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Chairman Phil Mendelson

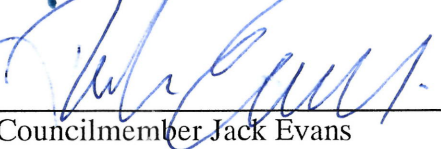
  
Councilmember Yvette M. Alexander

  
Councilmember Anita D. Bonds

  
Councilmember Muriel Bowser


  
Councilmember David A. Catania

  
Councilmember Mary M. Cheh

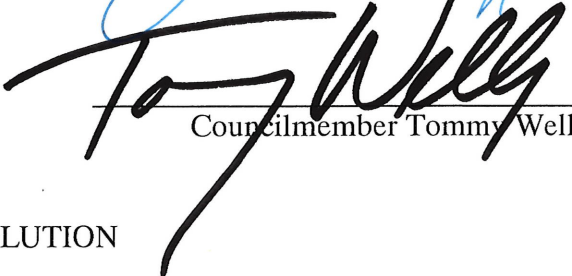
  
Councilmember Jack Evans

  
Councilmember Jim Graham

  
Councilmember David Grosso

  
Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie

  
Councilmember Vincent B. Orange, Sr.

  
Councilmember Tommy Wells

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the sense of the Council that Black Lives Matter.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That  
this resolution may be cited as the "Sense of the Council that Black Lives Matter  
Resolution of 2014".

Sec. 2. The Council finds that:

23 (1) On August 9, 2014, in Ferguson, Missouri, Michael Brown, an 18-year  
24 old unarmed African-American teenager, was fatally shot by Darren Wilson, a white  
25 Ferguson police officer. On November 24, 2014, the prosecutor publicly announced that  
26 the grand jury decided not to indict Darren Wilson.

27 (2) On July 17, 2014, in Staten Island, New York, Eric Garner, a 43-year-  
28 old African-American man, was fatally choked by Daniel Pantaleo, a white New York  
29 City police officer who put him in an illegal chokehold. On December 3, 2014, a Staten  
30 Island grand jury decided not indict Daniel Pantaleo.

31 (3) The deaths of Michael Brown, Eric Garner and the failure of grand  
32 juries to indict have inspired several protests nation-wide as part of a national dialogue.

33 (4) Though violence often begets violence, the best response is the choice  
34 to engage in non-violent problem solving.

35 (5) Peaceful protests and other speech protected by the First Amendment  
36 to the Constitution of the United States must be protected and received with a listening  
37 ear, an open mind, a willing heart, and other resources to effect change.

38 (6) A great measure of courage and resolve are necessary to correct unjust  
39 laws, enhance fairness in our criminal justice system and create a more perfect Union.

40 (7) Our nation continues to struggle with issues of race, bias, racial  
41 prejudice and racism.

42 (8) “Black Lives Matter” is a declaration and movement that has been  
43 embraced by persons from various cities, cultures, socio-economic backgrounds and  
44 races. It is spoken, typed, displayed, and otherwise communicated in recognition of the  
45 historical and cultural context in which recent events have occurred, with the

46 understanding that the lives of people of color in this nation have not been appropriately  
47 valued, to the detriment of their lives and to the harm of this nation as a whole, and with  
48 the hope that this will change.

49           Sec. 3. It is the sense of the Council that “Black Lives Matter,” as do the lives of  
50 all residents of the District of Columbia.

51           Sec. 4. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this  
52 resolution, upon its adoption, to the Mayor.

53           Sec. 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.