

**VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN
RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ANTI-SEMITISM**

Introduced by: _____
Seconded by: _____
Dated: _____

WHEREAS, our nation was founded on the principles of religious freedom and the right of all people to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS, contrary to those principles there has been a significant increase of violent anti-Semitic attacks throughout the United States and particularly New York State's Hudson Valley Region; and

WHEREAS, the FBI notes that nationwide in 2014 609 anti-Jewish hate crime incidents were reported. By 2018 that number increased nearly 40%; and

WHEREAS, the FBI reports that nationally in 2018 there were 7,036 single-bias related incidents that involved 8,327 offenses. Of those, 59.5% stemmed from a race/ethnicity/ancestry bias, 18.6% were motivated by religious bias, and 16.9% resulted from sexual-orientation bias.

WHEREAS, according to the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) which tracks anti-Semitic and other hate incidents, reported that anti-Semitic incidents were at historic levels in the United States in 2018. Occurrences of assaults alone were up 105 % from 2017 to 2018; and

WHEREAS, the ADL states that preliminary analysis of 2019 data shows that New York will have recorded the most anti-Jewish hate crimes since 1992; and

WHEREAS, on December 28, 2019 five people were tragically stabbed at a Hannukah celebration in Monsey, NY, in neighboring Rockland County; and

WHEREAS, here in 2019 in Westchester County we were enraged and heartbroken that on the eve of Yom Kippur, the highest of holy days of the Jewish faith, anti-Semitic materials were discovered at our Holocaust Garden of Remembrance; and

WHEREAS, Westchester County has a long history of standing up, speaking out and protecting Human Rights. In 2000 The Westchester County Human Rights Commission was created to ensure that prejudice, intolerance, bigotry and discrimination will not threaten the rights and privileges of its people and that all are treated with dignity and respect as it is necessary to give effect to the equal rights for all assured by the Constitution and laws of the United States, New York State and this County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Buchanan is appalled by the anti-Semitic attacks here at home and on our Westchester County and Rockland County neighbors. We stand in solidarity with the people of Yorktown and Monsey and in rejecting all forms of bigotry, hatred, or discrimination of any kind; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that hate will have no home in the Village of Buchanan. We are committed to promote openness, inclusion, freedom and mutual understanding by ensuring all people of Westchester County, regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin or immigration status may live free from violence, harassment or prejudice. Our County will make every effort to ensure that our community is one where all people are welcome, included and respected; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to work with local communities, the Westchester County Human Rights Commission to hold public learning sessions for combatting hate, to educate young people and the public at large, about unity and acceptance and through the Human Rights Commission work with the Westchester County community as a whole to combat hate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Buchanan will work with other levels of government and community groups to root out hate and promote understanding. We encourage municipalities to join this resolution and to join forces in ensuring that the vile history of anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance in New York and around the world, ends now and ends here; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the County Executive's office so that the intent of our Village elected leaders is widely known.

UPON A ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker _____

Trustee Richard Funchion _____

Trustee Duane Jackson _____

Trustee Cesare Pasquale _____

Trustee Nicolas Zachary _____

Vote: Resolution carried by a vote of ____ to ____.

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STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER)

I, Cynthia Kempter, Village Clerk of the Village of Buchanan, do hereby certify that the above is a true and exact copy of a Resolution adopted by the Village Board of the Village of Buchanan at a meeting of said Board held January 7, 2020.

CYNTHIA KEMPTER, Village Clerk