

**03-O-26  
ORDINANCE**

**Sponsored by**

**THE HONORABLE ROBERTO MALDONADO, JOSEPH MARIO MORENO AND  
PRESIDENT JOHN H. STROGER, JR., COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**Co-Sponsored by**

**THE HONORABLE DEBORAH SIMS, MIKE QUIGLEY, ANTHONY J. PERAICA,  
FORREST CLAYPOOL, PETER N. SILVESTRI, BOBBIE L. STEELE,  
LARRY SUFFREDIN, EARLEAN COLLINS, JOHN P. DALEY AND  
JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY, COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**WHEREAS, the County of Cook is a home rule unit of government pursuant to the 1970 Illinois Constitution; and**

**WHEREAS,** pursuant to its home rule power, the Board of Commissioners of Cook County may exercise any power and perform any function relating to its government and affairs including protecting the public health, welfare and safety of its citizens; and

**WHEREAS,** there are many Latino immigrants residing in Cook County who do not possess a form of identification issued by a federal or state government agency; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Chicago, the County of Cook, and many other public and private entities, currently recognize an identification card issued by the Mexican Consulate, known as a *Matricula Consular*, as a legal form of identification; and

**WHEREAS,** the Mexican Consulate requires sufficient confirmation of a person's identity before issuing a *Matricula Consular* card and the card contains several security features designed to prevent falsification; and

**WHEREAS,** Cook County should also recognize the *Matricula Consular* cards of other Latin American consulates who create an identification system that meets the high standards of security established by the Mexican Consulate; and

**WHEREAS,** the acceptance of *Matricula Consular* cards as valid forms of identification increases our sense of security and our ability to protect the public health and safety of all of the residents of Cook County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY:**

**Section 1.** The *Matricula Consular Ordinance*, (02-O-28), amending Chapter 5, Departments and Agencies, General Provisions, of the Ordinances & Resolutions of Cook County is hereby amended by inserting the language underscored as follows:

## CHAPTER 5-4 IDENTIFICATION CARDS

(a) Recognition of Matricula Consular as valid identification. When requiring members of the public to provide identification, each County department shall accept as valid identification of the person a “Matricula Consular” identification card issued by the Mexican Consulate.

(b) Recognition of other Matricula Consular as valid identification. When requiring members of the public to provide identification, each County department shall accept as valid identification of the person a “Matricula Consular” identification card issued by any other Latin American country that is represented by a consulate office in Cook County, to its citizens or nationals if the issuing country’s consulate has certified to the County that the identification card meets the following security requirements:

- (i) The issuing country authorizes the use of the card as an alternative to a passport for re-entry into the issuing country; and
- (ii) the card holder was required to provide proof of identity, nationality, and address in order to obtain the card; and
- (iii) the card has a photograph of the person, ~~and~~ the person’s date of birth ~~and~~ the person’s current local address; and
- (iv) the card has physical security features reasonably designed to protect against fraud and counterfeit reproduction, including the use of bonded paper, lamination, a hologram, an embedded signature of the issuing officer, and serialization.

(c) The Chief Administrative Officer (“Officer”) shall develop procedures and compile and make available to the Board of Commissioners and County departments a list of the identification cards and the issuing countries that have certified to the Officer that their identification card ~~have been determined to~~ meets the requirements of this section.

(d) The requirements of this section do not apply under circumstances where (1) a federal or state statute, administrative regulation or directive, or court decision requires the County to obtain different identification, (2) a federal or state statute or administrative regulation or directive preempts local regulation of identification requirements, or (3) the County would be unable to comply with a condition imposed by a funding source, which would cause the County to lose funds from that source.

(e) Nothing in this section is intended to prohibit the County department from (1) asking for additional information from individuals in order to verify a current address or other facts that would enable the department to fulfill its responsibilities, except that this section does not permit the department to require additional information solely because the Matricula Consular is the form of identification presented, (2) using fingerprints for identification purposes under circumstances where the department also requires fingerprints from persons who have a driver’s license or State identification card.

**Section 2.** This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Approved and adopted this 7th day of October 2003.