PRESS RELEASE

Ukrainian community Commemorates the 1932-1933 Great Famine Holodomor - Genocide (Death by Starvation) and Protests Against the Russian Genocide in Ukraine in 2022

November 26, 2022 6:00 pm Protest at Water Tower 7:00 pm Requiem Service Holy Name Cathedral

(Chicago) The Consulate General of Ukraine in Chicago, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America-Illinois Division, the Ukrainian Genocide Famine Foundation-USA, Inc. and the Holodomor Descendants Network call upon all people of good will to join the united Ukrainian-American community of Illinois on November 26 to participate in the Requiem Service at Holy Name Cathedral to honor the memory of the millions who died during the Genocide known as "Holodomor", (death by starvation), and to protest against the intentional killing of civilians and destruction of infrastructure during the current Russian unprovoked barbaric war against Ukraine. See details above.

In 1932-33 the Soviet totalitarian regime engineered an intentional famine in Ukraine that resulted in millions of deaths from starvation, as a means to subjugate a nation resisting Soviet rule. That Great Famine, known to Ukrainians as "Holodomor", which means "death by starvation", is commemorated by Ukrainians throughout the world each year. This year marks the 89th anniversary of that national tragedy. At the height of the Holodomor, Ukrainians died at the rate of 28,000 a day, a third of them children. While the Soviet Union continued to export Ukrainian grain to the world, millions of Ukrainians died of hunger in the breadbasket of Europe during a period of abundant harvest.

Many countries recognized the Great Famine Holodomor as genocide. Under the 1948 Genocide Convention, "genocide" requires both genocidal intent "intent to destroy, in whole or in part" and acts carried out to destroy "a national, ethnic, racial or religious group" with that intent.

As we approach the 90th commemorative year of the Holodomor-Genocide, Russian continued obsession against Ukraine advances its murderous policy in a strategy of organized killings against the people and the land. War crimes, including mass murders by Russian Armed Forces against civilians, torture, executions, rape, looting, stealing of food as they did in 1932-33, and summary executions against civilians have been recorded by major international human rights organizations such as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and the United Nations.

After the Bucha massacre, which was repeated in many other towns, villages and cities, it became evident to the world that the crimes committed are not isolated incidents and are part of a pattern and intent to deliberately kill members of an ethnic group calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part and impose rapes and measures intended to prevent births within the group – the Ukrainians, and forcibly transferring large numbers of children from Ukraine to Russia. The intentional destruction of infrastructure including electricity, power and water supplies, and the prevention of humanitarian aid to victims is further proof of the systematic genocide by Russia against the people of Ukraine.

The united Ukrainian-American community calls upon the United States government to hold the Russian government and its accomplices to account for their horrifying atrocities, their war crimes, crimes against humanity, and the intentional genocide against Ukraine and its people. "We call upon the president of the United States to recognize the Holodomor as a Genocide against the Ukrainian nation. We urge the Administration and Congress to deliver committed ammunitions, advanced

military weapons, air defense systems, long range weapons now so that Ukraine can win and end the genocidal war.

Ihor Diaczun, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America Illinois Division, stated, "At this 89th anniversary of the "Holodomor - Genocide", we honor the memory of the millions who died in the 1932-1933 national tragedy, we honor the memory of all who were killed and those who suffered abuses in the current Russian war against Ukraine, and we reaffirm our commitment to support Ukraine in its fight for independence and democracy against Russian terrorism. Ukraine will win this war. Ukraine will fight until total victory.

We remember, unite, and shall overcome.

