

Resolution Calling for San Mateo County Mayors and Councilmembers to Sign
Former President Obama's National Mayor's Pledge to
Reform Police Use of Force Policies

WHEREAS, the killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and the loss of too many American Black lives to list; the local losses of Chinedu Okobi, Warren Ragundo and Ramzi Saad, by law enforcement Tasers, and the local deaths of Yanira Serrano Garcia and Sandra Lee Harmon, by law enforcement firearms since 2017, have left our nation and our county anguished and outraged; and

WHEREAS, according to a June 29, 2020 article in the San Jose Mercury News, while Black residents are only 7% of the combined population of Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, they account for 27% of those killed by police in the region since 2015, creating one of the largest disparities in the nation as evidenced by a new study from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health which found Black people in the Bay Area are more likely to be killed by police than in any other metro area in America except Oklahoma City; and

WHEREAS, local law enforcement must address issues of implicit bias, discriminatory treatment of those within their ranks and those they are meant to serve, lack of adequate training, prioritizing de-escalation tactics and de-militarization of regional police forces;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee urges Mayors and Councilmembers of all 20 cities within San Mateo County to sign the national Mayor's Pledge created by the Obama Foundation's My Brother's Keeper Alliance and commit to **Review** Police and Sheriff's use of force policies, **Engage** our communities by including a diverse range of input, experiences and stories in this review, **Report** back findings of this review seeking community feedback, and **Reform** police use of force policies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee commends the Mayors of Burlingame and Pacifica and individual Councilmembers who have signed the Pledge and directs the Corresponding Secretary to transmit official copies of this resolution to elected officials representing San Mateo County cities who have not yet signed, encouraging those cities who contract with the San Mateo Co Sheriff for law enforcement services to join together to demand equity, oversight, accountability, safety and justice in law enforcement..

Submitted by April Vargas and Nancy Yarbrough