

0-1

**ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY OF ESSEX COUNTY**

**ORDINANCE NO. 0-2024-00001 AUTHORITY FOR ORDINANCE: N.J.S.A. 40A:41A-38(G)**

**PROPOSED BY: COUNTY EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY FOR ACTION: E.C.A.C. 2-11(M)  
AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS E.C.A.C. 2-39I**

**ORDINANCE NAMING THE NEW TECHNOLOGY ROOM AT THE ESSEX COUNTY ONE-STOP CENTER AS THE 'ESSEX COUNTY SAMUEL OKPARAEKE CAREER EXPLORATION AND TECHNOLOGY ROOM' IN HONOR OF THE LATE SAMUEL OKPARAEKE**

**WHEREAS**, The Essex County Board of County Commissioners is vested with the exclusive power to name county buildings, roads and other facilities by ordinance and

**Whereas**, The Essex County Executive, having received a request from the employees of the Essex County Division of Employment and Training and the Essex County Workforce Development Board, is presenting a proposal to name the Technology Room at the Essex County One-Stop Career Center, 50 South Clinton Street, East Orange, as the "Essex County Samuel Okparaeke Career Exploration and Technology Room" in honor of the late Samuel Okparaeke; and

**WHEREAS**, The Essex County Division of Economic Development and Training and the Essex County Workforce Development Board work cooperatively to create and implement training programs or link clients to community based organizations that offer training programs to prepare clients to enter or re-enter the workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, The Essex County Division of Economic Development and Training and Essex County Workforce Development Board repurposed office space and modernized the area to create a Technology Room where clients could access the latest computers and technology to overcome any obstacles to employment and prepare themselves for the workforce, create resumes, conduct job searches, engage in interviews or whatever other preparation is needed; and

**WHEREAS**, Samuel Okparaeke dedicated his life to public service and assisting those in need, beginning his professional career as a social service worker and case

manager for several medical and community-based organizations before joining the Essex County family in 2000; and

**WHEREAS**, Samuel Okparaeké started his career as a Senior Program Analyst with the Department of Economic Development, Training and Employment. He took on additional responsibilities and assumed new roles, working his way up through the department. In 2005, his hard work ethic, leadership skills and commitment to helping others was recognized and he was promoted to Director of the Division of Employment and Training; and

**WHEREAS**, Samuel Okparaeké, as Director of the Division of Training and Employment and later serving in the dual capacity as Executive Director of the Essex County Workforce Development Board, was responsible for preparing Essex residents to enter the workforce, prepare for new careers, and identify and provide training for emerging professions. In this role, Sam touched tens of thousands of lives, helping people restart their careers, become independent and regain their dignity; and

**WHEREAS**, Samuel Okparaeké also served as the Director of the Office of Small Business Development and Affirmative Action; and

**WHEREAS**, Samuel Okparaeké passed away suddenly on December 24, 2020. His family, friends and co-workers remember Sam for his humility, compassion, diligence and his overwhelming desire to lift those around him.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ESSEX** as follows:

1. That the Technology Room at the Essex County One-Stop Career Center, 50 South Clinton Street, East Orange, be named as the "Essex County Samuel Okparaeké Career Exploration and Technology Room" in honor of the late Samuel Okparaeké.
2. That a public hearing on this Ordinance shall be held on February 7, 2024, at 7:00p.m. at the Hall of Records, Room, 506, 465 DR. Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd., Newark, NJ.

3. That the Clerk of the Board shall publish and post notice of this Ordinance as required by N.J.S.A. 40:41A-142.
4. That this Ordinance shall take effect at the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
5. That upon adoption, copies of this Ordinance shall be forwarded to Commissioner President Carlos M. Pomares, Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr., Essex County Administrator Robert Jackson, Essex County Public Works Director Sanjeev Varghese, Essex County Department of Economic Development, Training and Employment Director Anibal Ramos and the family of Samuel Okparaeke.

Approved as to form and legality

  
ESSEX COUNTY COUNSEL

**RECORD OF VOTE: X=Vote N.V.=Abstention ABS=Absent**

**FIRST READING**

Moved by Commissioner Copper  
Seconded by Commissioner Richardson

**SECOND READING**

Moved by Commissioner Cooper  
Seconded by Commissioner Graham

Commissioner	Yes	No	N.V.	ABS	Commissioner	Yes	No	N.V.	ABS
COOPER, V.P.	✓				COOPER, V.P.	✓			
GILL	✓				GILL	✓			
GRAHAM					GRAHAM	✓			
LUCIANO	✓				LUCIANO				
MERCADO	✓				MERCADO	✓			✓
MURRAY-THOMAS	✓				MURRAY-THOMAS	✓			
POMARES, President	✓				POMARES, President	✓			
RICHARDSON	✓				RICHARDSON	✓			
SEBOLD	✓				SEBOLD	✓			

Date Mailed to Municipal Clerks 1-18-24  
Date Public Hearing 2-7-24  
Date Published 1-23-24

Date Mailed to Municipal Clerks 2-16-24  
Date Published 2-21-24

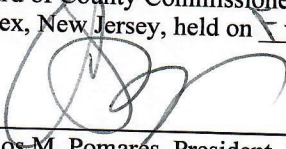
It is hereby certified that the foregoing Ordinance was

adopted ( ) defeated ( ) tabled by roll call vote at Regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Essex, New Jersey, held on 2/17/24

  
Carlos M. Pomares, President

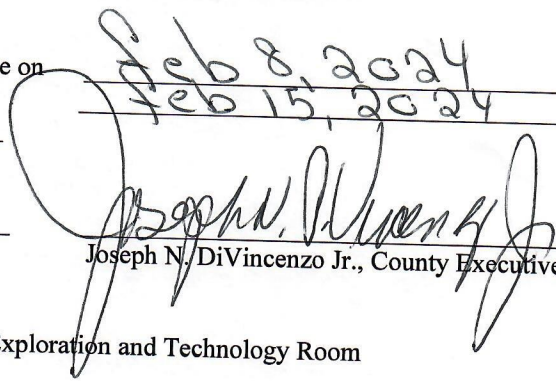
It is hereby certified that the foregoing Ordinance

was  adopted ( ) defeated ( ) tabled by roll call vote at Regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Essex, New Jersey, held on Feb 7, 2024

  
Carlos M. Pomares, President

The foregoing Ordinance has been duly presented to me on Feb 8, 2024  
I hereby  approve  disapprove the same on Feb 15, 2024  
Returned and filed

Deborah Davis Ford, Clerk

  
Joseph N. DiVincenzo Jr., County Executive