

**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, whether intentional or unintentional 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 are willing to learn from others and educate ourselves, that we listen, that we strive to do better, and that we take genuine action to stand against racism, discrimination, and hatred; and

WHEREAS, there are many forms of privilege that exist simply because of race, heritage, background, and experiences; and

WHEREAS, diversity strengthens us socially, politically, culturally and economically; and

WHEREAS, having genuine intent and action to stand against racism, discrimination and hatred is critical to working towards equity, and for all residents to be treated with dignity, respect, compassion, and justice.

NOW, THEREFORE, we the Chelmsford Select Board, proclaim that we are committed to:

- Condemn and stand against racism, discrimination, and hatred, recognizing that by doing so is a critical first step in fostering a more diverse and inclusive community,
- Better understand and acknowledge those privileges that some enjoy while others do not,
- Listen and learn to do better and help our community to embrace, support and lift up people who are discriminated against and marginalized, and
- Promote and embrace diversity, equity, and inclusiveness for everyone in our community and beyond.

FURTHER, The Chelmsford Select Board encourages residents, local businesses, educators, community and faith-based organizations, town employees, town boards and town committees: to condemn and stand against racism, discrimination, and hatred, to celebrate diversity, and to support, foster and encourage a community spirit that reflects trust and respect for all.

Signed this 8th day of February 2021:



Patricia E. Dzuris
Town Clerk

Select Board