

RESOLUTION NO. 17-15

A RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING THE VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST'S CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO EQUAL, RESPECTFUL AND DIGNIFIED TREATMENT OF ALL PEOPLE, REGARDLESS OF THEIR IMMIGRATION STATUS, AND TO REMAINING AN OPEN AND WELCOMING COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, the Village of River Forest (“Village”) has long welcomed and embraced individuals and families of diverse racial, ethnic, religious and national backgrounds, recognizing that these individuals are valued members of our community and a source of strength and security for our nation; and

WHEREAS, immigration has been the cornerstone of the development of our region, State and nation throughout our history, and the contributions of immigrants and their descendants living in the United States of America have produced immeasurable good for the American people, and have renewed and strengthened the very fabric of our Republic; and

WHEREAS, newly-arrived immigrants bring their professions, their skills, and their enthusiasm to the community, making an immediate positive impact on the economy and the well-being of all Americans; and

WHEREAS, the President and Board of Trustees of the Village (the “Corporate Authorities”) desire to reaffirm and protect the tradition of welcoming and embracing immigrants who chose to leave their homes for a better life; and

WHEREAS, the Corporate Authorities acknowledge that the United States is a nation of laws, and that as elected officials the Corporate Authorities are bound by oath to uphold the Constitutions and laws of the United States, the State of Illinois and the Village; and

WHEREAS, the Village devotes resources to law enforcement for the purpose of assuring the safety of all individuals who reside in or visit our community and should be used for local priorities and not for participation in Federal immigration enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the Corporate Authorities recognize and praise the efforts of the Village Police Department to build relationships of trust and respect between the Police Department and the community, and to preserve and enhance these relationships while performing its mission to keep the Village safe and to enforce the law; and

WHEREAS, the Corporate Authorities recognize and support the procedures of the Village Police Department to support an individual they discover to be a foreign national in the course of discharging their duties, by providing a document that instructs them to contact their consulate. Additionally, the Corporate Authorities support the procedures of the Village Police Department to not contact the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”) unless they receive a criminal warrant for that individual’s arrest from ICE or except as may be required by law; and

WHEREAS, this trust, respect and cooperation between the community and Village law enforcement officers is essential to promoting and maintaining public safety, especially in encouraging individuals’ willingness to report crimes, and to request assistance from and provide assistance to the police, making the community safer for all; and

WHEREAS, the power to regulate immigration is reserved to the Federal government and the enforcement of immigration law is a function of the Federal government that currently resides with ICE; and

WHEREAS, in acknowledging and reaffirming our commitment to the rights of all individuals, regardless of immigration status, it is important to reassure Village residents and visitors that the Village, through its officials, employees, and uniformed services, presently conducts itself according to the principles of equal, respectful and dignified treatment for all individuals, and provides assistance and services to those in need without regard to immigration

or refugee status, race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, sex, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity, political ideology, physical or mental disability, homelessness, low-income or veteran status (together “Protected Classifications”), and has always done so.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST, ILLINOIS, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: Each Whereas paragraph above is incorporated by reference into this Section 1 and made a part hereof as material and operative provisions of this Resolution.

SECTION 2: The policy of the Village shall be to welcome and treat all individuals entering or living in the Village with the same respect, fairness, and dignity, and to continue to provide Village services and enforce the law on an equal basis to all individuals, regardless of their Protected Classifications.

SECTION 3: As a matter of policy, the Village affirms that it promotes policies and programs to foster inclusion for all, and serves individuals regardless of their Protected Classifications, and reaffirms the Village’s continuing commitment to advocate and support the well-being of all individuals.

SECTION 4: The policy of the Village is that all Village employees and officials shall continue to serve all individuals and make Village services accessible to all, regardless of their Protected Classifications.

SECTION 5: No Village employee, official or department shall inquire into nor collect information regarding the immigration status of individuals or condition the provision of Village benefits, opportunities or services on matters related to citizenship or immigration status, unless required to do so by State law, Federal law or court order.

SECTION 6: No Village employee or official shall detain or continue to detain any individual solely on the basis of any immigration detainer or non-judicial immigration warrant or otherwise comply with an immigration detainer or non-judicial immigration warrant. No Village employee or official shall stop, arrest, search, detain, or continue to detain an individual solely based on an individual's citizenship or immigration status. This Section 6 does not apply if a Village employee or official is presented with a valid, enforceable warrant issued by a judge. Nothing in this Section 6 prohibits communication between Federal agencies or officials and Village employees, officials or departments. For purposes of this Section 6: (i) “immigration detainer” means a document issued by an immigration agent that is not approved or ordered by a judge and requests a law enforcement agency or law enforcement official to provide notice of release or maintain custody of an individual, including a detainer issued under Section 1226 or 1357 of Title 8 of the United States Code or Section 236.1 or 287.7 of Title 8 of the Code of Federal Regulations; and (ii) “non-judicial immigration warrant” means a Form I-200 or I-205 administrative warrant or any other immigration warrant or request that is not approved or ordered by a judge, including administrative warrants entered into the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Crime Information Center database.

SECTION 7: No Village employee or official shall expend any time, facilities, equipment, information, or other resources of the Village to facilitate the creation, publication, or maintenance of any Federal program to register individuals present in the United States based on their Protected Classifications, or the participation of any individual in such a registry, unless required by State law, Federal law or court order.

SECTION 8: By January 1, 2018, and annually thereafter, every Village employee and official shall receive written guidance on compliance with this Resolution.

SECTION 9: This Resolution shall not create or form the base for any cause of action against or liability on the part of the Village, its elected officials, officers, employees, consultants or agents, in any manner.

SECTION 10: The Corporate Authorities urge the United States Congress to establish a sensible immigration policy and provide a path to citizenship for those who wish to become Americans.

SECTION 11: This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.


ADOPTED this 21st day of August, 2017, pursuant to a roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Conti, Cargie, Henek, Vazquez

NAYS: Corsini, Gibbs

ABSENT: None

APPROVED this 21st day of August, 2017, by the Village President of the Village of River Forest, and attested by the Village Clerk, on the same day.



Village President

ATTEST:



Village Clerk