

2011 RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE TOWN COUNCIL'S SUPPORT OF THE BIAS INTIMIDATION STATUTE IN NEW JERSEY AND RESOLVING TO TAKE AFFIRMATIVE STEPS TO GUARANTEE ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN THE TOWNSHIP OF BLOOMFIELD

WHEREAS, the Township of Bloomfield wishes to honor the memory of all those who died as a result of the September 11, 2001, attacks; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Bloomfield has among its residents many who were affected by the tragic events of September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Bloomfield believes that it is fitting to honor the memory of all those who died or were injured as a result of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, by both protecting national security and by honoring the fundamental constitutional freedoms and protections guaranteed to all persons living in the United States; and

WHEREAS, "*An America for All of Us*" is a national campaign to mark the 10-year anniversary of September 11, 2001 that seeks to reaffirm a commitment to the fundamental American values of justice and equality for all, to ensure racism, xenophobia and anti-immigrant rhetoric have no place in our society against any community, and the diversity of all communities is embraced; and

WHEREAS, over the past 10 years, a post-9/11 backlash has affected communities of color and immigrant communities. "*An America for All of Us*" aims to reaffirm our unique American strength of bringing people from all communities together in order to build a truly inclusive and fair America; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Bloomfield is a rich and vibrant community that prides itself and draws strength from its very American diversity; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Bloomfield has been and remains committed to the fundamental American values of justice and equality for all, to ensure racism, xenophobia and

RESOLVED AS TO FORM AND PROCEDURE
ON BASIS OF FACTS SET FORTH

Director of Law-Township Attorney

Brian J. Stevens

anti-immigrant rhetoric have no place in our society against any community, and the diversity of all communities is embraced; and

WHEREAS, over the course of years, there has been a history of bias crimes in New Jersey that run contrary to our belief in a fair and equal society, and the Township of Bloomfield is committed to ensuring its residents are free from intimidation, bias and/or subject of a crime based upon race, color, religion, gender, handicap, sexual orientation or ethnicity; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey, in 2002, passed the Bias Intimidation statute, N.J.S.A. 2C:16-1, which affords equal protection to all residents; and

WHEREAS, for the Bias Intimidation statute, to be meaningful, it must be enforced and all incidents of suspected bias crimes must be thoroughly investigated and prosecuted where such crimes have been committed; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Township of Bloomfield hereby expresses its full support, as a governing body, of the implementation and enforcement of the State of New Jersey's Bias Intimidation Statute; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the officers of the Bloomfield Police Department and relevant law enforcement agencies of Township of Bloomfield shall be fully trained in identifying and investigating bias crimes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, where officers of the Bloomfield Police Department have police reports and accounts by a victim indicating the crime may be motivated by bias, those reports shall be submitted for review and handled by a law enforcement officer trained in identifying and investigating bias crimes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the relevant law enforcement agencies of Township of Bloomfield shall gather data on bias crimes reported over a specified period and further make accessible data on the number of bias crimes prosecuted based on these reports and prepare a periodic bias crimes report; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the law enforcement agencies of Township of Bloomfield shall make accessible resources and literature to its residents informing them of their rights under the NJ Bias Intimidation Statute. They shall further outline the relevant department that handles bias crimes and how, where and when the residents can report bias crimes, and the procedure that follows; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, law enforcement agencies of Township of Bloomfield shall engage communities affected by bias crimes through community outreach and consider providing higher protection during periods of anticipated violence or harassment against that community where applicable; and

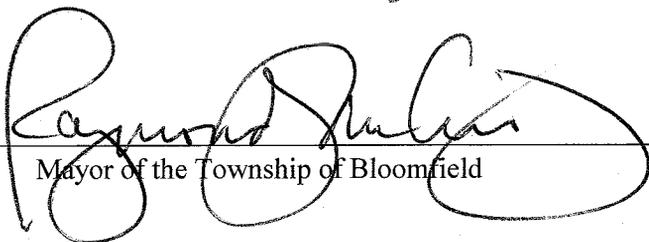
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a certified copy of this Resolution shall be delivered by the City Clerk to the Chief of Police of the Township of Bloomfield.

* * *

I hereby certify that the above resolution was duly adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Bloomfield at a meeting of said Township Council held on September 6, 2011.



Municipal Clerk of the Township of Bloomfield



Mayor of the Township of Bloomfield

ROLL CALL VOTE

MAYOR & COUNCIL	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
COUNCILWOMAN LITTERIO				✓
COUNCILMAN JOANOW	✓			
COUNCILMAN RUANE	✓			
COUNCILMAN VENEZIA	✓			
COUNCILWOMAN DUNIGAN	✓			
COUNCILMAN HAMILTON	✓			
MAYOR McCARTHY	✓			

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