

RESOLUTION NO. 21-19

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, SENDING ITS CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF OFFICER BRIAN SICKNICK, AFFIRMING ITS SUPPORT FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE CAPITOL POLICE, CONDEMNING THE EVENTS AT THE U.S. CAPITOL ON JANUARY 6, 2021, ENCOURAGING THE HEALING OF THE NATION, URGING ALL CITIZENS TO RESPECT THE RESULTS OF THE 2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION AND ALLOW THE NEW ADMINISTRATION TO BEGIN THE NECESSARY WORK OF GOVERNING OUR NATION AND ADDRESSING THE SIGNIFICANT ISSUES THAT WE FACE, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris were sworn into office on January 20 amid a turbulent period for our country that resulted from the global COVID-19 pandemic, the dispute over the November election results and the siege on the nation's Capitol; and

WHEREAS, their ascension to the nation's highest offices opens a new chapter in the history of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale condemns the dissemination of false information and the incitement of a mass riot that led to a breach of the United States Capitol on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 while Congress was in the process of counting the Electoral College votes certified in each state after a fair and free election; and

WHEREAS, elected officials have a responsibility to tell the truth to constituents and not incite insurrection by continuing to lie as the Presidential Election was not stolen; and

WHEREAS, we respect the honesty and accuracy of the vote count in Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, the State of Florida, and the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, elected officials who continued to lie about the election legitimacy have done and continue to do great damage to our democracy; and

WHEREAS, eroding the public's trust in the function and legitimacy of the government jeopardizes the physical safety of all elected public servants across the country and weakens their ability to govern, effectuate change, and uphold the rule of law; and

WHEREAS, the rights of freedom of speech and assembly do not give anyone the right to resort to violence, sedition, and insurrection; and

WHEREAS, the rioters used violent physical force and weapons to overpower the United States Capitol Police and break through doors and windows and cross physical barriers to commit illegal entry into the U.S. Capitol, the citadel of American democracy; and

WHEREAS, the rioters threatened the safety and lives of the Vice President, Speaker of the House, and the President pro tempore of the Senate – the first three individuals in the line of succession to the presidency; and

WHEREAS, the rioters unleashed chaos and terror among Members of Congress and Congressional staff and their families; vandalized and pilfered government property; and interfered and caused a delay in the counting of electoral college votes in the joint session of Congress; and

WHEREAS, five Americans died as a result of the violent attack on the U.S. Capitol, including Capitol Police Officer Brian D. Sicknick; and the injury of numerous other law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, these events struck at the heart of our democratic institutions and represented the most significant enemy occupation of the Capitol since the building was burned during the War of 1812; and

WHEREAS, this represents an opportunity for our nation to heal from a downward spiral of partisan divide, end this deadly pandemic, rebuild our economy, address long-neglected issues from infrastructure to racial justice, and restore a common faith in democracy and governance; and

WHEREAS, all Americans now should stand together, united, in a recognition that President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris are the lawful and duly elected leaders of our country as confirmed by election administrators in all 50 states, repeated decisions from our court system, the counting of the electoral votes in Congress, and the actions of Chief Justice John Roberts in administering the oath of office to President Biden;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. That the City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale hereby sends its condolences to the family of Officer Brian Sicknick, and affirms its support for the members of the Capitol Police who valiantly put their lives on the line to defend the U.S. Capitol.

SECTION 2. That the City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale encourages the healing of the nation; fully aware that healing requires accountability and truth.

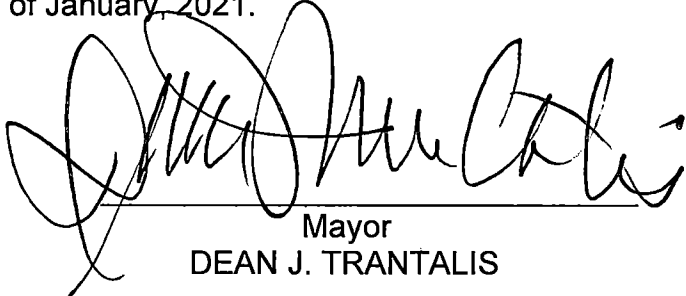
SECTION 3. That the City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale hereby condemns in the strongest terms possible the violent and deadly attack on the U.S. Capitol and urges all citizens to respect the results of the 2020 presidential election and allow the new Administration to begin the necessary work of governing our nation and addressing the significant issues that we face.

SECTION 4. That the City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale calls on all residents of our community to join together in supporting the new administration of President Biden, respecting the outcome of the election and doing our individual and collective part to help our nation heal its political rifts and address the critical issues that lie ahead.

SECTION 5. That the City Clerk is directed to distribute a copy of this Resolution to President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice President Kamala D. Harris, Governor Ron DeSantis, Lieutenant Governor Jeanette M. Nuñez, the United States Congressional Delegations from Florida, the Broward County Legislative Delegation, the Broward County Board of County Commissioners, the governing bodies of the cities and towns in Broward County, Florida, the Florida League of Cities, and the Broward League of Cities.

SECTION 6. That this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this 21st day of January, 2021.



Mayor
DEAN J. TRANTALIS

ATTEST:



City Clerk
JEFFREY A. MODARELLI