

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

VICE CHAIR

• Zoning, Neighborhoods, and Development

MEMBER

• Community and Economic Development
• Licenses



KHALIF J. RAINEY

ALDERMAN, 7TH DISTRICT

A titan no longer with us

Statement on Vel Phillips from Alderman Khalif J. Rainey

April 18, 2018

My condolences go out to the family of Vel Phillips, a woman who transcended the challenges she faced, paving the way for many African-Americans, including myself, to be elected into office.

Vel Phillips was an inspiration. I had the good fortune of meeting Ms. Phillips while serving on the Milwaukee Community Brainstorming Executive Board. Like countless others, for the time I knew her I learned from her. Like countless others, I was inspired by her actions going back to my earliest childhood.

Vel Phillips was a titan in the community. From law school to being elected into statewide office, virtually every chapter in her life involved being the first woman, the first person of color, or in some instances both, to occupy those institutions.

Vel Phillips was the most powerful African-American that Wisconsin has ever seen. One can only be inspired when looking at photographs of her standing alongside Father Groppi or John F. Kennedy. Let us use that inspiration as we continue to make change while honoring her legacy.