

MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF COLMAR MANOR

ORDINANCE NO. O - - 2020

~~AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE~~

~~AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE~~ in defense of Black lives and a commitment by the Mayor and Town Council of Colmar Manor to enacting policies that unequivocally defend Black life and aim to undo the effects of systemic racism toward Black people in the Town of Colmar Manor.

WHEREAS, Black people were brought as captives to be sold with their children and their children's children into slavery and bondage beginning in what is now the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1619;

WHEREAS, Black people were bought and sold as slaves for nearly 250 years and suffered unspeakable acts of violence, including, but not limited to, assault, rape, mutilation and murder at the hands of their captors;

WHEREAS, the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America were enacted following the end of this country's Civil War, to abolish of the practice of slavery and the extension of civil and legal protections for all the inhabitants of the United States;

WHEREAS, many states adopted so-called "Jim Crow laws" following the end of the Civil War and to counter the effect and benefit of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States to abolish slavery, create and enforce the right to vote and participate in elections, and provide to all the equal protection of the law to Black people;

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WHEREAS, Jim Crow laws perpetuated the racist, legal and social system existing prior to the Civil War continuing the systematic treatment of Black people as worse than second-class citizens;

WHEREAS, this country's ugly history of state-sanctioned violence against Black people persists despite the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments and the adoption of the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 and 1968;

WHEREAS, Black people, generally, are unfairly targeted and profiled by law enforcement throughout this country at rates beyond what can be reasonably explained;

WHEREAS, racial profiling of Black people results in disproportionate rates of arrest, incarceration, and overall exposure to the criminal legal system;

WHEREAS, Black people experience inequalities across many aspects of daily living, including, but not limited to housing, education, employment and health care as a result of this country's aforementioned history, laws, and law enforcement practices which erode the quality of life for Black people;

WHEREAS, Black people are justifiably outraged by this country's devaluation of Black life and humanity;

WHEREAS, many of the residents of the Town of Colmar Manor identify as Black or African American;

WHEREAS, these residents deserve to be treated fairly, with dignity and to have their humanity, existence, and contributions valued: and

WHEREAS, it is indisputable that Black lives matter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Town Council of Colmar

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Manor that:

SECTION 1. SECTION 1-106. FINDINGS OF FACT:

THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL RECOGNIZE THE EXTRAORDINARY NEED TO RECOGNIZE THE “BLACK LIVES MATTER” MOVEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE NEED FOR TO ADOPT A COMMITMENT TO BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT IMMEDIATELY WITHOUT DELAY OR HESITATION.

~~Section 2.~~SECTION 1-107. COMMITMENT TO BLACK LIVES MATTER

THE TOWN SHALL COMMIT TO ENACTING POLICIES THAT UNEQUIVOCALLY DEFEND AND ENHANCE BLACK LIFE AND AIM TO UNDO THE EFFECTS OF SYSTEMIC RACISM AFFECTING BLACK PEOPLE IN THE TOWN.

~~SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that pursuant to the authority contained in Section 307 of the Town Charter, the Mayor and Town Council hereby find and declare that for the good government of the Town, timely enforcement of the foregoing matter as an ordinance of the Town is necessary and in the public interest. For this reason, the Mayor and Town Council, after the holding of a public hearing on the matters and issues contained herein, duly noticed, declare the purposes and provisions of this ordinance to be an emergency, thereby suspending any waiting period before this ordinance may become effective.~~

Section 34. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Ordinance shall take effect FORTY FIVE (45) days after ~~on~~ the date of its enactment.

Introduced on the _____ day of August 2020.

Adopted on the _____ day of September 2020.

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ATTEST:

MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
OF COLMAR MANOR, MARYLAND

Dan Baden
Clerk-Treasurer

Sadara Barrow
Mayor

Lois Ann Blue
Councilmember, Ward I

Councilmember, Ward II

Cynthia Bowden

Vivian Jackson
Councilmember, Ward III

Melinda Mendoza
Councilmember, Ward IV

The following motion was made at the meeting of the Mayor and Town Council of Colmar Manor held on August
____, 2020:

That the Mayor and Town Council adopt Ordinance O - _____ - 2020, an emergency ordinance
establishing the proposition that the Town shall commit to enacting policies that
unequivocally defend and enhance Black life and aim to undo the effects of systemic
racism affecting Black people in the Town.

Daniel R. Baden

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