

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 11-0744
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Conaway, Branch, Kraft, D’Adamo, Reisinger, Welch, Clarke,
Cole, Curran, Henry

Introduced and read first time: July 18, 2011

Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Planning Commission, Department of
Real Estate, Department of Recreation and Parks

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **City Property – Renaming Hanlon Park to William and Victorine Adams - Hanlon Park**

3 FOR the purpose of changing the name of Hanlon Park, located at 2610-2650 North Dukeland
4 Street, to William and Victorine Adams - Hanlon Park.

5 BY authority of

6 Article 5 - Finance, Property, and Procurement

7 Section 20-2

8 Baltimore City Code

9 (Edition 2000)

10 **Recitals**

11 The city that is Baltimore today owes a great deal to the contributions of William
12 and Victorine Adams. Victorine Q. Adams, born in Baltimore, was a pioneer in
13 African American politics and a civic leader, whose efforts to open up
14 participation by citizens previously excluded in the electoral process resulted in
15 major change. A former City school teacher, during the 1940’s, she founded the
16 Colored Women’s Democratic Campaign Committee, an organization that
17 supported candidates who were sympathetic to minority issues, and, in 1954, this
18 organization achieved a landmark victory when Judge Harry A. Cole won a state
19 Senate seat over the white candidate backed by an entrenched political machine.
20 In 1966, she was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates and later to the
21 Baltimore City Council where she served her constituents for 16 years. Among
22 her accomplishments was her work with the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company
23 to establish the Baltimore Fuel Fund, now the Victorine Q. Adams Fuel Fund,
24 which was dedicated to helping low income families with their energy needs. She
25 was a tireless worker for civil rights, and her contributions have made Baltimore
26 City a better place for its citizens.

27 Just as his wife worked hard to open up the political process for those who had
28 been excluded because of their race, William Lloyd Adams worked hard to open
29 up the business environment for African Americans, who had been denied the
30 financial assistance necessary to succeed in the larger business community. A

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

Council Bill 11-0744

1 successful businessman himself, he encouraged and lent money to people who
2 found it difficult to receive loans or credit from local lending sources. Said his
3 friend Larry Gibson, "I used to call him the Small Business Administration." One
4 such business to which he provided financial help was the Parks Sausage
5 Company, which, in 1969, became one of the first black-owned companies to
6 trade publicly on Wall Street. Together, he and his wife established The William
7 L. and Victorine Q. Adams Foundation, which helps city students to attend
8 college and study business. They understood the importance of economic
9 development to the community.

10 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
11 name of Hanlon Park, located at 2610-2650 North Dukeland Street, is changed to William and
12 Victorine Adams - Hanlon Park.

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