

CONDEMNING WHITE SUPREMACY, NATIONALISM AND ALT-RIGHT ACTIVITIES AND GROUPS

WHEREAS, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters is proud of its history of unifying a diverse group of working people from different cultures and ethnic backgrounds in order to advance their economic, social and political interest. We are committed to the development of an organization which values and encourages the participation of women, individuals of various sexual orientations, and members of racial, cultural, and ethnic groups in policymaking to support policies and efforts that uphold our commitment to protect our members' individual ability to experience a safe, welcoming, and inclusive union; and

WHEREAS, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters' goal of creating a safe and welcoming community; valuing human rights, peace, respect, inclusivity and equity; and recognizing that our Union's growth and its strengths comes from its diversity and unity; and

WHEREAS, white nationalism is defined by scholars as the belief that national identity should be built around white ethnicity, and that white people should therefore maintain both a demographic majority and dominance of the nation's culture and public life across the country. White supremacy is the belief that the white race is inherently superior to all other races and ethnic groups and that white people should have control over people of other races and are rightfully the dominate group in society; and

WHEREAS, the Ku Klux Klan is a domestic terrorist organization formed near the end of the Civil War continues to use intimidation, violence and murder to maintain white supremacy for the last 155 years; and

WHEREAS, Viola Gregg Liuzzo, a white female and wife of a Teamster Union official was killed by the Ku Klux Klan in Selma, Alabama in 1965 while driving an African American man to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference lead by Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that there has been a rise of white nationalist, white supremacist and alt-right groups in the United States, many of which have been emboldened by the national political dialogue; and

WHEREAS, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters is committed to a just and inclusive union. White nationalism places the interests of white people over those of other racial groups, and is an ideology focused on maintaining white political, economic, and demographic dominance, and conflicts with our International Constitution, Article 1, Sec. 3 and Article 2, Sec. 2; and

WHEREAS, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Constitution under Article 2, Sec. 2 states, "Each person upon becoming a member thereby pledges his honor; to faithfully observe the Constitution and laws of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, and the Bylaws and laws of his Local Union; to never knowingly harm a fellow member; to never discriminate

against a fellow worker on accounts of race, color, religion, sex, age, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin or any other legally protected groups or class; and

WHEREAS, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters shall not restrain the free expression of opinion, or restrict the right to speak, write, or print freely on any subject whatsoever, but every person shall be responsible for the abuse of these rights, including posts and comments on social media that violate Article 2 Sec. 2; and

WHEREAS, free speech is a core principle of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, but the agenda of white nationalist groups seeks to destabilize our Union and our American democracy, using fear as a control tactic, dividing our Union and our communities, and promoting and igniting social animosities; and

WHEREAS, we have seen a recent surge of white nationalist activity and hostility throughout our country, on social media, in our home, conjuring painful memories and causing harm to our members. The trauma inflicted on African Americans, Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders, Muslim, Jewish, and all other people of color and nationalities to include religious freedom, the LGBTQ community, and other groups that are marginalized by white supremacists which results in generational and psychological harm affecting health, educational, economic and social outcomes.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, has a longstanding history and commitment of being an inclusive Union celebrating and supporting people of all races, national origins, immigration and refugee statuses, religions, gender identities, sexual orientations, disabilities, age and economic statuses.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters welcomes human rights, peace, respect, inclusivity, and equity for everyone. We condemn hate, xenophobia, racism, white supremacy, Anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, sexism, and other forms of bigotry.

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters is committed to standing in solidarity with our members in opposing white supremacy and creating a community where all people can safely, freely, and fully engage in our union and democracy. We will not tolerate hate or racism in any form and will pursue policies to ensure and protect our members civil and human rights as individuals.