



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

April 21, 2016

Lou Chibbaro, Jr.
Senior News Reporter
The Washington Blade
PO Box 53352
Washington, DC 20009
lchibbaro@washblade.com

RE: Honoring Lou Chibbaro, Jr. at the 2016 Capital Pride Parade

Dear Mr. Chibbaro,

At its regular meeting on April 13, 2016, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With 7 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (7-0-0):

WHEREAS, Lou Chibbaro, Jr. began writing for the Washington Blade in 1976, working at first as a volunteer,

WHEREAS, Lou initially published under the pseudonym Lou Romano because, at the time, it was generally acknowledged that journalism careers could be ruined by an association with a gay newspaper,

WHEREAS, Lou dropped the pseudonym after covering the 1978 Cinema Follies fire, in which nine men tragically died, an event that drove home to him the dangers of leading a double life,

WHEREAS, Lou became a paid staff member in 1984, but the pay was such that, in those early days, he had to supplement his income by working as a cab driver for the Red Top Cab Company,

WHEREAS, Lou has spent forty years chronicling gay life in Washington and nationwide, and the struggle for full equality,

WHEREAS, Lou has covered such wide-ranging stories as the AIDS epidemic, political protests and marches, scandals, murders, efforts to strike down anti-gay laws, the fight to achieve marriage equality, and hundreds of other topics,

WHEREAS, Lou Chibbaro, Jr. has held himself to the highest standards of professional journalism, having been inducted into the Society of Professional Journalists Washington Pro Hall of Fame, alongside such icons as Helen Thomas, Bob Plante, Andrea Mitchell, and Bob Woodward, and

WHEREAS, Lou has played a vital role in the struggle for full equality through his work, ensuring that stories vital to the LGBT community were fairly and professionally reported, even at times when the mainstream media downplayed those issues.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dupont Circle ANC 2B congratulates Lou for 40 years of service to the Washington Blade, and formally extends an invitation to Lou Chibbaro Jr. to be our Guest of Honor during the 2016 Capital Pride Parade.

Commissioners Mike Silverstein (mike.silverstein@dupontcircleanc.net) and Nicole Mann (nicole.mann@dupontcircleanc.net) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nicole Mann
Chair