

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-61

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL DENOUNCING RACISM, VIOLENCE, AND INTOLERANCE AGAINST BLACKS/AFRICAN AMERICANS

The City of Albany sends its heartfelt condolences to the Buffalo, New York, community in wake of the horrendous tragedy that took place on May 14, 2022.

WHEREAS, the City of Albany recognizes the founding principle of providing security and protection for all was compromised during a violent atrocious act at a "Tops" grocery store located on Jefferson Avenue in Buffalo, NY; and

WHEREAS, an 18-year-old male, traveled to the state's second largest city, predominantly Black neighborhood, to carry out this heinous act targeting Black individuals; and

WHEREAS, his planned attack took the lives of 10 innocent people; referenced by name Roberta A. Drury, 32 yrs. old; Geraldine Talley, 62 yrs. old; Celestine Cheney, 65 yrs. old; Katherine Massey, 72 yrs. old; Pearl young, 77 yrs. old; Ruth Whitfield, 85 yrs. old; Margus D Morrison, 52 yrs. old; Andre MacNeil, 53 yrs. old and a retired Buffalo police officer; Aaron Salter, 53 yrs. old; and Heyward Patterson, 67 yrs. old; and

WHEREAS, his planned attack also wounded Jennifer Warrington, 50 yrs. old; Zaire Goodman, 20 yrs. old; and Christopher Braden, 55 yrs. old; and

WHEREAS, many Black Americans fought in wars and stood against adversity to protect their rights and freedom in our nation; and

WHEREAS, many Black Americans lives were simply taken away because of the color of their skin; and

WHEREAS, this incident caused black communities around the world to pause, take a deep breath and ask the question, simply crying out, "How long?"; and

WHEREAS, there are forty-seven million Black Americans, accounting for 14.2% of the United States population; and

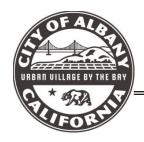
WHEREAS, that the 2020 Census found Black Americans make up 3.5% of the population in the City of Albany; and

WHEREAS, the City of Albany recognizes the contributions of our Black community as elected officials, educators, business owners, workers, families, friends, and neighbors.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albany City Council condemns racism, violent attacks and anti-black sentiments, harmful rhetoric, bullying and underlying intimidation tactics; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albany City Council joins Buffalo, New York, cities, counties, and states across the United States in its strong commitment to the safety and well-being of all citizens, and all visitors, specifically to decrease violence against Black Americans.

PRESTON JORDAN, MAYOR



City of Albany

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PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY,

The 6th day of June, 2022, by the following votes:

AYES: Council Members Gary, McQuaid, Nason, Tiedemann and Mayor Jordan

NOES: none

ABSENT: none

ABSTAINED: none

RECUSED: none

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, this 7th

day of June, 2022.

Anne Hsu
CITY CLERK