TOWN OF CHELMSFORD
PROCLAMATION
CONDEMNING AND STANDING AGAINST RACISM, DISCRIMINATION, AND HATRED

WHEREAS, people across our country and within our own community are harming others by their words and acts of racism, discrimination, and hatred; and

WHEREAS, words and acts of racism, discrimination, and hatred can be both intentional and unintentional, but either way such words and acts are unjust; and

WHEREAS, Martin Luther King, Jr. wrote "In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends" and it is only right and moral that we identify, condemn, and stand against all forms of racism, discrimination, and hatred; and

WHEREAS, it is important that we recognize and own our biases, that we listen, that we strive to do better, and that we take genuine action to stand against racism, discrimination, and hatred; and

WHEREAS, our community and our country must do better to take genuine action to stand against racism, discrimination, and hatred; and

NOW, THEREFORE, we the Chelmsford Select Board, promise to

- Condemn and stand against racism, discrimination, and hatred, and
- Better understand and acknowledge those privileges we enjoy while others do not, simply because of our heritage, background, and experiences, and
- Enforce accountability, fairness, equity, and justice in all departments at the Town of Chelmsford; and
- Listen and learn about how we can do better and how our community can do better to embrace, support, and lift up people who are discriminated against and marginalized, and
- Promote and embrace diversity, equity, inclusiveness, and justice for everyone in our community and beyond.

FURTHER, WE DO HEREBY submit that residents, employers, places of worship, and elected officials in our community must engage in similar commitments to condemn and stand against racism, discrimination, and hatred and to support, foster and encourage a community spirit that reflects trust and respect for all.

Signed this __ day of January 2021:

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Patricia E. Dzuris
Town Clerk

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Select Board