



## **White House party planner celebrates 50th in Chicago**

Crain's

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Desiree Rogers let close friends plan her 50th birthday party last week in Washington, D.C., but the official party planner of the White House took things into her own hands when she flew to Chicago for party No. 2.

Last Tuesday, Ms. Rogers was feted in D.C. at Wolfgang Puck's Source restaurant by close pals Neal Zucker, CEO of Corporate Cleaning window service in Chicago, and Marko Iglendza, who owns an airport spa company.

It was a hush-hush affair — though the chatty New York Post found out.

Friends who attended included first lady Michelle Obama, presidential aide Valerie Jarrett and Johnson Publishing Co.'s Linda Johnson Rice.

The president had been expected to attend but wasn't able to at the last minute.

On Saturday, Ms. Rogers threw her own party in Chicago at Fred's in Barney's New York in the Gold Coast. The restaurant closed for the private gathering.

It was a bigger affair than party No. 1, with cocktails on the open patio followed by dinner and music.

Ms. Jarrett and daughter Laura flew in for that event, too.

Others who attended included Fred and Julie Latsko — Mr. Latsko owns the Barney's property, though it's only coincidence that the restaurant is named Fred's.

The Whittakers and Nesbitts, friends of the Obamas, attended, as did old pals James Bell of Boeing and his wife, Mary, philanthropists J. B. and M. K. Pritzker, and real estate exec Quinton Primo and wife Diane.