

Philipstown Equal Protection Resolution

Whereas it is incumbent upon us as citizens to keep safe those in our community that are the most vulnerable and to ensure that they are given equal protection under the law and

Whereas the Town of Philipstown seeks to make clear our commitment to the rights of all members of our community regardless of their race, religion, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation or immigration status and

Whereas the Town of Philipstown recognizes the importance of diversity as a component of the American experience and that we as a nation collectively benefit from two core values enshrined in our constitution; tolerance and inclusion and

Whereas the Town of Philipstown upholds the value of equal protection under the law for all its residents regardless of race, religion, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or immigrations status and

Whereas public health, public safety, education and economic development in the Town of Philipstown require cooperation between community residents and local law enforcement and

Whereas it is the expressed goal of the Town Board and the residents of Philipstown that the policing practices of local law enforcement are consistent with these values so as to avoid the risk of racial and ethnic profiling that is enhanced when local law enforcement actively pursues federal immigration policies and

Whereas the Town of Philipstown commits to fostering an atmosphere of tolerance and acceptance that truly make America great.

Therefore be it resolved that no Town of Philipstown department, officer, employee or agent acting in their official capacity shall request or maintain information about or otherwise investigate or assist in the investigation of the citizenship or immigration status of any person unless such investigation or inquiry is required by state or federal law or by court order. Furthermore, that they shall not assist or cooperate with any investigation, detention or arrest by any agency enforcing federal immigration law unless such investigation or inquiry is required by state or federal law or by court order; or except as otherwise required under state or federal law or by court order, disclose information regarding the citizenship or immigration status of any person.