



**RESOLUTION OF THE MECKLENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR OUR IMMIGRANTS AND SHERIFF**

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County is the largest county by population in North Carolina and is home to a diverse population, including foreign born residents from more than 187 countries speaking 205 languages; and

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County has been and remains a desirable location for immigrants to settle; and

WHEREAS, the County's growth in foreign born residents has increased 126.5% since the year 2000; Foreign-born residents now comprise 14.9 % of the population. There are currently 686 foreign-owned firms located in Mecklenburg County; and

WHEREAS, the immigrant community plays a significant role in the economic, cultural, educational, and spiritual landscape of our community; and

WHEREAS, a community that values and depends upon immigration should have rational and humane immigration laws that serve the American economy, reflect the American dream and address the needs of the immigrant community; and

WHEREAS, racial and ethnic profiling is unacceptable and a violation of the rights of residents in Mecklenburg County, and

WHEREAS, creating a welcoming community is critical to the success of Mecklenburg County; and

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County residents have democratically elected the Mecklenburg County Sheriff, and the Sheriff has implemented policies friendly to the immigrant community; and

WHEREAS, by law, immigration policy, regulation, enforcement and laws remain under the jurisdiction and responsibility of the U.S. federal government; and

WHEREAS, maintaining a collaborative relationship between the residents of the County and the Mecklenburg County Sheriff is crucial to the safety of our community; Now therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners declare support for our immigrant residents and our Sheriff; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we urge the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Mecklenburg County Sheriff to find common approaches that safely and humanely protect homeland security with the utmost regard for the welfare of families and their children.

SIGNED this _____ day of February 2019

George Dunlap, Chair
Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners