

Proposed: 11/20/2023

RESOLUTION NO. 191-2023(CRR),
First Reading

By Councilmember Russell

A Resolution recognizing December, 2023 as *Universal Month for Human Rights* and December 10, 2023 as *Human Rights Day*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

WHEREAS, in 1948 the United Nations crafted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) which enshrines the inalienable rights that everyone is entitled to as a human being—regardless of race, color, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status; and

WHEREAS, December 10, 2023 marks the 75th anniversary of one of the world's most groundbreaking global pledges (UDHR)—which is the most translated document in the world, available in more than 500 languages; and

WHEREAS, it is important to acknowledge that people of different cultures and creeds are still people and we must be careful of differentiating ourselves from our fellow humans so much that we forget this core truth; and

WHEREAS, in the decades since the adoption of the UDHR, human rights have become more recognized and more guaranteed across the globe—but the promise of the UDHR, of dignity and equality in rights, has been under a sustained assault in recent years as the world faces challenges new and ongoing, such as pandemics, conflicts, exploding inequalities, morally bankrupt global financial systems, racism, and climate change; and

WHEREAS, the year-long Human Rights 75 initiative seeks to shift the needle of understanding and action towards greater knowledge of the universality of the UDHR and the activism associated with it; and

WHEREAS, as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, the UDHR is a global blueprint for international, national, and local laws and policies and a bedrock of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (a plan of action developed by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs) which explicitly recognizes it is grounded in UDHR and has to be implemented in a manner that realized human rights; and

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WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that the fight for rights and equality never ends and encourages Cleveland Heights residents to stand up for equality, justice and the dignity of all humans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, THAT:

SECTION 1. This Council does hereby recognize December 2023 as *Universal Month for Human Rights* and December 10, 2023 as *Human Rights Day* in Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 2. Notice of the passage of this Resolution shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 3. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective as an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need to join with other communities in this celebration and the need to recognize *Universal Month for Human Rights* and *Human Rights Day* on a timely basis. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more of the members elected or appointed to this Council, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.

MELODY JOY HART
President of the Council

ADDIE BALESTER
Clerk of Council

PASSED:

Presented to Mayor: _____ Approved by Mayor: _____

KAHLIL SEREN
Mayor