FILE NO. 240509

AMENDED IN BOARD
5/21/2024

RESOLUTION NO. 287-24

[Condemning Racist Threats and Intimidation of the Williams Family]

Resolution condemning racist threats and intimidation of the Williams Family and urging Departments to prioritize investigation and support for the family.

WHEREAS, San Francisco prides itself on its diversity and commitment to racial equity; and

WHEREAS, All San Franciscans deserve to exist free of racist harassment, threats, and intimidation; and

WHEREAS, In 2020, the San Francisco Health Commission declared anti-Black racism as a human rights and public health crisis; and

WHEREAS, In 2023, the San Francisco African American Reparations Advisory Committee wrote in its Reparations Plan, "San Francisco's international reputation as a liberal destination for free thought and uninhibited opportunities is undermined by its legacy of mistreatment, violence towards, and targeted racism against Black Americans"; and

WHEREAS, The Fillmore and Western Addition neighborhoods have been targeted by redevelopment policies, evictions, gentrification, and other racist policies and practices for decades that have displaced thousands of Black residents from their homes and community; and

WHEREAS, On April 26, 2024, Alamo Square resident Terry Williams found a package addressed to him left at his home, and the package contained a Black doll with a noose around its neck, racist written slurs, and a toy grenade; and

WHEREAS, On May 5, 2024, Williams found a second package addressed to him at his home, and the package contained images of the Ku Klux Klan, written racial slurs, and threats; and

WHEREAS, On May 10, 2024, Williams received two pieces of mail addressed to him which contained blatantly racist slurs and symbols; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Police Department has stated that it is investigating the incidents as hate crimes; and

WHEREAS, Neighbors and community leaders have shown their support for Williams and his family, collecting video surveillance from neighbors, fundraising for a security system at the residence, contacting City leaders, and staging a rally calling for this case to be solved and the family protected from further harassment; and

WHEREAS, Over two weeks after the first incident, and notwithstanding the pattern of racial terror threats against Williams and his family, no arrests have been made; and

WHEREAS, These incidents have caused extreme distress to Williams and his family, as well as other Black community members and neighbors; and

WHEREAS, Finding the perpetrator or perpetrators of these racist threats must be prioritized to ensure the safety of the Williams family and the broader community; and

WHEREAS, A major fire occurred at the family home on May 21, 2024, that is currently being investigated, and has displaced all occupants of the building, further traumatizing the family; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors condemns the ongoing racist intimidation and threats against Terry Williams and his family; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the Mayor, San Francisco Police Department, and the Office of Victim Services to prioritize identifying and apprehending the perpetrator or perpetrators of these hate crimes, and supporting Mr. Williams and his family through these traumatic events; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the San Francisco Fire Department to expedite its investigation of the major fire that occurred on May 21, 2024, and

urges the Mayor's Office, Human Services Agency, and all departments to urgently find temporary housing and provide all necessary support for the family; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the Federal Bureau of Investigations to investigate the threats delivered to Mr. Williams by mail.

City and County of San Francisco
Tails
Resolution

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 240509 **Date Passed:** May 21, 2024

Resolution condemning racist threats and intimidation of the Williams Family and urging Departments to prioritize investigation and support for the family.

May 21, 2024 Board of Supervisors - AMENDED, AN AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE BEARING SAME TITLE

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

May 21, 2024 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED AS AMENDED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 240509

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED AS AMENDED on 5/21/2024 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

London N. Breed
Mayor

05/31/2024

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

05/31/2024
Date

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