



# RESOLUTION

CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS - A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

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## RECOGNIZING DECEMBER 10, 2020, AS HUMAN RIGHTS DAY IN THE CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS.

Whereas: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the United Nations on December 10, 1948, and is the first agreement among countries around the world identifying the rights and freedoms that belong to every one of us as human beings; and

Whereas: Whereas, the Declaration's preamble says that "recognition of the inherent dignity, and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world," and also states that "it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protected by the rule of law"; and

Whereas: The Declaration identifies the following rights, identified in this Resolution so that we may all read them and reflect upon how as a society we do and do not uphold and defend these rights in our day to day lives:

**Article 1:** All people are born free and equal in dignity and in rights.

**Article 2:** Human rights belong to everyone, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, political or other opinion, national or other origin, birth or other status.

**Article 3:** Everyone has the right to life, to freedom and to security of their person.

**Article 4:** No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.

**Article 5:** No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

**Article 6:** Everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law.

**Article 7:** All are equal before the law and are entitled to equal protection of the law, without discrimination. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of this Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.

**Article 8:** Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts that violate the fundamental constitutional and legal rights granted the person.

**Article 9:** No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

**Article 10:** Everyone is entitled to a fair trial by an independent and impartial tribunal.

**Article 11:** Everyone charged with a crime has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law in a public trial at which the person has had all the guarantees necessary for defense. No one shall be held guilty of any crime on account of any act or omission that was not designated a crime, under national or international law, at the time when it was committed, nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than the one applicable when the offense was committed.

**Article 12:** No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with their privacy, family, home or correspondence, or attacks upon the person's honor and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

**Article 13:** Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including one's own, and to return to their country.

**Article 14:** Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy asylum from persecution in other countries. This right may not be invoked in the case of prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

**Article 15:** Everyone has the right to a nationality, and no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of their nationality nor denied the right to change their nationality.

**Article 16:** Adults have the right to marry and create a family, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion. Spouses are entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution. A valid marriage requires the free and full consent of the intending spouses. The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State.

**Article 17:** Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others, and no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of their property.

**Article 18:** Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change one's religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest their religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

**Article 19:** Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

**Article 20:** Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, and no one may be compelled to belong to an association.

**Article 21:** Everyone has the right to participate in their country's government, directly or through freely chosen representatives. Everyone has the right to equal access to public service in their country. The will of the people is the basis of the authority of government; this will is implemented by periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

**Article 22:** Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for the person's dignity and the free development of the person's personality.

**Article 23:** Every person has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment. Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work, and everyone who works has the right to just and favorable pay sufficient to ensure an existence worthy of human dignity for that person and their family, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection. Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of their interests.

**Article 24:** Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay.

**Article 25:** Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of that person and of their family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond the person's control. Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

**Article 26:** Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace. Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

**Article 27:** Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits. Everyone has the right to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which the person is the author.

**Article 28:** Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized.

**Article 29:** Everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of the person's personality is possible. In the exercise of a person's rights and freedoms, everyone shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society. These rights and freedoms may in no case be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

**Article 30:** Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth herein; and

- Whereas: The City of Minneapolis receives community insight and support in development of policies that uphold the universal rights of humanity through bodies such as the Transgender Equity Council, the Minneapolis Civil Rights Commission, the Police Conduct Oversight Commission, the Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities, the Racial Equity Community Advisory Committee, the Police Conduct Review Panel, the Advisory Committee on Housing, the Advisory Commission on Aging, among other advisory bodies; and
- Whereas: The City of Minneapolis has implemented policies and issued resolutions that uphold, protect and defend the human rights of City residents, including minimum wage and wage theft ordinances, banning conversion therapy, declaring racism a public health crisis, establishing a truth and reconciliation process and implementing a language access plan; and
- Whereas: The City of Minneapolis recognizes that there remain instances where universal rights of our fellow residents have been denied, resulting in discrimination and disparate treatment, harm up to and including death, and that these instances thwart the goals enshrined in the Universal Declaration; and
- Whereas: The failure of our country to promote and defend the rights enshrined in the Declaration has resulted in unnecessary suffering, including discrimination, deportation and death; and
- Whereas: In this year of 2020, we also recognize the failure to uphold human rights in the City of Minneapolis resulted in the killing of George Floyd, an act which mobilized people around the world to declare that Black Lives Matter; and
- Whereas: There is much work to be done in the context of law enforcement, universal provision of health care, access to quality education and housing and other rights; and
- Whereas: The COVID-19 pandemic provides us with a unique opportunity and compels us to make progress in these and other areas addressed by the declaration; and
- Whereas: Many residents of the City are not aware of their universal rights as enshrined in the Declaration, do not know that the United States is a signatory to this Declaration, and do not know how to obtain redress if their rights are violated; and
- Whereas: December 10 of each year is celebrated around the world as “Human Rights Day”;

**—NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED—**

That the Mayor and City Council do hereby recognize December 10, 2020, as Human Rights Day in the City of Minneapolis, and commit to uphold and defend freedom, democracy, and human rights in our own city, in our country, and around the world.

Passed this the 4th Day of December, 2020

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Lisa Bender, President of the Council

Approved:

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Jacob Frey, Mayor

Attest:

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Casey Joe Carl, City Clerk