton, Mitchell, Holton, Welch,
Crider, Clarke

Introduced and read first time: October 29, 2007

Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Planning Commission, Fire
Department, Department of Real Estate

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **City Property – Renaming the Old Town Fire Station to the**
3 **Chief Thomas J. Burke Fire Station**

4 FOR the purpose of changing the name of the Old Town Fire Station, located at 1100 Hillen
5 Street, to the Chief Thomas J. Burke Fire Station.

6 BY authority of

7 Article 5 - Finance, Property, and Procurement
8 Section 20-2
9 Baltimore City Code
10 (Edition 2000)

11 **Recitals**

12 Thomas J. Burke, Chief of the Fire Department from 1972 until his retirement in
13 1980, served the City of Baltimore with distinction and honor. A native
14 Baltimorean, in 1947, he was appointed to the Fire Department and assigned to
15 Engine 46. He steadily rose through the ranks, earning promotions to Lieutenant,
16 in 1954, to Captain, in 1956, to Battalion Chief, in 1967, and to Deputy Fire
17 Chief, in 1971.

18 During his tenure with the Fire Department, he won plaudits from elected officials
19 and community associations and won the respect and admiration of Department
20 members. He worked hard to upgrade the Department's fleet of apparatus and
21 protective equipment, to improve training, and to institute safety and health
22 programs for fire fighters.

23 During his career, Chief Burke won 3 commendations for bravery. Considered a
24 national expert on fire prevention and code enforcement, he re-wrote fire codes in
25 the City and instituted early fire prevention programs that served as templates for
26 similar efforts across the nation. His innovations and commitment to fire safety
27 and prevention are an enduring legacy that continues to this day.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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1 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
2 name of the Old Town Fire Station, located at 1100 Hillen Street, is changed to the Chief
3 Thomas J. Burke Fire Station.

4 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day
5 after the date it is enacted.