

RESOLUTION NO. BOS-2016-193

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA  
RESPONDING TO THE 2016 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION**

**WHEREAS**, Donald J. Trump is poised to become the 45th President of the United States of America, notwithstanding his loss of the popular vote by over 2 million votes; and

**WHEREAS**, the President-Elect has repeatedly made statements offensive to women, immigrants, refugees, religious minorities, racial and ethnic minorities, veterans, the disabled, the LGBTQ community, and the general public; and

**WHEREAS**, the President-Elect has threatened to create a registry of Muslim Americans, to ban all Muslims from entering the country, to deport millions of undocumented immigrants, to build a wall on the country's border with Mexico, to impose an ideological test for entry to the United States, and to withhold federal funds from sanctuary cities; and

**WHEREAS**, the President-Elect has promised to repeal federal regulations protecting LGBTQ individuals; to repeal the Affordable Care Act, which ensures health care coverage for millions of Americans; to withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement; and to remove other environmental protections put in place by President Obama's administration; and

**WHEREAS**, the President-Elect has expressed support for a roll-back of women's reproductive rights, the suppression of free speech and an independent press, and unconstitutional racial profiling by law enforcement; and

**WHEREAS**, the President-Elect has refused to conform to the standards for transparency and ethics that the American people have come to expect from their elected officials; and

**WHEREAS**, the President-Elect and his campaign have routinely disseminated misinformation in blatant disregard of scientific and other facts; and

**WHEREAS**, the President-Elect's appointees so far have expressed views and values that are alarmingly out of step with the views and values of Santa Clara County; and

**WHEREAS**, the presidential election has exposed and given rise to deep schisms in the social, political, and other views of the American public; and

**WHEREAS**, the presidential election has empowered certain individuals to express and act on their intolerance of people who are different from them; and

**WHEREAS**, the nation has experienced a dramatic surge in hate crimes and other assaults on women, immigrants, refugees, religious minorities, racial and ethnic minorities, and LGBTQ individuals in the aftermath of the presidential election; and

**WHEREAS**, California has seen a similarly disturbing increase in hate crimes and other attacks on vulnerable communities following the presidential election; and

**WHEREAS**, certain attacks on minority groups in Santa Clara County have been, or appear to have been, connected to the presidential election; and

**WHEREAS**, Santa Clara County is home to an incredibly diverse population, with two-thirds being non-White (not Hispanic or Latino), one-half speaking a language other than English, more than one-third foreign-born, and approximately 4% identifying as LGBTQ; and

**WHEREAS**, Santa Clara County is also the birthplace and heart of Silicon Valley, which thrives on the talent and hard work of its diverse workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, Santa Clara County was the first county in the nation to establish an Office of LGBTQ Affairs, in addition to establishing an Office of Immigrant Relations, Office of Women's Policy, Office of Cultural Competency, and Office of Human Relations; and

**WHEREAS**, Santa Clara County recognizes that large segments of our community are fearful, struggling, and vulnerable in light of recent events; and

**WHEREAS**, racial disparities in the nation's criminal justice system and a system increasingly referred to as "mass incarceration," have received unprecedented national attention; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of California has enacted legislation ensuring that immigrant victims and witnesses to violent crime have equal access to justice, prosecutors consider the immigration consequences of a noncitizen defendant's criminal charges in furtherance of justice, and the confidentiality of all juvenile information and records is protected from federal officials regardless of immigration status; and

**WHEREAS**, the District Attorney's Office assists victims, irrespective of their legal status in the U.S., in obtaining U-Visas and T-Visas so victims of domestic violence and human trafficking can stay in the country and receive public benefits;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara, State of California, that Santa Clara County unequivocally rejects the politics of fear and hate, which have divided our fellow Americans; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Santa Clara County continues to embrace all people, regardless of their skin color, country of birth, faith, sex, gender, partners, or abilities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Santa Clara County condemns the hate crimes and other forms of harassment that have targeted women, immigrants, refugees, religious minorities, racial and ethnic minorities, and LGBTQ individuals leading up to and following the presidential election; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Santa Clara County shall not waver in our commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive community for our diverse population; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Santa Clara County shall steadfastly defend and safeguard the rights guaranteed by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Santa Clara County shall resist any and all efforts to profile immigrants and refugees or report them to the federal government for immigration enforcement; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Santa Clara County will continue our efforts to ensure that law enforcement operates in a just, unbiased, and transparent manner to protect our community; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Santa Clara County will move towards advancing a criminal justice system that is fair to all, regardless of status; recognizes the full humanity of every individual, believes in rehabilitation; and addresses systemic racial inequities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Santa Clara County will continue serving as a safety net for the most vulnerable members of our community; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that even if the federal government strips Americans of their health insurance under the Affordable Care Act, Santa Clara County will continue working to ensure health care for all of our residents without regard to their ability to pay; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Santa Clara County will continue standing with women and the LGBTQ community to protect their rights; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Santa Clara County will continue to promote civility, honesty, truthfulness, and mutual respect in all areas of civil and political discourse; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Santa Clara County calls on members of our community to hew to our values as Americans; to be vigilant against attacks on those values; to protect one another; to overcome the politics of fear and hate; to bridge our divides; to stay informed and engaged; to participate in our great democracy; and to set an example for the rest of the nation; and

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**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Santa Clara County calls on President-Elect Trump to serve and protect all Americans, without prejudice on the basis of race, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, or disability; to serve as President without regard for ego or personal gain; to conduct himself in the ethical, dignified, and diplomatic manner expected of the President of the United States of America; to respect facts, science, truth, the Constitution of the United States of America, and the Bill of Rights; and to promulgate policies for the general welfare of our entire nation.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara, State of California, on DEC 13, 2016, by the following vote:

AYES: **CHAVEZ, CORTESE, ~~SIMITIAN, WASSERMAN~~, YEAGER**

NOES: **NONE**

ABSENT: **NONE**

ABSTAIN: **SIMITIAN WASSERMAN**



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DAVE CORTESE, President  
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:



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MEGAN DOYLE

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:



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JAMES R. WILLIAMS

County Counsel

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