

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF
THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, CONDEMNING
AND DENOUNCING THE USE OF HATE SPEECH BY
ELECTED OFFICIALS ON ALL LEVELS OF
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE
AND BY THE PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES
TOWARD ANY GROUPS OF PEOPLE; PROVIDING
FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

WHEREAS, "hate speech" is speech that is intended to insult, offend, intimidate or attack a person because of a trait, or a perceived trait, such as race, religion, ethnic origin, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability; and

WHEREAS, the incidence of hate speech, threats of violence, violent crime and other incidents of hate-motivated targeting have increased in many areas of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the first amendment to the Constitution established that the U.S. is committed to the principles of tolerance and religious freedom, and the 14th Amendment established equal protection of the laws as the heart of justice in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that hate speech can be overt, or covert, but it is never acceptable; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds hate speech, and hate-motivated behavior abhorrent in a city whose citizens have a long history of tolerance, inclusiveness, and friendship toward one another; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that hate speech must never be used by elected officials, who have a duty to serve all citizens, even when they are angry or frustrated over political events; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the City Commission hereby denounces the use of hate speech by elected officials on all levels of government of the people, for the people and by the people, towards any groups of people in the United States.

Section 2: That this Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the Presiding Officer and the Clerk of the Commission.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held this _____ day of _____, 2019.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the Commission on _____ day of _____, 2019.

Filed with the Clerk on _____, 2019.

Mayor Teri Johnston	_____
Vice Mayor Sam Kaufman	_____
Commissioner Gregory Davila	_____
Commissioner Mary Lou Hoover	_____
Commissioner Clayton Lopez	_____
Commissioner Billy Wardlow	_____
Commissioner Jimmy Weekley	_____

TERI JOHNSTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK