

12603 Fawn Run Court
Ellicott City, MD., 21042
17 January, 2017

Subject: CB9-2017

Dear Howard County Council Members ;

My wife and I are taxpaying resident citizens and, registered voters of Howard County for over six years.

I have thoroughly reviewed the proposed legislative Bill CB9-2017. I cannot support this Bill as proposed, and I doubt that it can be modified to become acceptable. From the definitions and application with "An Act", through the "Where As' s" and "Prohibitions" paragraph, the language confusing, contradictory and not likely enforceable under any practical circumstance. Further, you have been granted no right nor authority to change US. Constitutional and Federal Legislation, MD. State Law, and specifically, not even under the Howard County Charter. With the oath you took, you have the specific responsibility to uphold and enforce these laws. Under the County Charter, you do not have the right to select the parts of these laws that you will uphold, nor do you have the right to tell or direct County Employees, Police and other First Responders to in-effect break the law, even by an order or Directive of non-enforcement! Please rethink through the implications of your "Directive", and the likely resulting unintended consequences.

Each of you have taken an Oath of Office, and sworn to uphold these three levels of Law. The Oath of Office does not give you the right to decide what parts of these laws that you will uphold, and which parts not. You may express your opinion and, even propose changes to them by following by following the proscribed processes to effect their change.

I am also concerned with the time and energy this ill-conceived effort is taking away from other pressing County problems and issues. For example, these issues include support to the new Board of Education as it steers its way to correct management and compliance issues with good sense; and, compliance with MD State Board of Education governance and administrative standards; in addition, the timing and availability Adequate Public Facilities and other resources to satisfy current needs and

future requirements; and, the staging and resources necessary resources to effectively implement the recently revised and approved Ten Year Plan.

Finally, and most important is what I call the “Kate Stienle” effects of sanctuary. Just over a year ago, she was stabbed to death in her home city of San Francisco, a sanctuary city, by an immigrant that had deported at least four times and entered/re-entered illegally at least five times. This could have been Our daughter, a graduate of both Johns Hopkins and U. of San Francisco. She lived in San Francisco for almost fourteen years. By any standard, both young ladies were bright, accomplished, and dynamic. ICE and other Federal Agencies sought San Francisco's help in locating and apprehending him for other violent crimes, but were stone-walled with non-cooperation because he was an immigrant protected by their Sanctuary Law. What an obtuse and perverted perspective of Laws, Rights and Protections! As I listened to anguish felt by Kate's father and mother. A father's key responsibilities are to Love, Provide for and Protect his family first, and then his neighbors irrespective of immigration status. I want our Police and first responders to know we stand with them and support them. And, that includes the tools and laws necessary without compromise, so they can openly fulfill their Oath.

Respectfully,

//S//

Charles S. Lapinski

As parents, how do we teach our children to obey the law if our county is, in effect, saying only obey laws you deem okay? How do we explain that law breakers are rewarded by our county for breaking the law, while those who comply are penalized? My family personally was prevented from reuniting our daughters with their sister because we tried to bring her into the United States legally. We contacted our senator and congressman to sponsor a bill to allow a relative to immigrate. Because of the abundance of illegal immigrants entering Texas, the congressman from Texas, wouldn't allow the U.S. House of Representatives to vote on the bill. This Sanctuary proposal is insulting and offensive to law abiding immigrants!

I'm willing to risk being called prejudice or other unfounded labels because I feel strongly opposed to flagrantly "thumbing our noses" to our country. By establishing our county as a sanctuary for those with no regard to our immigration laws, we have decided that we don't have to abide by selective Federal Laws. Does this mean that, as a county, we could be a sanctuary for human trafficking. By allowing our county to selectively choose to remove ourselves from complying with Federal laws, does it follow that a community, block, or household in Howard County could form a sanctuary within Howard County? Could a community decide not to be part of the Illegal Immigration Sanctuary? Could a community, block, or household decide to be a sanctuary from Maryland or Howard County laws? How about a school deciding that it doesn't want to abide by the Board of Education rules? A teacher who doesn't believe in zero tolerance for drugs, establishing a sanctuary in his/her classroom?

My final questions are directed to the council members who are in favor of this proposal. I thought that it was incumbent upon the council to further the best interests of the legal citizens and legal immigrants of Howard County. How is jeopardizing needed Federal funds (because you place lawbreaking illegal immigrants above the rights of legal residents) considered in

Howard County's best interest? How does promoting the criminal act of "Aiding and Abetting illegal immigrants" in Howard County's best interest? We will also be condoning stolen Social Security Numbers and identity thefts by workers who are unable to get a legal Social Security Number.

The Howard County "OATH OF OFFICE" reads: "I, _____, do swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States; and that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of Maryland, and support the Constitution and laws thereof; and that I will, to the best of my skill and judgment, diligently and faithfully, without partiality or prejudice, execute the office of Councilmember of Howard County according to the Constitution and Laws of this State." How is this proposal abiding by your oath? If this Sanctuary proposal passes, is this an impeachable act?

Thank you.

APPENDIX A - RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND^[1]

Footnotes:

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Editor's note— The rules of procedure are set out herein as adopted by the County Council on November 3, 1975, following a public hearing held on October 27, 1975.

Rule 1.001 - General.

These rules of procedure for the County Council are adopted under authority of section 208 of the Howard County Charter.

- (a) *Types of Meetings.* The Council shall hold regular legislative meetings and such other meetings, hearings, and work sessions as may be provided by law or required for the orderly conduct of business. All such meetings shall be open to the public. The Council may meet in closed session as permitted by the State Open Meetings Act. Any closed meeting, except a meeting that is closed to discuss a personnel issue, may be attended by any Councilmember, Special Assistant to a Councilmember, and appropriate County professional staff member unless the Council expressly further restricts attendance.
- (b) *Time of Meetings:*
 - (1) *Legislative session days.* The Council may sit up to 45 days in each year for the purpose of introducing and enacting legislation. Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the Council shall meet regularly on the first Monday in each month.
 - (i) If the first Monday is a County Government holiday or a day on which Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Eid Ul Fitr or Eid Ul Adha is observed, then the meeting shall be held on the next succeeding day which is not one of these days.
 - (ii) There shall be no legislative session in August, except for an emergency legislative session, unless the Council provides by resolution for a session in August.
 - (iii) During a Council election year no legislative session, except for an emergency legislative session, shall be held neither during the month of November nor during the month of December until a majority of the members of the Council shall be qualified.
 - (iv) The Council may be called into emergency legislative session either by the County Executive or by a majority of the members of the Council on any day as directed by the Chairperson.

- (v) At any session prior to any scheduled session, the Council may determine by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of its members not to sit at any regularly scheduled session.
 - (vi) If in advance of any scheduled meeting the Chairperson determines that a quorum will not be present, the Chairperson may cancel and reschedule the meeting as soon as practicable.
- (2) *Nonlegislative meeting days.* The Council shall meet for nonlegislative purposes, such as reviewing the County budget as proposed by the County Executive and conducting public hearings, legislative work sessions, monthly meetings and other meetings on such matters as may properly come before the Council on any day as directed by the Chairperson, but the Council shall be prohibited from holding meetings which include an opportunity for public testimony on any day on which Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Eid Ul Fitr, or Eid Ul Adha is observed.
- (3) *Meeting times:*
- (i) *Legislative session days.* A regular legislative session day shall convene on the date set at 7:30 p.m. or as determined by council majority. Emergency legislative sessions and annual legislative sessions shall convene at such times as directed by the Chairperson. Legislative session days shall continue 24 hours from the time the session is convened; the Council may recess from time to time or adjourn at any time during the 24 hours.
 - (ii) *Nonlegislative meetings.* Public hearings shall convene at 7:30 p.m. and work sessions shall convene at 4:30 p.m. on the date set, unless otherwise directed by the Chairperson.
- (c) *Place of Meetings.* The place of meeting of the Council shall be the Council hearing room at Ellicott City, Maryland, provided, however, that at the discretion of the Chairperson or at request of three Council Members, legislative sessions, work sessions or public hearings may be held at such locations as the Chairperson may provide.
- (d) *Notice of Meetings.* The Administrator to the County Council shall give such legal notice as is required by law of all Council meetings and hearings, and shall provide information to the news media and the general public as to the agenda and matters pending before the Council. Additionally, the Administrator shall keep all Council Members adequately informed as to Council agenda, meetings, and other legislative matters.
- (e)

Public Participation. Reasonable seating facilities shall be provided for the public and the news media at all public meetings. During public hearings upon pending legislation, the budget or other matters, a reasonable amount of time will be provided for members of the public to speak. The Council may allow members of the public to speak on legislation or other pertinent matters at work sessions of the Council.

The general public and representatives of the news media are expected and respectfully requested to maintain order and decorum in keeping with the dignity of the governmental process, and to refrain from interfering with this process. The Chairperson or a majority of the Council may regulate the use of radio and television equipment to minimize interference with the meeting or hearing.

- (f) *Oath of Office.* The following oath of affirmation, administered by the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Howard County, shall be taken by each Councilmember, at a public meeting in a place to be determined by the Councilmembers after consulting with the Councilmembers-elect before entering upon his duties:

"I, _____, do swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States; and that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of Maryland, and support the Constitution and laws thereof; and that I will, to the best of my skill and judgment, diligently and faithfully, without partiality or prejudice, execute the office of Councilmember of Howard County according to the Constitution and Laws of this State."

(Res. No. 135, 1980; Res. No. 45, 1989; Res. No. 50, 1992; Res. No. 140, 1994; Res. No. 146, 1994; Res. No. 13, 1996; Res. No. 133, 1999; C.B. 72, 2004; C.B. 81, 2004; Res. No. 11, 2011)

Definition of Aiding and Abetting

Noun

1. The act of helping, encouraging, or supporting someone in the commission of a crime.

Verb

2. To actively encourage, to assist, or to support the commission of a criminal act.

Origin of Abet

1875-1325 Middle English *abette*

What is Aiding and Abetting

In order to deter people from helping criminals get away with their crimes, the law makes giving aid a crime in and of itself. A person may be charged with the crime of aiding and abetting, even though he was not present during, or did not physically assist with, the commission of the crime. Someone who aids and abets a crime may provide support by giving advice, financial support, or by taking action not directly related to the crime itself, for the purpose of facilitating its success.

Example of Aiding and Abetting

When Della's boyfriend Rob, and his friend Steve, begin holding "private" meetings in the couple's basement, she knows something is up. A few weeks later, Rob comes home in a rush, hauling a couple of heavy bags down the basement steps. Worried, Della follows him down, to see a huge amount of cash in the bags, as Rob worked frantically to stuff it all into a hole in the wall behind the heating unit. Deciding she doesn't want to know, Della just pushes it out of her mind.

A couple of weeks later, the police come to Della's door, wanting to talk to her. When they tell her they have evidence that Rob committed a bank robbery recently, she acts shocked, and denies knowing anything about it. The truth is, she has suspected as much the day he brought the cash home, but has been reluctant to say something. Rob has ensured her a \$100,000 cut of the money, and she would hate for the authorities to carry it all away.

Throughout the investigation, in this example of aiding and abetting, Della denies any involvement with, or even knowledge of the crime. Della, by her actions (or failure to tell what she knows), is aiding and abetting her boyfriend's crime.

Testimony in support of CB-9 2017, January 17, 2017

My name is Jean Joklik. I am a Howard County resident in Mary Kay Sigaty's district and I am speaking in support of CB-9 2017.

I believe in the inherent worth and dignity of all people and find that **this bill represents a positive step for Howard County to ensure the safety and security of all residents.** I am especially concerned for my immigrant neighbors - documented and undocumented who live and work in Howard County. This bill is not only symbolic, although I do appreciate the symbolism. It is a very real safety concern for all residents that people are able to report crime without fear of deportation. It is a safety concern for children and families who live with domestic violence to know they can call for help without fear of deportation. It is a safety and security concern that children attend school while their parents work. And fear of deportation should never be a reason why immigrant children are at home instead of in school.

I am unconcerned that we will be flooded with immigrants. For goodness sake - where would they live? Let's not forget that housing costs in Howard County are unaffordable at the pay scale for the entry level jobs of many undocumented immigrants. The salaries of our teachers, police officers and fireman are often not enough for them to live in Howard County.

I understand that this **bill does not prevent enforcement of federal laws or prevent deportation of undocumented immigrants or people who commit crimes.** What it does is codify existing practice and firmly sets an example for the rest of the region and the country that Howard County really does choose civility for everyone.

I am unconcerned with the loss of federal funding for this reason - **human rights and dignity for all is not a value that's for sale in Howard County.** At a time when the United States and President Elect Trump have been placed on the Human Rights Watch list (a first for the US) I hope that you will actively and vocally supported this bill. **As one of the best places to live in the country we need to ask ourselves: what does that really mean if we can not ensure the safety and security of all of our residents?**

I moved my family here in 2007. For ten years we have enjoyed living and working here. In the last two years I have noticed a significant upswing in divisive and racist incidents in the community and in the public schools. This concerns me a great deal. I ask that all of you consider your vote in light of these incidents as well. **Please consider that CB-9 2017 puts responsibility and accountability at all levels of government in support of the #onehoward initiative.**

Please send a clear message with your support of CB-9 2017 that you represent all residents and that at all levels of government, we are a diverse, inclusive and compassionate community.

In beloved community,
Jean Glasson Joklik
Columbia, MD 21044

This Bill is fluff and is meant to only raise its supporters standing in 2 populations. Their current base and illegal immigrants who they hope will become legal someday and vote for them. It is that simple- this Bill is for votes. This is a violation of your oath of office and a breach of your fiduciary duty. You are to serve Howard County above personal political ambitions. If you remove your personal interests from the equation it will become clear to you the right decision for the interests of Howard County is to kill this Bill. Please make a motion to withdraw the Bill, you will get a second, I am sure of it.

Another real and impactful consequence of this Bill, and perhaps, the biggest consequence of this Bill should it pass into law is it will turn Howard County into a destination for illegal immigrants. Illegal immigrants who come here straight from foreign countries and illegal immigrants who are all over the United States--both seeking to live where they can break the law without fear of justice and be rewarded in the process by utilizing our tax payer funded services, like our schools and social programs.

A Councilor here tonight says she and her co-sponsor want to reassure county residents alarmed by statements regarding the Government dramatically increasing deportation of illegal immigrants.

You mean as *lawmakers* you do not support the Federal Government taking action against *law breakers*? As American Citizens you do not support the Federal Government trying to gain control over illegal immigration? If you really had an interest in a solution you would be seeking to connect with those on Capitol Hill tasked with immigration reform. As higher ranking elected officials from a State which borders Washington DC you can get an ear.

Let us look at a county right next door whose legislators voted to turn MC officially, into what is viewed as a sanctuary county. Let us just look at the facts—

Data from MC, MD--The Biggest Tax Hike in Seven Years As Student Achievement Wanes, 8.7% tax increase. ESOL Programs at MC schools increased by 42% and MC will spend \$412 million a year educating these ESOL students. This is \$412 million a year that isn't going to American citizens. Outrageous. Who pays the price? The taxpayers and American citizens who now have our schools dumbed down so illegal immigrants can be passed through. And some on the County Council of Howard County would like to follow in the footsteps of MC for votes and for their reelection. Unacceptable. Your oath of office is to serve the interests of Howard County and not the interests of an illegal population so you can advance your political career. Don't destroy Howard County. The end won't justify the means. Please move to withdraw the Bill. Thank you.

Testimony on Bill No. 9-2017

Russ Swatek

8141 Tamar Drive

Columbia, MD 21045

swatek1@yahoo.com

I believe the Council's heart is in the right place. But I also think the Council should look at the long-term consequences of the proposed action. I am against this bill for the following reasons:

First, there are legal ways to immigrate to this country. I am not prejudiced. I have alien Hispanic and Asian friends. The best man at my wedding is black and his wife is Columbian. Both are legal US residents. But that does not mean that I want their fellow countrymen jumping the line to immigrate to this country. Welcoming illegal aliens with open arms tells the world and our own citizens that our laws do not matter. This disrespect for the law can and will spread. I like your smart phone. I like your shoes. I like your car. Should I be able to take them now rather than wait until I acquire the resources to purchase them legally?

Second, over population of this country will harm the environment. An increasing human population will put increasing demand on our natural resources. The US Forest Service tells us that our National Parks are being loved to death. Environmentalists are telling us that human expansion is driving many species to extinction. The fertility rate of native born Americans is already very close to maintaining a steady state population. Almost all of America's population growth in recent decades is due to immigration. Do we want to be as population dense as China and India? When is enough people enough? We cannot keep adding people forever. We need to find a different approach to increasing people's well-being without continually adding more people.

Third, we are doing illegal immigrants' home countries no favors by giving their citizens a relatively easy escape. I admire the illegals that have the strength and desire to better their lives although the cost usually involves leaving familiar surroundings and family members to enter a land with new customs and language. I can only hope that in a situation similar to theirs that I would have the same strength and courage. But these are exactly the people that are needed to stay and improve their own country. We had a revolution to acquire our freedom and rights, and some died. They need to stay and have their own revolution to conquer the corruption and gangs prevalent in their countries.

Please reject this bill,
Russ Swatek

My name is Sonya Starr and I am an ordained Rabbi. Today I am representing Howard County's Board of rabbis and myself as a voting resident of Howard County. I am here asking each of you to vote for Bill No. 9-2017 and take a stand to protect some of our most vulnerable residents in Howard County.

I would like to begin by telling you two short stories. One about a woman named Sarah and the other about a man named William. Sarah was born and raised in the old country. She was the one of a very big family that was targeted for violence, unemployment, discrimination, and hate crimes on a regular basis. Her family designated her older single unattached brother to come to the United States of America. It took years before the system worked and he was finally granted legal passage to the United States. Unfortunately by the time the papers came, he was ill and unable to leave. So Sarah dressed up as a man left the old country at the age of 17. With one small problem yet to be solved, Sarah needed to be sponsored by an American citizen. Thankfully for her there were men who were for hire. You paid them enough money and they became your uncle for the day. I say lucky for her because she had the money in hand to pay; others paid by becoming prostitutes until they had paid off their passage.

The other person's story I would like to share with you is Williams. William was also born in the old country. His family's papers to immigrate to the United States did not come until he was 6 years old. Before that when he was four he fell down a flight of stairs. He destroyed his ear drum and never heard another sound again. Because of the lack of medical and educational resources available to those in poverty he never made any sounds except to grunt. When his family got to Ellis Island they lied and said he was shy, fluent in two languages, and had a head cold.

Both Sarah and William were allowed into this country and eventually became naturalized citizens. William grew up and married Martha another child immigrant. Sarah married Morris who also immigrated as an adult. Between the four of them their descendants became TV repair men, successful business men and women, CPAs, high school English teachers, decorated service men in the Navy and infantry, sign language interpreters, New York City defense lawyer, Columbus Ohio TV sports reporter, and social workers. Their descendants marched for civil rights, the end of the Vietnam War, lobbied our legislatures for better child care education, and marriage equality. They even have a congregational rabbi who lives and works in Howard County in their family tree. You see Morris, Sarah, William and Martha are my grandparents. All four of them immigrated to this country; two of them legally, following all the rules while two of them, Sarah and William's parents, lied, manipulated, deceived and bought their way into this country. The only thing that separates Sarah and William from the ND undocumented residents of Howard Country is 100 years.

Our undocumented neighbors have fled extreme poverty, relentless violence, horrific persecution and unavailable medical care to come to a country where they often do not know the language, the laws, how the schools or court system works in order to give their documented children and

grandchildren a better life. They are tax paying, hardworking contributing members of our community. They are the patriarchs and matriarchs of tomorrow's lawyers, doctors and county council members.

Why do I tell you the story of my grandparents? I tell you my grandparents' story because I am commanded as a Jew and as a human being to remember the lessons of the past. It says in the Hebrew Bible no less than 36 times to remember that you were a stranger in the land of Egypt. I am to remember what happened to the ship loads of people we turned back who died at sea or back at home. I am to remember that there are parts of this world that are so violent and terrifying, or so poor and hungry that we here in Howard County have no point of reference. I am to remember that the vast majority of immigrants to this country today just like 100 years ago are hardworking, dedicated, tax paying, contributing members of society. I am to remember so that I will do everything in my power to support, and legitimize their path to citizenship.

The Talmud is one of the oldest sacred Jewish books. It says in the Talmud "Whoever saves one life saves the whole world." When I originally signed up to testify, I did so as a private resident of Howard County. Between then and now the Howard County Board of Rabbis voted for me to represent them as we all ask you, the members of Howard County's County council, to save not only one life but many to codify our way of life so that the non-violent residents of Howard county will not have to worry about deportation because they ran a red light, or received a speeding ticket. We are asking you to vote for Bill No. 9-2017 and allow Howard County to become a sanctuary County protecting all its residents, not only those lucky enough to immigrate 100 or 200 years earlier. Thank you for your time and attention.

I am the 10 yr old that migrated to the United States with my parents from India, VISAs and passports in hand

I am the offspring of 2 hardworking, devoted first generation, undocumented immigrants. Laborers; the foundations of the economic stability in Howard County and around this nation. Taxpayers, sharing the burden of taxes with all of you.

I am the Murray Hill Middle Schooler that acclimated to new cultures, often coming across questions like, "How come you know English so well, you don't have an accent?"

I am the Junior at Reservoir High School who took every advance placement class possible - essentially completing the freshman year college course load.

I am the high school Senior who shied away from questions like, "have you heard back from any of the schools you applied to?"
Because how do you tell your fellow national honor society peers that college may not be meant for you just because you don't have a social security number, a 9 digit number that speaks for the lived marginality.

I am the leader that hosted Oprah's ambassadors in Howard County at Reservoir High School - only chapter in the state that helped outsourcing aid to West African schools. Not only helping build schools but sustain healthy classrooms for village children, who before then did not know what it feels like to go to school steps away from their home - **Ask me how to do away with the fear of losing federal dollars** - it is simple, value human beings and stand by a righteous fight - it is the lesson taught in Howard County Public School classrooms every single day.

I am one of few to have marched onto the Senate floor, defying civil disobedience to argue against policies unjustly separating families, snatching away a chance to pursue our "American DREAM." Dreams, that are not limited by borders.

I am the 1/10 2014 White House DACA Champions of Change.

I am UMBC alumni, Class of 2014

I am the emergency department medical scribe that carefully documents your medical histories.

I am the ICU technician who cares for your critically ill loved ones.

I am a 25 y/o breadwinner for my family, aspiring medical school student, a daughter, a sister putting her younger brother through flight school, your childrens' friend, your neighbor, a consumer - a contributor to the local economy, an undocumented citizen, a DACA recipient, most importantly a Howard County resident - taught and groomed in your schools and community.

I am a Howard County Undocumented youth, with deferred immigration status, sharing your tax burden everyday.

I am UNDOCUMENTED, UNAPOLOGETIC, UNAFRAID.

Recently, a statement made to denounce council bill 9, the Howard County Sanctuary bill reduced and compared hundreds if not thousands of Howard County residents to drug dealers, human traffickers, and child pornographers when justifying the partnership between local police and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The statement fails to consider that many felons and criminals are not born beyond the borders of this country. It is derogatory, shallow, dehumanizing, misinformed, and misleading. I am not here to justify my existence, I exist despite the barriers, walls, and borders that have imprisoned me. I exist, along with many others as economic misfits - fierce contributors to the local and national economy without any promises of recognition. Countless undocumented citizens of this community and I have earned the privilege to live in Howard County.

Respected Councilman and Council women, I want to urge you to make a sound and informed decision. In the spirit of celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King, he once appropriately said, "Shallow understanding from people of goodwill is more frustrating than absolute misunderstanding from people of ill will." I hope you are able to value the past and continued contributions of undocumented citizens of this community, I hope you decide to stand on the right side of history.

Columbia Democratic Club

Chair Jon Weinstein
Vice Chair Calvin Ball
Howard County Council
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21-43

Testimony in SUPPORT of Council Bill 9-2017: Sanctuary County

To the Honorable Howard County Council,

My name is Maureen Evans Arthurs and I offer this testimony on behalf of the Columbia Democratic Club. The Columbia Democratic Club, consisting of committed and civic-minded citizens of Howard County, has unanimously voted to support Council Bill 9.

As a county that prides itself on diversity and acceptance, opposition to this legislation is a stark contrast to our values. Misinformation and xenophobic rhetoric has isolated our vibrant immigrant community and we have friends, neighbors, and students living in fear. Protecting our most vulnerable citizens is our obligation.

At the outset, it should be noted that Council Bill 9 is really just a codification of existing practices among Howard County employees, particularly in law enforcement. For quite some time now, Howard County has had a long-standing policy *not* to make inquiries of the immigration status of those who seek the assistance of first responders and other services. This policy has been successfully implemented with no negative consequences. Council Bill 9 would only make these widespread practices law.

Council Bill 9 also contains a provision that does allow the Howard County Police to investigate an individual's immigration status if necessary to investigate criminal activity. Despite misinformation being circulated that CB 9 would increase criminal activity, this bill could actually help prevent crime. As you may know, various laws at the federal level deny undocumented residents access to banking. As a consequence, many of our immigrant neighbors are forced to conduct their day-to-day activities exclusively in cash. This results in our immigrant friends being targeted on the streets for robbery. Many are afraid to report being a victim of robbery for fear of being reported to ICE and deported. This bill is about empowering *all* citizens of Howard County to be able to report criminal activity without the fear of reprisal. Any police officer will tell you that the most valuable tool in their toolbox is information. Council Bill 9 ensures that citizens can provide valuable information to our police and others who serve and protect.

With those facts in mind, it bears reminding, that it is not a crime to be an ^{undocumented} ~~illegal~~ immigrant. Being undocumented is a civil infraction, not criminal. Any policy which serves to discourage a person from seeking the assistance of law enforcement simply because they are committing a civil infraction would be egregious. Council Bill 9 will serve as an important public safety measure.

Columbia Democratic Club

While Council Bill 9 contains a provision that expressly states it will not supersede any federal or state laws, this law has become very necessary in light of the national rhetoric on immigration. Due to the current climate surrounding immigrants and refugees in the United States, it is imperative that our local leaders act with the temperament and tolerance that is the hallmark of Howard County. Opposition to Howard County being established as Sanctuary County rejects who we are and the image we strive to project. For this reason and those listed above, I urge your support on Council Bill 9. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Maureen Evans Arthurs
President
Columbia Democratic Club

TESTIMONY OF WILLIE FLOWERS
PRESIDENT, HOWARD COUNTY BRANCH NAACP #7020
Council Bill 9-2017

Chairman Weinstein and members of the Council, thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on Council Bill 9-2017. First let me bring greetings on behalf of the Executive Committee and the General Membership of the Howard County Branch of the NAACP. Since 1944, the NAACP in Howard County has been one of the leading voices organized to improve the political, educational, social and economic status of minority groups as well as to eliminate racial prejudices. While the founding vision for Howard County was based on racial equality, we are entering into a new era where that vision is potentially under assault.

Today, I lend my voice in support of Council Bill 9-2017. The bill would create a “sanctuary city” in Howard County to prohibit the County and its agencies from inquiring about the immigration status of Howard County residents and from alerting federal law enforcement of those findings. We are aware that this proposed legislation would not preempt state and federal law enforcement actions, rather we are supporting the notion that local law enforcement should not be tasked with leading initiatives that are under the jurisdiction of federal immigration authorities.

Moreover, we believe that all residents should feel safe in their communities without fear of adverse actions from local officers who are tasked with protecting and serving all communities. The immigration status and final adjudication of undocumented residents will be determined in other venues by federal immigration officials. Until that time, we should come together as a community of shared values to ensure the “*American dream*” does not become a nightmare scenario played out in our schools, libraries and neighborhoods.

Finally, I should add to be clear: Symbolic doesn’t mean superficial. Any attempt to do good in an environment that awards cynicism is miracle work.

I respectfully urge the full Council to vote favorably on Council Bill 9-2017 to provide a sense of safety for all Howard County residents and its employees.

Testimony of Hang An on CB9-2017 (Sanctuary - Immigration and Citizenship)

January 17, 2017

Stance: **Against**

Dear Council Members,

My name is Hang An. I am a computer programmer and first generation immigrant. My family has lived in Howard County, the best place to live in this country, for 13 years. Today I am here to strongly oppose the CB9-2017 bill.

I am a Democratic and strong supporter of Ms. Hillary Clinton. I still do not like president-elect Donald Trump, and disagree with many of his positions. However, let me emphasize, this is not a time or matter about post-election disappointment, anti-Trump sentiment, hate, or diversity. This is about the future of Howard County, our home, our children's home. This is beyond Donald Trump and his administration. The timing of this bill is awkward and bad. It was introduced during the holiday season and right before the new president's inauguration. Even today, many people still have not heard about this bill at all. For such a critical matter, we simply cannot make a rush, risky and emotional decision.

Secondly, the content of this bill is vague. As much as I believe in all the good intentions behind this bill attempting to provide better benefits and protection to undocumented immigrants, it lacks practical details, especially in terms of financial funding, or how to make this feasible in the long term. Let me ask this question: are we going to use the same amount of taxpayers' money we have today (or actually less money due to the potential loss of federal funding) to support more people, OR increase taxes in order to provide the same benefits we have today to all people, documented and undocumented? Either way, how will this bill make financial sense to our whole community? For example, to our schools and already tight educational resources? We all live by real financial numbers, not by politics. Trump and sanctuary California can declare bankruptcy, shall we?

Due to the limited time I have today, I am not even going to talk about other major issues like public safety concerns.

Council members, this matter is crossing party lines. Here I urge you to please carefully consider or reconsider your position. We are counting on you.

Thank you!

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**County Council of Howard County, Maryland
2017 Legislation Session
Registration Day No. 1
Bill No. 9 - 2017**

The Stick Verses The Carrot ?

Dear Council Members,

I have read Bill No. 9 -2017 carefully and also studied Title 12 - Health and Social Services, Subtitle 21 - Rights of Non - U.S. - citizens. I have also read 12.2102. No Enforcement of immigration laws, and 12.2103 No inquiries into Citizenship, and 12.2104. Discrimination Based on Citizenship Prohibited, and 12.2105 Confidentiality of Information about Citizenship Status, and 12.2106. Changes in Practices.

In 1980 Los Angeles was the first to issue "Special order 40" prohibiting police to enforce title 8, section 1325 of the United States Immigration Code (Illegal Entry). Since then many local governments have adopted these types of ordinances. Electoral and Political action groups (Both for and Against) are driving the issue.

By now after forty years we should have many studies on crime and incarceration rates that relate to sanctuary governments and illegal aliens. These rates should indicate the impact this is having on the community! Just look at California's incarceration rates for convicted felons who are illegal immigrants in the correctional institutions. Look at the violent crimes and drug rates in Southern California and the demographics as to whom commit these acts.

Our own Baltimore Sun said we are following the progressive lead of Prince Georges and Montgomery Counties and Baltimore City. While Virginia Counties have taken the opposite approach resulting in a migration from Virginia into Maryland.

Why should residents have fair and equal access to County benefits and opportunities and services if they are illegal residents of the United States of America? I know what the Supreme Court ruling

states, but that doesn't seem to bother you in making your own rules.

The two lines referring to racist, xenophobic, islamophobic and a President-elect whom you quote as having "Bolstered such dangerous sentiments, makes me wonder what your true objective for Bill No. 9 really is!

How safe is a police officer who pulls over an undocumented immigrant driving a eighteen wheeler who can't read or speak English, for a traffic violation or unsafe truck? Not to think of the other motorists traveling the same roads?

I urge the council to stop the politics and do what is right for Howard County and the United States. Thomas Paine's "Common Sense" would a best seller if our children read such books!

How much of a financial drain on our hospitals, welfare, social security, SSI, Medicaid , food stamps and emergency shelter programs can we afford when the floodgates are open? Too many riding in the wagon instead help pulling it until the whole system fails. Shall we be expected to fund legal fees for illegal residents?

As for fear for personal safety and loss of civil liberties, I remember the Columbia Mall shootings and taking a Stop The Bleeding Course given by Howard County. I feel less safe now than I did when I moved to Howard County almost forty years ago! My car had all it's windows broken out in my own driveway. My Mail box was set on fire and destroyed!

I know the police can't be everywhere or rescue me in a mall shooting if bleed- out time is two minutes. Recently, the Federal Government settled refugees in our State but we are not allowed to know where they are, their background , or given any information to help our police identify them!

There are some statements I agree with on human rights, i.e. respecting the rights of others.

Finally, I ask - will the residents of Howard County bear the burden of increases in taxes and the loss of federal funds because we choose to avoid following the rule of law and common sense?

Andrew P. Napolitano, a former judge of the Superior Court of New Jersey wrote:

Thus the question: Are state and local governments required to help the feds enforce federal law? In a word: No.

The term “sanctuary cities” is not a legal term, but it has been applied by those in government and the media to describe municipalities that offer expanded social services to the undocumented and decline to help the feds find them -- including the case of Chicago's offering undocumented immigrants money for legal fees to resist federal deportation. As unwise as these expenditures may be by cities that are essentially bankrupt and rely on federal largesse in order to remain in the black, they are not unlawful. Cities and towns are free to expand the availability of social services however they please, taking into account the local political climate.

Enter the Supreme Court. It has required the states -- and thus the municipalities in them -- to make social services available to everyone resident within them, irrespective of citizenry or lawful or unlawful immigration status. This is so because the constitutional command to the states of equal protection applies to all persons, not just to citizens. So the states and municipalities may not deny basic social services to anyone based on nationality or immigration status. The high court has also prohibited the federal government from “commandeering” the states by forcing them to work for the feds at their own expense by actively enforcing federal law. As Ronald Reagan reminded us in his first inaugural address, the states formed the federal government, not the other way around. They did so by ceding 16 discrete powers to the federal government and retaining to themselves all powers not ceded.

The high court has also prohibited the federal government from “commandeering” the states by forcing them to work for the feds at their own expense by actively enforcing federal law.

As Ronald Reagan reminded us in his first inaugural address, the states formed the federal government, not the other way around. They did so by ceding 16 discrete powers to the federal government and retaining to themselves all powers not ceded.

If this constitutional truism were not recognized or enforced by the courts, the federal government could effectively eradicate the sovereignty of the states or even bankrupt them by forcing them to spend their tax dollars enforcing federal law or paying for federal programs.

Thus the Trump dilemma. He must follow the Constitution, or the courts will enjoin him as they have his predecessor. He cannot use a stick to bend the governments of sanctuary cities to his will, but he can use a carrot. He can ask Congress for legislative grants of funds to cities conditioned upon their compliance with certain federal immigration laws.

**Respectfully,
Dr. Charles A Priller, Jr. D.D.S, B.S. in Pharmacy**

Testimony of Judith Todes in Favor of Making Howard County a Sanctuary Jurisdiction

5457 Antrim Ct., Columbia, MD 21045

(410) 740-9341

I am Judith Todes, a retired immigration attorney and longtime resident of Howard County. My family has lived in Howard County for over 20 years. The diversity and welcoming nature of the community was one of the big draws. We were very pleased to be able to have our kids grow up in a diverse neighborhood. It helped make them the understanding men they are today. I thank Howard County for that and hope that you keep our community the welcoming place it is by passing this legislation.

The people I met, as an immigration lawyer, reminded me of my grandparents, who came here to escape the Tsar in Russia and to seek economic opportunities that were not available to them where they were born. Like my family members, immigrants cherish this country and the freedoms and opportunities that it has offered them. The immigrants I have worked with are among the most patriotic people I have ever met. They see this country as the land of opportunity and freedom that has saved them and allowed their families to flourish.

Some came without proper documentation. That too reminds me of my grandfather, who family lore says came here with a fake passport, listing his name as "David Brooklyn" so he would know where to go when he arrived. It never made him any less of an asset to his community. He was welcomed into this country, taught for many decades, was a respected scholar, and raised two sons, both of whom served in the military defending our country's freedom. Had the United States not welcomed my grandfather, he no doubt would have been killed by the Nazis, as his family who remained were all slaughtered.

Today's immigrants come for the same reasons as my relatives and deserve the same opportunities and shelter that my family was given. They too are fleeing countries where they are persecuted and cannot support their families. Think about it. What would it take for you to leave a country you know, where all of your loved ones live, to move to a foreign country, where the culture is strange and the language is unknown? People make these types of difficult moves only when there are great forces driving them. Today's immigrants come when their lives are in danger, when they cannot feed their families, when there is no other choice.

Some come without documentation because they can't get it. But, I don't condemn them. I am in awe of them. I look at them and only hope that if I was faced with a dangerous present and a horrible future for my children, I would have the courage and determination to do what they did. Take the risk. Cross the border. Live in uncertainty. To get my children a better future. These people are not shameful, they are heroes. They come here, work hard in pursuit of the American dream, and contribute greatly to this country.

It is our proudest tradition as a nation that we welcome in people who need us. And we have always been rewarded by the immigrants we have welcomed. Immigrants help grow our economy, care for our sick, feed us, and are our neighbors, friends and relatives.

Good Evening ,

My name is Jean Xu. I have lived in Howard County District 1 for 10 years. I immigrated from China more than 20 years ago and became a proud US Citizen after 10 years of waiting in the line. Currently I'm the president of Chinese American Parent Association of Howard County. My husband is a scientist. We are the hard-working middle class that pay taxes to support most of our County's operation.

I'm here tonight to strongly oppose CB9-2017.

Howard County has always been known for its diversity, inclusion, and civility. My High School daughter has friends from diverse backgrounds. She just learned some facts about fasting from one of her muslim friends and found it very interesting and shared it with me. She and her friend work on team projects and go to clubs together. We parents arrange car pool and became good friends as well. In addition, our county has many diverse programs / initiatives that support all members of the community. I have the privilege to be involved in a few of them, including the Culture Proficiency and Equity Advisory Committee, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, both are under HCPSS. I have always been very proud that my family lives in a place that respects all cultures and celebrates diversity. Therefore when I read this bill, I felt very offended by its language. The message in the bill appears to be that if we don't agree with your position then we must be xenophobic, Islamophobic or a racist and a bigot. This kind of narrative divides up and tears apart our wonderful community.

Introducing this bill does not prevent hate speech or provide additional protection as the stated intention of this bill. Quite the opposite, it creates problems. It has polarized this community unnecessarily. Council members, please look around this meeting room. So many people came out tonight, taking away our precious time with our family and friends. I believe many of you have received tons of emails and read thousands of social media posts with dividing opinions. Tension has been built up in our community after the introduction of this bill. And this very fact deeply troubles me. This bill does not make our county a better community. To the contrary, it will wreck the trust among our community members. Mr. Weinstein, Mrs. Sigaty and Mr. Fox, I urge you to vote against CB9-2017.

Thank you for listening.

Testimony in Support of CB-9-2017, January 17, 2017

My name is Jean Silver-Isenstadt and I am a Howard County resident here to speak in support of CB-9.

I am one of the guinea pig products of the bold experiment called Columbia, Maryland. My parents moved to Wilde Lake when I was four years old precisely because it wasn't like Baltimore, where racial bigotries had devastated neighborhoods, where property values suddenly collapsed as homeowners fled whenever people who didn't look like them or pray like them moved onto their block.

People came to Columbia attracted by racial and religious integration. Which was marketed. And the experiment worked. James Rouse was on the cover of TIME magazine for this visionary success. Last year Money Magazine ranked Columbia as America's best place to live. I have bragged about Howard County my whole life. Failure to pass this bill would make me stop.

Fear weakens a community. When people fear being rounded up, they fear authorities. They fear talking to the police if they've been the victim of or witness to a crime. They fear going to the emergency room if they've been hurt. Local law enforcement will have more ready support in the investigation of local crime if everyone trusts the police.

Our nation is about to swear in a President who is pro-registry, pro-incarceration, pro-torture, hostile to the free press, suspicious of all Muslims, and who has selected as a national domestic policy advisor a man who helped rebrand and legitimize the white supremacy movement. Neo-Nazis are calling for armed action against Jews in Whitefish, Montana. Here at home, even at my own Wilde Lake High School, Howard County school principals are starting to manage student-to-student hate crimes. Within the last 24 hours, the KKK leafleted yards in Ellicott City. In this context, CB-9 matters a great deal.

This bill does not override state or federal law. It is not radical. It may have little impact on the *current* practice of our police. But **it guards against slippage**. CB-9 demonstrates moral leadership during a critical juncture in our nation's history. And **moral leadership matters**. This bill's passage speaks not only to the sense of safety available to undocumented immigrants, many of whom have lived here from childhood, but to the sense of safety available to all of us.

I ask you to please support CB-9. Thank you.

Dear council members,

Good evening. My name is Hui Jiang. I have lived in Howard County for 16 years. I am a data manager and my husband is a scientist. Like all hard-working middle class, we contribute a lot of income tax to support our County's operation. Here I am strongly against CB-9 because I have many fears and concerns.

My first concern is that the safety of our community will be compromised if this bill passes. This bill is a short term, temporary, and potentially dangerous solution to the much bigger issue of citizenship rather than trying to make a political move to solve this issue in some way. Under sanctuary policies, illegal immigrants can obtain all the benefits living in Howard County regardless of their citizenship. So they don't have to strive to apply for citizenship and go through all the legal steps including criminal background check, medical exam, citizenship test, etc. Lack of criminal background check is very risky. As everybody knows, background check is crucial to maintain a safe and welcoming community. Therefore, I am afraid if this bill passes, the crime rate could increase. The bill could jeopardize the safety for majority of our county's legal resident and citizens.

I am also concerned that our county will run into more fiscal trouble if the bill is passed; our schools are already running out of budget in some areas. For example, during this school year, due to the shortness of budget, my daughter's high school no longer provides text books to every student in some classes. If we continue to increase expenditure without proper management, the quality of public school education we have worked so hard to build will be no more.

In addition, another concern is that our community will become unstable. Incoming illegal immigrants will definitely increase in our county as a result of this bill. This situation will add huge financial and economic burden. It may cause depreciation in housing values and degradation of public service. On the whole, I fear this sanctuary status will make our beautiful county become unattractive for law-abiding hardworking young people when they move into our community.

Please consider all of my realistic fears and concerns. We are all very vulnerable and do not want to become victims of CB-9. Please put the citizens and children of Howard County first.

Thank you,

Hui

47

African American Coalition of Howard County (AACHC)

Ensuring Protection of Constitutional Rights

***Establishing Howard County Maryland as a Sanctuary County for
Undocumented Immigrants Families***

Testimony on Howard County Council Sanctuary Bill No. 9-2017

Rev. Robert A. F. Turner, President

African American Coalition of Howard County (AACHC)

Tuesday, January 17, 2017

Good evening Mr. Chairman (Weinstein) and Members of the Howard County Maryland County Council. The community appreciates this opportunity to come before you in support of your continued leadership in the area of justice for undocumented immigrant families.

I am submitting this testimony on behalf of the African American Coalition of Howard County (AACHC). AACHC communicate and maintain access to the public through its meetings, approximately 4,500 e-mails and through social media.

As President of the AACHC, it has been very inspiring, as well as challenging over the past twenty years in providing leadership on some of the most critical local, state and national issues, to include "promoting justice for immigrant communities. "

To be specific, undocumented immigration management in Howard County Maryland is overall counter-productive:

And as the *Migration Policy Institute* would say, [*"with the incoming administration in Washington sketching a vision of immigrants and refugees as threats requiring heightened scrutiny and the construction of walls to deter entry"*], lack of policy on undocumented immigrants in Howard County adds unnecessary risk to the safety and security of local immigrant families.

Then the lack of policy on undocumented immigrants is an annoyance to a promised commitment of a "people oriented community Howard County maintains in honor of Jim Rouse, the founder of Columbia Maryland."

And there are, as labeled by the *Brookings Institute*, Trump's restrictionist positions on immigration.

In contrast, as many are saying, "by bringing undocumented immigrants into the legal immigration system and encouraging accountability to our immigration laws, they can become constructive partners with local police in public safety initiatives, while being provided the opportunity to earn citizenship in the future encouraging further civic responsibility."

Then too Mr. Chairman, as The Reverend Gradye Parsons, *Stated Clerk of the General Assembly Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)* says, "Faith bodies find the values of their tradition at odds with the values reflected in the implementation of immigration law and policy."

In addition, the National Immigration Forum states Mr. Chairman, "that by bringing undocumented immigrants into the legal immigration system and encouraging accountability to our immigration laws, they can become constructive partners with local police in public safety initiatives, while providing undocumented immigrants with an opportunity to earn citizenship in the future will encourage further civic responsibility."

Sanctuary cities, incidentally Mr. Chairman, are not foreign to Black Americans resulting from historical knowledge of the Contraband issue, the latter described by Andrew's Ward's *The Slave War* as being "freedmen during the Civil War for transport back to the slave south, simultaneously seeking protection." As the United States Park Service says: "as the Civil War progressed and Union troops moved deeper into Virginia, African Americans began to leave their masters, seeking protection behind Union lines."

Also, less we forget, *Harriett Tubman's Underground Railroad*, and work of other leading abolitionists, resembles the current Howard County sanctuary issue in that both of the latter focused on safeguarding slaves as they sought safe refuge in communities of the North.

More often also, according to the U. S. Park Service, "...contrabands were important to the construction and maintenance of the defense of Washington. Without the contrabands' numbers and labor, the defenses would not have been as successful as they were."

Hence, Howard Countians historical knowledge of above type sheltering, and what the *Brookings Institute* labels Trump's restrictionist position on immigration, perhaps is the driving force behind Howard Countians' desire for a local policy addressing the need of sanctuary protection measures for immigrants.

On the issue of federal retribution (i.e., Federal government withholding federal funds as punishment for Howard County safeguarding the constitutional rights of undocumented immigrants), we as a county must remember that Dr. Martin

Luther King, Jr. was clear that “you don’t fear death to the point that you tolerate injustice.”

That is, Howard County citizens must remember Civil Rights of the 60’s and the Wars fought by many of our families. Deadly though they might have been, we, never-the-less, fought those Wars and crossed those Civil Rights “bridges,” despite fear of death, bodily harm or reprisal.

Thus, the African American Coalition of Howard County fully relate to and concurs with the need for County Council Bill No. 9-2017, an “illegal immigrant protective measure” recently described by the Baltimore Sun as prohibiting local staff from:

- assisting federal officials in enforcing immigration laws or helping federal immigration officials to collect information about individuals;
- inquiring about the immigration status of those they encounter in their official duties (with some exceptions); and
- discriminating based on a person's immigration status; and that they must keep information about a person's immigration status confidential.

In closing Mr. Chair, let me again elevate the eloquence of Dr. King on the issue of protecting our constitutional rights:

“To accept passively an unjust system is to cooperate with that system; thereby the oppressed become as evil as the oppressor. Non-cooperation with evil is as much a moral obligation as is cooperation with good. The oppressed must never allow the conscience of the oppressor to slumber. Religion reminds every man that he is his brother's keeper. To accept injustice or segregation passively is to say to the oppressor that his actions are morally right. It is a way of allowing his conscience to fall asleep. At this moment the oppressed fails to be his brother's keeper. So acquiescence-while often the easier way-is not the moral way. It is the way of the coward.”

Again thank you for this opportunity to join others in “participating in a way forward for Immigration Reform.”

Sherman Howell for Rev./Dr. Robert A. F. Turner, *President*

African American Coalition of Howard County

Cc: *Press*

Public

January 17, 2017

Members of the Howard County Council:

I am Patrick Dornan, and live at 15528 Cattail Oaks, Glenwood, 21738, testifying against CB9-2017.

I am not here tonight to berate you for putting federal funds at risk. Nor am I here to talk about how this bill could cost the county untold dollars in areas including public safety and education. No, I will let others testify to that effect.

I am here tonight for two reasons.

- 1) I DEMAND that you STOP calling me a racist. No, I do not adhere to your political philosophy, which is wrong for America and cost you an election, but that does not make me a racist. There is not a racist bone in my body. I own a real estate investment and residential remodeling company. The legal immigrants that I know are the hardest working people anywhere, and often the most talented workers in many of the trades I require. Though I know full well where to find "able bodied young Hispanic gentlemen of questionable immigration status," and could indeed employ them on a "Don't ask, Don't tell" basis, I do not. Because, it is AGAINST THE LAW.
- 2) You need to understand that actions have consequences. Should you pass this legislation, I will have no choice but to undertake a county-wide effort to place an amendment to the Howard County Charter on the ballot for the next election. We the people of Howard County will be voting on a Recall Provision that gives us the right to fire, prior to the end of your term, those of you in government who, among other things, put themselves and their political agendas over and above the people that they represent. As you are fully aware, government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed, and whenever any form of government abuses its power, it is the right of the people to alter it.

If you do not believe that I can, or that I will, succeed in this effort, I urge you to think back to 2003, when Ken Ulman and Jim Robey forced an income tax increase upon us even though there was a surplus in the General Fund. In just 29 days, my friends and I obtained over 7000 signatures on a petition to bring that unjustified tax increase to the ballot. We did not prevail due to an incomprehensible decision by a leftist judge here in the DPRM. However, the effort was overwhelmingly supported. I am certain this one will be as well. After the fiasco with the sheriff this summer, and now this, the time for a recall provision is now.

I urge you to withdraw CB9-2017 immediately. Thank you for your time.

Testimony: Re: CB9-2017

Marcia White

9384 Diamondback Drive

Columbia, MD 21045

410 964-0067

It is very clear to me, based on all the anti-immigrant rhetoric that we cannot seem to escape, that people don't understand that the act of being present in the United States in violation of US Federal immigration laws is not, standing alone, a crime. That's a fact. Undocumented presence in the United States is a civil violation, not a criminal offense; therefore law abiding undocumented immigrants are not criminals. Undocumented presence in the United States is only criminally punishable if it occurs after an individual was previously formally removed from the United States and then returned without permission. So, to call all undocumented people "illegal aliens" is factually incorrect. And to treat them as criminals because they are undocumented is both legally and morally wrong. And to call them rapists and drug pushers and all other kinds of ugly things is wrong on every imaginable level. And what Councilmembers Ball and Terrassa are doing by introducing this bill is saying "We, in Howard County, aren't going there" and I support that 100%. My understanding of this bill is that Howard County employees, police, and elected officials, will not question ANYONE about their

immigration status as they go about their day to day lives in the County. I support that 100%. This bill would ensure that all LAW ABIDING people living in the County have nothing to fear of the police or any other county employee as far as questioning or investigating their immigration status. Immigration enforcement is not and should not be the job of the Howard County Government, including the Police Department. People should not be afraid to contact anyone in our local government. I support that 100%. This bill would allow anyone who is a victim of a crime or a witness to a crime, to cooperate with police without worrying about their status being questioned. It would also foster cooperation with the police and allay some of the fear immigrants have of the police, thereby really changing the department's relationship with immigrant communities. I support that 100%. However, and this is very important, If a person commits a crime, and they happen to be undocumented, they will still be prosecuted as they would have been before this legislation took effect. Their immigration status will be determined as the legal process plays out.

Perhaps a more appropriate word than "sanctuary" should be considered to name the bill because that word implies refuge from the law, and that is not what this bill is about. This bill is about anti-harassment and civil rights protection.

So many people are afraid. I understand that. I'm personally more afraid about where we are heading as a nation than I ever

have been in my life. And some people here today are afraid that if this legislation passes, then our County will become a beacon for undocumented immigration. Well, we already are a beacon for people because we are the Best Place to Live in America. And we celebrate our diversity and we try to find ways to make this County a better place to live for everyone. And we choose civility. And we are educated. And we understand that undocumented immigration is a problem that needs to be resolved on a national level. And we aren't going to buy in to the ugly rhetoric surrounding immigration. What we are going to do with this legislation is let people go about their lives without fear of harassment.

Address : 10201 Breconshire Rd (District 1)
Ellicott City, MD 21042

This is the testimony of Xin Yi on Howard County Sanctuary Bill (CB9-2017)

My name is Xin Yi and I want to introduce myself as an immigrant. I made several choices when I grew up. I chose to study and work very hard to attend college then to get a good job here 10 years ago. It was a long and difficult journey to obtain legal residency status. But I made these choices so my kids can live a life with dignity. I am sharing my story here because it is very similar to many other immigrants like me.

My husband and I have built a small family with two kids. Like many others, we have chosen Howard County because of its low crime rate and great schools. In reading the news, MS-13 gang in DC often recruits young illegal immigrants. Washington Metro Area has seen an increased gang-related violence from illegal immigrants, including Montgomery County, where the Police said they investigated eight gang-related murders in 2015 alone. These happen to be the Sanctuary county or city you are proposing for Howard county. Although I recognize that most undocumented immigrants do not engage in criminal activities, but don't you think that ONE crime is too many if it could've been prevented with proper enforcement of immigration laws?

I've also found out that there are estimated 250,000 undocumented immigrants living in Maryland. Majority of them live in Sanctuary cities. And the annual costs added to Maryland Taxpayers to support them are close to \$2 billion². On top of that, CB-9 will risk losing federal funding. Montgomery county has seen sharp tax hikes since it declared "Sanctuary" and they have seen 42% student increase in its ESOL program last year ALONE. It is OBVIOUS that CB-9 will add additional financial burden to each tax payer.

The question I have today is:

1. Why do you propose a bill to bind the hands of our police officers to keep the crime rate low in Howard County?
2. Why do you want to attract more undocumented immigrants to come live in Howard County and add more burden to the tax payers?
3. When Federal funding is cut off, do you plan to raise taxes or reduce services?

A measure to place a "Sanctuary" label only offers false sense of security and cannot prevent immigrants from being deported from federal enforcement. It just compromises local public safety. I strongly believe CB-9 will attract more undocumented criminal immigrants to Howard County and undermine the hard work of law-abiding residents. And that is why I OPPOSE CB-9 for Howard County! Thank you!

¹ Data Source: <http://dailycaller.com/2016/06/24/dc-officials-blame-illegal-immigration-for-crime-spike/>

² Data Source: <http://www.newsmax.com/US/illegal-immigration-cost-maryland/2015/10/19/id/696999/>

1/17/17

Good Evening. My name is Pravin Ponnuri, a Howard County resident, residing at 4616 Broken Lute Way, Ellicott City.

I would like to thank County Councilman Dr Calvin Ball & County Councilwoman Jennifer Teressa for introducing Bill No 9-2017.

While this bill reiterates the core values of Howard County as it relates to issues on human rights and providing equal services to all individuals, regardless of race, ethnicity or immigration status, I am concerned about the unintended consequences of this bill.

I am afraid that, declaring Howard County as a sanctuary county may give the undocumented immigrants a false sense of hope that Howard County offers them rights and privileges in addition to what the federal or state government may provide. Declaring Howard County as a sanctuary county may also give an impression that we may be circumventing existing state and federal laws.

We need urgent immigration reforms, but that this not the intent of this bill, and I would request that this bill clarify that.

Most naturalized citizens of Indian, Chinese, and Korean origin living in Howard County had to spend over 15 years, and tens of thousands of dollars to become legal citizens. The legal process is not easy. Those of us who did it the right way are concerned that this bill might lead to creating short cuts for some who don't follow the law.

I recommend that the bill be amended to declare Howard County to be an "Equal opportunity & Equal rights County", and recommend that the bill be amended to emphasize that this bill does not violate any state or federal laws, and does not give any additional rights for the undocumented immigrants.

I thank you for bringing forward this bill, and request all members of the county council to approve this bill with the recommended changes, that is of declaring Howard County as a Equal opportunity & Equal rights county, and emphasizing that this bill does not violate any state of federal laws, or give any additional rights or privileges to the undocumented immigrants in addition to what the federal or state governments may provide.

Thanks for your time and have a great evening.

Michael Walther
9435 Joey Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

3rd generation HO CO resident. Grandmother, parents, myself. Grandmother's land is part of the expanded YMCA property. I grew up in the MT Hebron development and my wife in the Valley Meade development. We have been married and lived in Valley Meade for 25 years, and raised 4 kids here.

Opposition to CB-9:

CB-9 will shine a beacon to attract non-US citizens (illegally in the US) to Howard County. What this means to me. My County government is:

- 1) Taking summer and part-time job opportunities away from my kids (legal citizens) in favor of individuals that are breaking federal law.
- 2) Taking college openings away from my kids. My first son was wait-listed at UMCP due to too many accepted, qualified students from our zip code. Now, my next son or daughter may be wait-listed due to even more competition – this time by students who are not legal residents in the US or who's parents are not legal residents in the US. Illegal activities/citizens taking opportunities away from my legal family is not acceptable.
- 3) Made up of elitists. As there is an exception in CB-9 for individuals running for government positions, it seems that my representatives are more concerned about their jobs than the jobs of the hard working legal citizens of their county. What's good enough for the "Ruled Class" is not good enough for the "Ruling Class". So, you can take away jobs from me and my kids, but you are not willing to jeopardize your own positions on the HO CO board.

Thanks,

MICHAEL WALTHER

P: 410.696.2565

mwalther@ebiconsulting.com

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

CB9-2017

James D. Walsh

January 17, 2017

“Every person elected, or appointed, to any office of profit or trust, under this Constitution, or under the Laws, made pursuant thereto, shall, before he enters upon the duties of such office, take and subscribe the following oath, or affirmation: I,, do swear, (or affirm, as the case may be,) that I will support the Constitution of the United States; and that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of Maryland, and support the Constitution and Laws thereof; and that I will, to the best of my skill and judgment, diligently and faithfully, without partiality or prejudice, execute the office of, according to the Constitution and Laws of this State.” Maryland Constitution, Article 1, Section 9.

“This constitution, and the laws of the United States ... shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby, any thing in the constitution or laws of any state to the contrary notwithstanding.” U.S. Constitution, Article VI, Clause 2.

The doctrine of state (or local) nullification of federal law has been discredited since the Civil War.

Preamble to CB9-2017:

Conflates illegal immigration with legal immigration.

Uses inflammatory and hateful rhetoric in describing those individuals who hold a different political view than its sponsors. (So much for “Chose Civility in Howard County”.)

Text of CB9-2017:

The bill is filled with general rules, numerous exceptions, and exceptions to the exceptions (although those exceptions to the exceptions may themselves be superseded by another exception). The bill is so vague and contradictory, County employees are all but guaranteed to violate it one way or the other.

As a result, all the bill effectively does is expose the County to needless liability:

- (A) By a federal or state agency suing the County for damages for enforcing the law,
- (B) By an illegal immigrant suing the County for damages for violating the law,
- (C) By a legal resident who was injured by an illegal immigrant,
- (D) By withholding of federal or state funds

Some Specific Problems:

12.2103 (B)(1) *Registration to Vote - What if a County employee discovers that a non-citizen is already registered to vote?*

12.2103 (B)(2) *Applicants for Police or Corrections - What if a County employee discovers that a non-citizen has been sworn in as a Police or Corrections officer?*

12.2106 - *What if the County Attorney's opinion is wrong?*

Testimony On
County Bill 9-2017
By
David Kroop
2587 Wellworth Way
West Friendship, MD 21794
DCK968@verizon.net

Having read, in its entirety, Bill 9-2017, I find yet another attempt to legislate Federal power at the local level. By passing such a bill as this one, we are saying to the Federal Government that we know better than they, and laws that apply to the rest of the country, do not apply to us. Not only is this arrogant, but it sets a unanticipated precedence whereby local government can superseded Federal law whenever it suites them. Does this not create a country without basic unifying laws? One could go the next step and argue that if someone is hungry, they have a right to break into a grocery store or a private residence to gather food- after all they have rights also, or perhaps the council could legislate that other basic rights granted by the U.S. constitution will not be accepted in our county. Is this where we want to go? There is the slippery slope that the "Sanctuary County" bill open up. Maybe 20 years from now another council will decide other Federal laws that we currently hold dear, should be disobeyed. Maybe an Amendment to the constitution should be removed or rewritten?

In doing my due-diligence on this topic I found many instances where crime within the "sanctuary" increased significantly. The Sanctuary became a magnet for those illegal immigrants who had a tendency towards criminal activities. Law enforcement became ineffective in protecting its citizens, reducing their function to arresting perpetrators after the fact, despite knowledge of their criminal past. Does the council want the tax payers of our county to experience a rise in violence? The county has an enviable and attractive status because of its relative perceived safety. Turning it into a Sanctuary will diminish this status and could lead to a **significant decline in tax revenues** (Landry testimony to House Judiciary Committee - Sub Committee on Immigration and Border Security).

Studies on the effects of a Sanctuary City have shown time and time again that crime rises by as much as 68% (Vaughn. Center for Immigration Studies, Jan 2014). We cannot guarantee that all these protected illegal immigrants will behave in a civil manner. It would be delusional to think such. Again Vaughn shows that in Los Angeles, two thirds of the outstanding warrants were for illegals, and that of 9,265 illegals shielded from deportation, 62% had significant prior criminal histories. Sanctuary Cities illegals commit crimes, then roam free in the community. Is this what the council wants to burden the residents of Howard County in exchange for political points?

Sanctuary Cities encourage further illegal immigration and promote an underground economy that **sabotages the tax base**. Such a enactment of the Sanctuary County Bill would serve to victimize the current legal residents. Does the council want to encourage violent ethnic gangs to find a home in our county? Do they want to shelter serial criminals who commit murder and mayhem in our communities in exchange for a "**political feel good bill**"? **Now is not the time and this bill certainly is not the device.**

In conclusion, based upon my research, **I can not support such a bad bill. I strongly recommend its permanent removal from consideration.**

I come before you this evening, not as a proud son of a legal immigrant mother - - nor will I preach on the abhorrent thought of harboring those who are in our wonderful County illegally - - what I rise to speak to you about is the sense of “duty to our system of government” and the precedent you would set for future generations by picking and choosing which Federal and State laws our local County Government will enforce or take part in enforcing. This is the epitome of opening Pandora’s Box...

Be careful what you do, as it will likely come back to haunt the men and women of Howard County for generations to come.

For the record, I am against this bill and any others subsequent versions that would declare Howard County a Sanctuary County or that would contain any language that provided anything less than 100% support to our State and Federal laws.

Don Cochran

14097 Monticello Dr.
Cooksville, MD 21723

Clara Allsup

January 17, 2017

Testimony in Support of CB9-2017

Good evening. My name is Clara Allsup and I am a resident of District 5 in North Laurel. I am speaking today to express my overwhelming approval and support of CB9-2017 to designate Howard County as a sanctuary county.

My parents are both immigrants to this country, and settled right here in Maryland when they arrived. My father came here from Egypt, and my mother was an undocumented immigrant from Mexico. My family was not a burden on our community. My parents paid their taxes and worked incredibly hard in order to provide us with everything we needed, instilling those values in us as well. In my life so far, I have served in our military, graduated from the University of Maryland, been accepted to graduate school, and aspire to become a teacher. My point is, that immigrants and their families contribute to their communities, and help make this community the strong and incredible place it is.

I am gravely concerned about possible changes in immigration policy with the upcoming administration. Trump has stated that he wants to triple the amount of immigration officials, and I think that is more than enough resources being spent to support that effort. Wasting our resources here in Howard County is not only unnecessary, but I believe would hinder state and school officials from completing their jobs. Let's leave immigration issues to ICE.

One of the biggest counterarguments to this proposed bill is that there would be increased crime. These concerns are completely unsubstantiated and are the unfortunate result of xenophobic fearmongering, plain and simple. Time and time again, statistics have shown significantly lower rates of crime among immigrants, including the undocumented. For instance, data from the 2010 Census shows that native-born Americans are 3-5 times more likely to commit crimes than those who are born abroad. Worrying about increased crime makes no logical sense, and demonizing our citizens because of their documentation status is despicable. Immigrants uproot and leave their home countries to create a better life for themselves and their families, *because* they don't want to resort to crime.

I believe that there is a deeply symbolic importance in declaring Howard County as a sanctuary. This is about our values and our principles, and the sheer attention this issue has received should be a good indicator of that. By stating that we will not participate in a witch hunt on our own residents, we also declare that we will not support similar initiatives such as "stop and frisk" on black and African-Americans or surveilling Muslims with a registry system.

I oppose discrimination and stand here to support inclusivity. I will not tolerate discrimination of any kind, starting with our undocumented residents and I ask the same from our elected officials.

30

Council Bill 9-2017

David Dobbs

1/17/2017

I stand here in opposition to Council Bill 9-2017 because the sovereignty of a Country, State or County depends on citizens to be responsible for government and protection of its land and laws. By ceding those responsibilities, or even parts of those responsibilities to non-citizens influences and undermines the basic rights OF the citizens. I understand that the Council Bill does not give rights to the illegal immigrants, but, by the very nature of excluding them from federal law by ignoring an individual's citizenship legitimacy, is in fact, providing them a right.

By providing another layer of autonomy for illegal activity, those who are already breaking the law and are in our country illegally, you

allow more opportunity for them to financially drain our limited County resources – our tax dollars – and not be accountable to support the tax base that supports the legitimate County’s financial obligations.

I speak as a 4th generation German American who heard my mother talk about her grandfather’s family’s story of coming to America and working to earn citizenship. My Great-Great Grandparents, like millions of other immigrants, did not ask for special favors or rights, but understood and followed the rules and requirements of gaining citizenship.

I’m not advocating the police and other law enforcement officials walk around, “asking for Citizenship papers,” however, by not confirming citizenship at the appropriate legal checkpoints, - when a crime has been committed, when someone attempts to get a driver’s license, when enrolling in our county

school system, or perhaps registering to vote, then those illegal immigrants start eroding the rights of American Citizenship by lowering the standards of what defines a legal citizen.

This bill is supposedly based on human rights, well, just as important as human rights are, are the rights of its citizens. I do not hate, nor am I prejudice to other nationalities, however, what I do not want to see is a normalization of illegal activity. How can we, the taxpayers, expect fair and equal access to our County benefits, opportunities and services when we have to stand in line - behind those who are here illegally. As a tax-paying citizen of Howard County, I expect my taxes to pay for responsible government programs which support the County's citizens. I know that if this County is even perceived as a "Sanctuary County" the inclination will be to migrate here and increase the utilization of our emergency rooms

resources, homeless facilities, school system, court system and will be less likely to serve our tax paying citizens as it will illegal immigrants.

I would strongly request that you represent me and vote "No" to this bill.

Thank You.

Testimony for Howard County Council on CB9-2017

Legislative Hearing, 01/17/2017

Thanks to the Howard County Council for allowing me to testify today. My name is Jonathan Hanen, and I am here to testify on behalf of FAIR, the federation for American Immigration Reform, a 501c(3) nonprofit located in Washington, DC, with over 1.5 million members, that seeks to educate the public, the media, and elected officials about the harmful effects of uncontrolled illegal immigration and the need to reform our nation's immigration laws in accordance with the national interest.

Let me begin with the story of Sarah Root from Omaha Nebraska. Sarah Root had just graduated college with a 4.0 GPA when the very next day, on January 31st 2016, her SUV was rear-ended by an illegal alien from Honduras named Edwin Mejia who was drag racing. Mejia is currently at-large somewhere in our country. He was charged with vehicular homicide, posted bond, and was released by the authorities in Douglas County, Nebraska because that county has adopted sanctuary city policies that impede or prohibit the cooperation of local law enforcement with ICE officers. Specifically, Douglas County refuses to comply with ICE detainer requests. (For those not familiar with the issue, an ICE detainer is a Federal request that State and local jurisdictions hold an illegal alien for a limited time so that Federal officials can assume custody).

Similar stories are being heard all over the country, such as those of 16 year old Tessa Trenchant and Ali Kunhardt of Virginia Beach or Kate Steinle of San Francisco. Tessa and Ali's killer had been twice convicted of a crime and Kate's killer had seven felony convictions and had been ordered deported five times. Tessa, Ali, and Kate would likely be alive today if, Virginia Beach and San Francisco had honored ICE detainer requests and turned these repeat offenders over for deportation during the various times their killers were arrested and released by local authorities.

It is often said that the first task of government is to protect the life, liberty, and property of its citizens. So how did it come about that thousands of illegal aliens who have been convicted are being released without deportation? How did it come about that citizens are dying at the hands of previously convicted illegal alien criminals and illegal aliens who have been ordered deported, sometimes on multiple occasions? The answer is that certain cities and counties declare themselves to be harboring havens for illegal aliens.

To get some clarity on the problem, it is useful to ask: What is a sanctuary city? At this point, there are about 300 to 400 sanctuary cities and counties in the US. The term "sanctuary city" is not a precisely defined legal term. It has evolved over time in the public discourse to designate municipalities that offer expanded social services to illegal aliens and refuse to assist ICE in apprehending them. The typical sanctuary city or county is one that prohibits sharing information with ICE about the immigration status of a detained criminal suspects, and refuses to comply with ICE detainer requests, unless they are accompanied by a federal warrant.

It is common for sanctuary cities and counties to criminalize any sort of reporting of a criminal suspect's immigration status to ICE. Sanctuary policies create local ordinances that leave law enforcement officers open to prosecution for complying with federal immigration law, and this produces a chilling effect that makes the officers disinclined to ever report the immigration status of a suspect when the identity of the suspect is confirmed in searches of federal databases.

The choice of sanctuary cities and counties not to assist with federal immigration law and ICE detainers is legally legitimate—as opposed to wise, good, or just—because our federal system guarantees that states cannot be forced to implement a program of the federal government at their own expense. By deliberately making it difficult to enforce federal laws against illegal alien criminals, Sanctuary cities encourage more uncontrolled illegal immigration and further weaken border security.

How extensive is the problem of uncontrolled illegal immigration, and specifically how many illegal alien criminals are at-large?

The DHS estimates that there are currently 11 to 13 million illegal aliens residing in US territory. Recent ICE estimates indicate that there 1.9 million deportable criminal illegal aliens plus nearly 1 million processed by federal courts and ordered deported, as well as an unknown but significant number of illegal aliens who jumped bail, skipped hearing, or were released by a sanctuary city or county. ICE is over-whelmed and needs the assistance of local law enforcement with detainers and information sharing in order to keep Americans safe from criminal illegal aliens.

With CB9-2017, Howard County is in danger of becoming one of the more extreme harboring havens, as is clear from section 12.2102. NO ENFORCEMENT OF IMMIGRATION LAWS generally stipulates that an employee shall not engage in enforcement of federal immigration law or collection of immigration status information. Section 12.2103. NO INQUIRIES INTO CITIZENSHIP generally stipulates that no employee shall inquire into the citizenship, nationality or immigration status of a person in connection with their duties. Both of these general provisions contain a crucial exception by adding the caveat EXCEPT AS REQUIRED OR AUTHORIZED BY STATE OR FEDERAL LAW, INTERNATIONAL TREATY, OR AN EXISTING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND A FEDERAL, STATE OR LOCAL AGENCY.

In effect, the proposed sanctuary bill CB9-2017 would bar local law enforcement from complying with an ICE detainer request. It block them from inquiring into the immigration status of a detained criminal suspect and block them from reporting the immigration status of an illegal alien when it is revealed in the course of identifying the suspect via the search of a federal database—all with the caveat UNLESS it is required by state or federal law.

However, if Howard County passes the sanctuary bill CB9-2017, it may well come into conflict with § 642 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act and § 434 of the

Welfare Reform Act of 1996. Researchers at the Immigration Law Reform Institute claimed in an op-ed for the Hill newspaper that “These two provisions prohibit state and local governments from restricting federal requests for information about any person’s immigration status and mandate that local officials may not be barred from maintaining such information. Without question, information-sharing between state and local governments and the federal immigration agencies is the law of the land.”

Sanctuary law enforcement policies, like CB9-2017, put local law enforcement in a no-win situation. If they enforce the federal law, they run afoul of sanctuary city ordinances and they are often subject to expensive lawsuits launched by open-borders law firms. If they do not assist with ICE information sharing, as they are legally allowed to do, they know they are thwarting the federal immigration law. Moreover, as a matter of conscience, most law enforcement officers, like most Americans, are keenly aware that providing a harboring haven for illegal aliens only encourages more illegal immigration and cheats those who applied to immigrate legally.

A fix for this conundrum of local law enforcement is contained in the Toomey-Black Stop Dangerous Sanctuary Cities ACT (STOP Act) that was recently re-introduced in Congress. Section 2 (a-b) of the STOP Act will eliminate any constitutional objections to ICE detainers by making all State officials who carry out detainers DHS employees for that limited purpose, and it will remove liability from State and local officials for complying with detainers.

The STOP Act will also address two of the main concerns raised in the pre-amble of the Howard County bill (CB9-2017). First, section 2c of the STOP Act waives the immunity for “any person who knowingly violates the civil or constitutional rights of an individual.” The immunity only extends to complying with ICE detainers and sharing information, the officers, like any US citizen, are liable for violating the civil and constitutional rights of individuals. Second, section 3b of the STOP Act guarantees that local jurisdiction will not be required to share information or comply with a detainer request for individuals who are a “victim or a witness to a criminal offense.” In other words, illegal aliens who serve as witnesses will be shielded from deportation.

Let me dwell for a moment on the claim that if local law enforcement honors ICE detainers, it will have a chilling effect that will make illegal aliens afraid to report crimes committed against themselves or others. This view is based on simple ignorance of the law and the facts. Illegal aliens have always been able to apply for a U-visa that grants them lawful status in exchange for assisting police. A major study completed in 2009 by researchers from the University of Virginia and the Police Executive Research Forum found no decline in crime reporting by Hispanics after the implementation of a local police program to screen offenders for immigration status and to refer illegals to ICE for removal.” In practice, law enforcement rarely, if ever, inquires into the immigration status of crime witnesses. In fact, there is not one documented case where an illegal alien reported a crime or volunteered information that was useful to the police and then was swiftly deported.

I reject the premise of the Howard County bill's pre-amble that honoring ICE detainer requests somehow poses a threat to civil rights of Americans is laughable on its face. No one is suggesting that law enforcement should randomly stop people and require them to prove their citizenship. What is being suggested is that local law enforcement should follow the law of the land by sharing information with ICE regarding only those suspects who have been arrested under probable cause and who it has been determined, in the ordinary course of criminal identification via federal database searches, have been ordered deported or are otherwise wanted for questioning by USCIS.

I reject the premise of the bill's pre-amble that somehow there is a universal human right to live in the United States. The question is indeed one of fairness and the rule of law. Are we to have one uniform law for everyone and continue to be a nation of immigrants who came here legally through the rule of law? Or are we to descend further into illegal immigration lawlessness by rewarding those who broke the law to come here with sanctuary county protections from federal immigration law and Maryland tax-payer funded benefits?

I also reject the premise of the bill's pre-amble that the current federal immigration laws and the system of ICE detainers are somehow racist, xenophobic, and bigoted. The question, again, is one of fairness and the rule of law. Are we to remain a sovereign nation-state whose voters are capable of deciding, through the agency of elected representatives, how many individuals with which diverse skill sets we wish to invite to join our political community? Or, is the precious gift of American citizenship to be seized by the arbitrary force of those who illegally enter the country and take up residence outside the law in a harboring haven?

By refusing to comply with ICE detainer requests and by refusing to share the immigration status of criminal suspects with the USCIS, the Howard County Council is signifying its intent to frustrate federal immigration laws and thereby to join the league of 300 sanctuary cities that are attempting to foist an open-borders policy on the rest of the country. If passed, Howard County will join these sanctuary jurisdictions whose policies undermine the rule of law, encourage more illegal immigration, cheat the millions across the world who applied legally to become an LPR, to increase taxpayer costs for social benefits, lower wages, lower the quality of educational services by flooding the schools with LEP's, and pose both a public safety and national security risk.

Howard County Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

My name is Daniel Newberger, my family and I live at 6524 Hazel Thicket Court in Columbia. I am a proud first generation Howard County resident.

My wife, Laura, and I chose to move to Howard County because we think it is the best possible place to raise our two young children. We strongly believe in the values that Columbia and Howard County have historically represented – the values of diversity and tolerance. We believe that Howard County represents the best that is America, and we are proud to live here.

I am not by nature an outwardly political person. Maybe it is a habit from my years serving as a military officer. I do always vote, and sometimes I donate. But I don't protest. I don't march. I don't agitate. I read online about other people's opinions, but I don't post my own. I stay on the sidelines. I go to work, I provide for my family. I take my kids to the pool. I keep my head down. I don't cause trouble.

At least, that's what I used to do. But I can't stay on the sidelines any longer.

Because these are not ordinary times. When the president-elect chose to enflame fears of an imaginary immigration crisis, he was tapping into the ugly undercurrent of American history: fear and hatred of The Other. Fear and hatred of those with darker skin, those with thicker accents, those who worship a different god, those who live a different lifestyle. Throughout our history, Americans who believe that our nation can rise above our basest, cruelest human natures have had to fight to beat down the forces of fear and hatred.

So I can't stay on the sidelines now. And neither can you, the represented officials of the people of Howard County. I chose a side, and now it's your turn.

Luckily, the citizens of Howard County have already made it very easy for you to choose your side. We have already told you which side to choose, and I don't mean those of us here in this room, or those few voting on Facebook polls. In November's fateful election, the voters of Howard County resoundingly rejected the president-elect. Seventy-one percent of us rejected him. Seventy-one percent of us rejected his fear-mongering, and his hate-mongering, and his appeals to the worst aspects of our human nature. Seventy-one percent.

Executive Kittleman, even if half of that seventy-one percent stay home in two years, even if half of us don't show up and vote on Tuesday, November 6, 2018, we still will have the numbers to replace you with someone who reflects our values, the values that we believe Howard County stands for, and must continue to stand for.

Councilperson Weinstein, sixty-two percent of District One voters rejected the president-elect and his message of hate. Sixty-two percent, and that is not counting the early voting and absentee voting, for which we don't have breakdowns by district.

Councilperson Sigaty, seventy-three percent of District Four voters rejected the president-elect. Seventy-three percent! The people of Districts One and Four, along with those of Districts Two and Three, have told this Council very clearly which side they must choose.

Even if this bill's opponents are correct that this legislation won't help those it wants to help – even if the facts support the bill's opponents, which the facts do not – but even supposing that they are correct, even supposing this bill is just symbolic, just words, even then, passing this bill is still the right thing to do. Because in today's America, more than ever, symbols matter. Words matter. Howard County needs to stand up and be counted. We need to tell the rest of the country that we have chosen a side. We are not afraid. We do not hate.

If this bill's opponents are correct, if Executive Kittleman is correct, that passing this bill will put a target on Howard County, put us at risk of retaliation from the president-elect's government, I say – so be it. Authoritarian bullies make their threats to keep good people on the sidelines. They use ugly words to avoid having to perform ugly actions. If Howard County fails to act out of fear of reprisal, if you fail to act out of fear of losing federal funding, the president-elect's victory is even more complete. Because then he defeats us with just words, with just Tweets, without him having to raise a finger, without him having to spend his precious political capital on punishing us, without him having to further alienate others across the country with his message of fear and hate. Let us choose our side, and force him to back up his ugly words with ugly deeds. If he does act, and the Council then decides that the consequences are too high, you can always consider new legislation. But don't do his dirty, ugly work for him now. Better for Howard County to act and fail than to cower on the sidelines and fail.

These are not ordinary times. All Americans must choose a side. The people of Howard County have already told you which side to choose. Please listen to us.

Thank you.

Testimony on CB9 – Xueqing (Sam) Wang

My name is Xueqing Wang and I go by Sam. I live in 6113 Trackless Sea Ct. Clarksville MD. Today I would like to testify to support the CB9 legislation.

Since the introduction of the bill, many has expressed opinions in various channels. I came across an article on social media written by someone who's against this bill and it reasons that the illegal immigrants are cutting lines in front of legal immigrants and so it should be tackled forcefully. I believe many who oppose the bill agree with that rationale. As a matter of fact, I agree too. However, I still support the bill and I would like to use my two real, personal stories to tell you why. Many years back when I still live in Iowa. One time I have to catch a flight but for some reason, I was way too late to the airport. It was 10 min to departure and the line is roughly 30min. Feeling really ashamed myself, I stepped forward and asked one gentleman if I can cut in front of him. He paused a few second and nodded. I stepped in the line but started hearing people behind him complained "hey respect the line, we are waiting too, we are also late". I felt nothing but ashamed. The only words I can say was "sorry" and "thank you". The only thing I can think of is "I will never be late again". Many years later, just two years ago, and again, I was waiting in the line in BWI. I was already in the line for 20min and it is probably still 30min to go. While I was moving forward slowly, I heard a lady asking the person behind me "I am really sorry, I am late to my flight, do you mind I cut in?" I heard a regretful voice saying "sorry I am also tight". At the moment, I still have plenty of time. So I turned back and said to the lady "mam, you can take my place and I go to the end". What I saw on her face was not delight but relieve and regret.

What I want say by these two stories are that those people who try to cut in line are maybe just ordinary persons like us who all make mistakes and feel bad for themselves when doing that. They maybe are just husbands or wives who wants to have a peaceful life here with their family. If it means some delay to get something I will get eventually, so be it. I don't mind those people cutting in front of me and I hope you all don't mind too.



AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE
1000 WASHINGTON BLVD, SUITE 1000
ELICOTT CITY, MD 21043

P.O. Box 958

ELICOTT CITY, MD 21043

www.aacr-howard.org

January 17, 2017

Howard County Council
3430 Court House Dr.
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Re: Support CB-9 the Sanctuary Bill

Today, I am here representing the nearly 30 organizations that make up the African American Community Roundtable and their membership. Distinguished Council members your constituents want you to support CB-9. On the day after we celebrated the national holiday recognizing the life and legacy of a world renowned civil rights icon, it is ironic that we're here talking about passing a bill to provide members of our community some peace of mind.

Many of our organizations participate in food distribution programs, clothing drives, mentoring and tutoring serving the needs of Howard County families, some undocumented, who are doing their best to provide a better life for their children. Many with children who are American citizens, these families fear being separate. As the husband of an Howard County Public School ESOL teacher at an elementary school, I have heard stories of concern since last spring as the rhetoric on the campaign trail became ever more popular and inflammatory.

At Celebration Church we have a Spanish speaking congregation with many undocumented members. As their numbers grow I have learned of family situations far more complicated than I ever imagined. Before I engaged with real people who are living here as undocumented residents I was of the opinion to deport them and make them come through the legal process. As I've heard story after story of people fleeing for their lives from government corruption, crime ridden neighborhoods and abject poverty in search of a better future I have made a complete change of mind. And yet most undocumented residents entered legally and their documents expired. Even those with documentation are now very fearful being deported for something as simple as a traffic violation or overdue library book.

As a pastor it is very disheartening to read the incendiary comments about how his bill will cause a flood of undocumented people to come to Howard County. They are already here living and working with and around us. They hold college degrees and work to improve this community just like everyone else.

The fact is we are a nation of immigrants. Some came as indentured servants from Western Europe to escape jail and oppression. Others coming in chains from the west coast of Africa against their will forced to provide free labor to feed the insatiable appetite of a growing privileged nation. Truth be told this land once belong to the ancestors of the very people some are trying to keep out. As in every generation, time and history will judge each of us for how we respond to the needs of our societies most vulnerable members.

This is an issue that our federal government is responsible for solving. Until there is a clear federal plan, local communities must protect these good hard working well intentioned residents. I urge you to support CB-9.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lawrence E. Walker, Sr.", written in black ink.

Lawrence E. Walker, Sr., President
African American Community Roundtable

I solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Maryland, (and the Charter of Howard County), and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of (County Councilmen) to the best of my ability.

What part of that oath don't you understand? By passing this legislation you WILL BE in direct violation of your oath and subject to impeachment.

I would like to know...

Who thought up this **asinine legislation** and why? We have thousands of needy family CITIZENS in Howard County without burdening our county further by blindly welcoming ILLEGAL INVADERS.

Please tell me WHAT LAWS can I break that you will give me sanctuary?

Barack Obama tried to do the same thing and was UNAMIOUSLY rebuked by the federal courts, ruling that his sanctuary status for illegals was unconstitutional.

Please tell me:

- What is the benefit to LEGAL Howard County Citizens?
- How will this help the 1000's of needy LEGAL Howard County Citizens?
- How will this foster quality of life for our LEGAL Citizens?
- How will this help our local economy?

I can tell you with 100% certitude, this WILL:

- Increase crime
- Take away resources needed for our less fortunate citizens
- Degrade quality of life for ALL Howard County Citizens
- Degrade property values – you only need look to our neighbor Montgomery County whose property values have decreased dramatically in the last 20 years due to their ILLEGAL sanctuary status. *As a Federally Certified real estate equity consultant, I speak with a high degree of expertise on this matter.*
- Further burden our schools and degrade education for our Citizens.
- Calvin on Page 2 Lines 6 thru 11 you mention the political climate has galvanized support for xenophobia, islamophobia and racism... and Howard County Residents who are in fear of their safety and liberty.

THE ONLY people I see promulgating fear and hate are Liberal Democrats. I hold in my hand scores of new reports of liberal/progressive/Democrats harming Trump supporters... calling Senator -Tim Scott a "House Nigger" Plots to throw acid on Trump supporters, The Black Congressional Caucus threatening to "Kick some Ass," The BLM movement killed a 4 year old girl by preventing her access to a hospital, 4 young adults tortured a disabled boy taunting him because he was a Trump Supporter, Burning churches, Bullying performers from supporting Trump the list is ENDLESS...

Did you learn NOTHING from our recent national election "We The People" don't want law breakers in our homes, our communities or our nation, regardless of their country of origin.

Do you want Howard County to become: Chicago, Baltimore, Oakland... where their sanctuary status has increased crime 200% in the last 8 years? If you pass this asinine bill, Howard County will surely be on its way to increased crime, property value degradation, poor school performance and worse... ☹

LET IT BE KNOWN, That I WILL discriminate AGAINST anyone who is not here legally and applies for one of my rental homes and I will report those individuals to all county, state and federal law enforcement when I learn of their ILLEGAL status.

Calvin, there is NO NEED for this legislation it is merely your political grandstanding in a weak attempt to garner support for some future candidacy.

Please vote NO on this asinine legislation.

Jeff Underwood, Patriot

I'M A TOLERANT LIBERAL!



**AGREE WITH ME OR ELSE YOU'RE
A RACIST, SEXIST, HOMOPHOBIC,
XENOPHOBIC, REDNECK, GUN
TOTING, AMERICA LOVING BIGOT!**

Congress

Tim Scott explains why he corrected a troll who called him a ‘house n*****’

By David Weigel January 11 at 8:43 PM

On Wednesday afternoon, Sen. Tim Scott (R-S.C.) responded to one of the hundreds of tweets he had gotten condemning him for his support of Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-Ala.) for attorney general. The response, consisting of one word, was one of the last that went to the offending account, before it was shuttered.

Scott, the only black Republican member of the Senate — previously, one of just two black Republicans in the House — said that he had removed Twitter from his phone years ago but sometimes felt the need to respond to critics.

“I have three or four pages of that kind of crap because of the Sessions nomination,” he said. “There were so many n-words and racially insensitive words coming at me over the Budget Control Act in 2011 that my employees were crying. Unfortunately, people feel like they have a license to say stupid stuff, and too often it comes from liberals. So I thought it was a good time to tell people what I thought.”

David Weigel is a national political correspondent covering the 2016 election and ideological movements. Follow @daveweigel



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January 16, 2017 [54 Comments](#)

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VIDEO: PROTESTERS CAUGHT ON CAMERA PLOTTING TO USE ACID DURING DONALD TRUMP'S INAUGURATION

WASHINGTON – James O'Keefe and Project Veritas have released a new undercover video exposing a plot to disrupt the inauguration of President-elect Donald Trump. In the shocking video the activists discuss their tactics including the use of **butyric acid** bombs at the National Press Club and Deploraball.

Project Veritas:

In this video, Project Veritas investigators uncover a group known as the DC Anti-fascist Coalition plotting to disrupt President-Elect Donald Trump's inauguration by deploying butyric acid at the National Press Club during the Deploraball event scheduled for January 19th.

The meeting, captured on hidden camera, was held at Comet Ping Pong, a DC pizza restaurant that is better known as the location of the Pizzagate controversy. The coalition members discuss the steps they would need to take to halt the Deploraball event. Project Veritas notified the FBI, Secret Service and DC Metro Police of the content of this video prior to its release.

PART 1: UNDERCOVER VIDEO INVESTIGATION EXPOSES PLOT TO DISRUPT TRUMP INAUGURATION

Part I: Undercover investigation exposes groups plotting criminal activity at Trump inauguration

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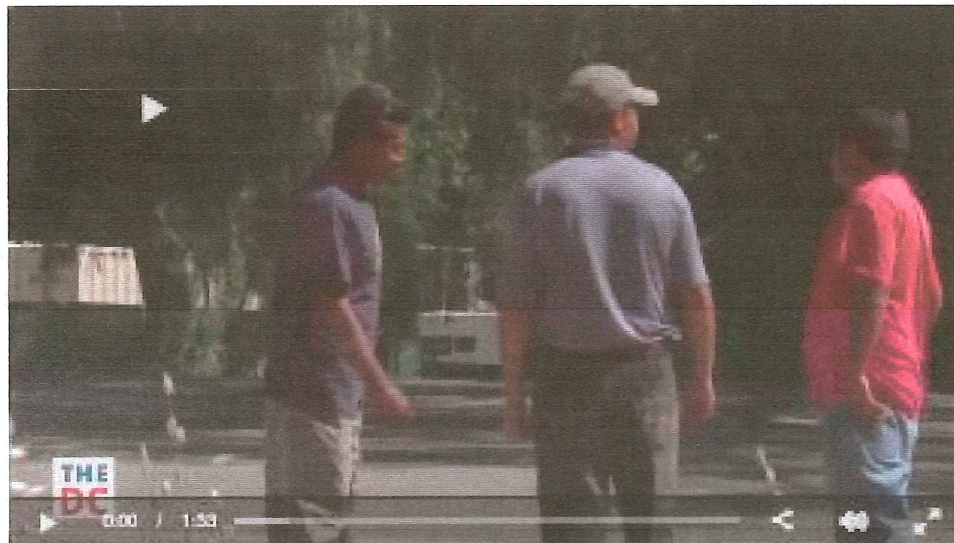
Mexican Official: Immigrants Are Flocking To Chicago Before Trump's Inauguration Because It's A 'Sanctuary City'



ALEX PFEIFFER
Reporter

10:39 AM 01/12/2017

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The Mexican consul in Chicago said that immigrants are flocking to the Windy City before Donald Trump becomes president because Chicago is a sanctuary city, according to a report Tuesday in [El Financiero](#).

Carlos Martin Jimenez was speaking at a recent gathering of Mexican ambassadors and consuls in Mexico City and said that Mexicans in Indiana and Wisconsin are coming to the Chicago consulate due to it being a sanctuary for illegal immigrants.

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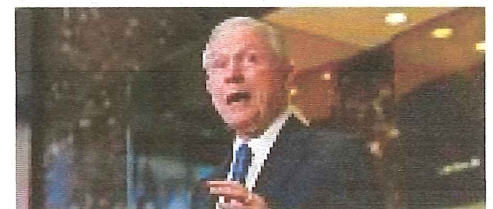
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POLITICAL

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BY COWGIRL ON JANUARY 11, 2017 51 COMMENTS



Chair of Congressional Black Caucus, Rep. Cedric Richmond, "We May Just Have To Kick Somebody's Ass To Stop Them"

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Anti-Trump Protesters Block Traffic, Cause Death of 4 Year Old

Mike Vance November 16, 2016 No Comments

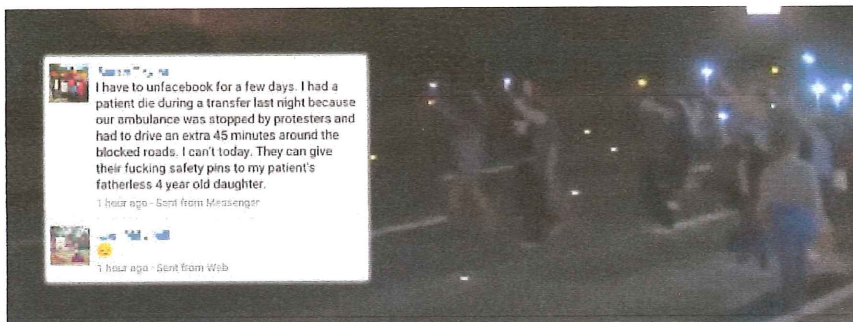
Paul Johnson of Infowars broke this story earlier today. Anti-Trump protesters block traffic, cause death of a 4 year old child. What a tragedy.

TruthFinder  **CAUTION:** This background report may be graphic. We do not censor our reports. We trust you to use this information responsibly. Please do not abuse this tool or we may be forced to take it offline. The content of the report might surprise you, so please prepare yourself for the unexpected. [Enter Site >](#)

After Hillary Clinton lost the election, far left protesters have taken to blocking traffic to make a statement. High school kids have been instructed to block traffic as part of this.



Here is the disturbing post from the father of the 4 year old girl who died because the ambulance was unable to get past the protesters and get her to the hospital.



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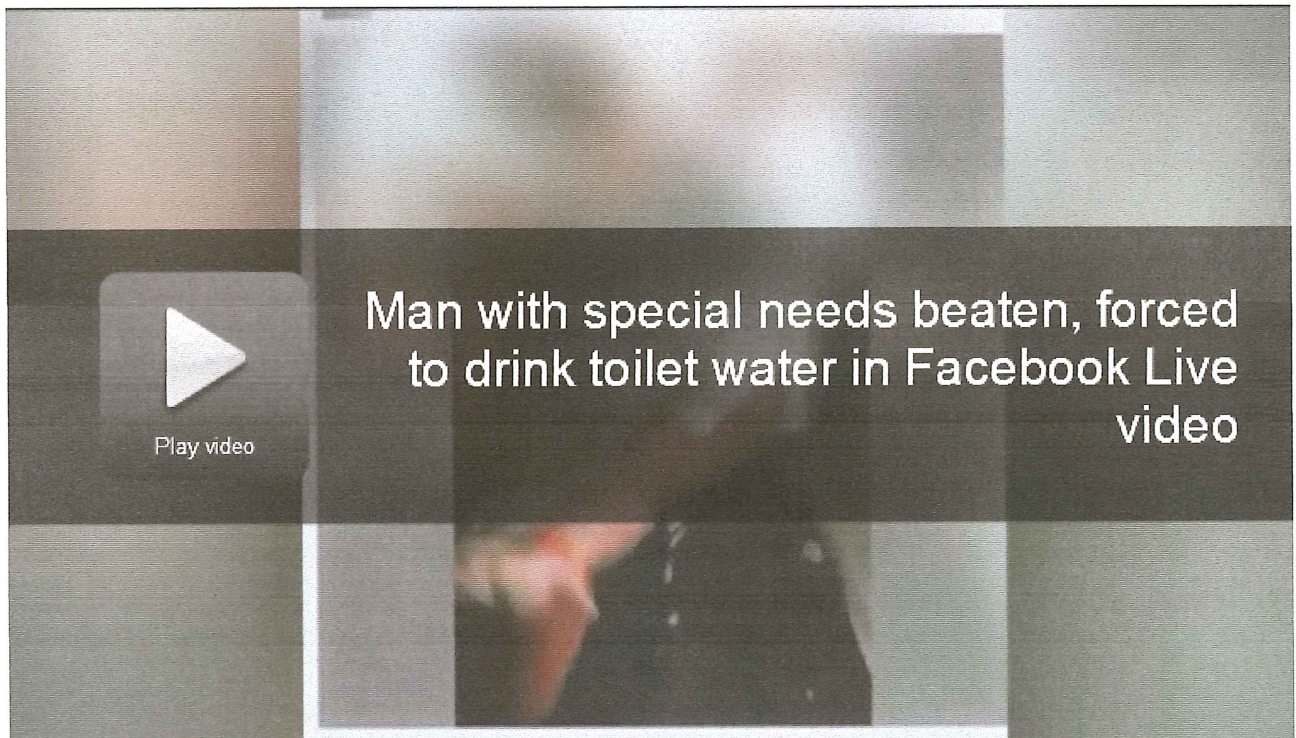
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4 charged with hate crime, kidnapping in Facebook Live torture of man with special needs

POSTED 12:38 PM, JANUARY 5, 2017, BY CHARLES HAYES, NANCY LOO AND JULIAN CREWS, *UPDATED AT 01:39PM, JANUARY 5, 2017*

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CHICAGO -- Four people accused of torturing a mentally disabled man were charged with a hate crime and aggravated kidnapping among other charges Thursday.

The attack was streamed live on Facebook.

The disturbing 30-minute video shows a man tied up and his mouth covered, cowering in the corner of room. His attackers laugh and shout "f*ck Donald Trump" and "f*ck white people" as they kick and punch him and cut into his forehead with a knife.



(Top row: Brittany Covington, Tesfaye Cooper; Bottom row: Jordan Hill, Tanishia Covington)

Here is a rundown of who was charged with what:

- Jordan Hill, 18, of Carpentersville, is charged with aggravated kidnapping, hate crime, aggravated unlawful restraint, aggravated battery with a deadly weapon, robbery, possession of a stolen motor vehicle and residential burglary.
- Tesfaye Cooper, 18, of Chicago, is charged with aggravated kidnapping, hate crime, aggravated unlawful restraint, aggravated battery with a deadly weapon and residential burglary.
- Brittany Covington, 18, of Chicago, is charged with aggravated kidnapping, hate crime, aggravated unlawful restraint, aggravated battery with a deadly weapon and residential burglary.
- Tanishia Covington, 24, of Chicago, is charged with aggravated kidnapping, hate crime, aggravated unlawful restrain and aggravated battery with a deadly weapon.

Chicago Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson said the video shows a "brutal act toward an adult male with mental health challenges."



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CNN'S DON LEMON ON CHICAGO TORTURE VIDEO: 'I DON'T THINK IT WAS EVIL'

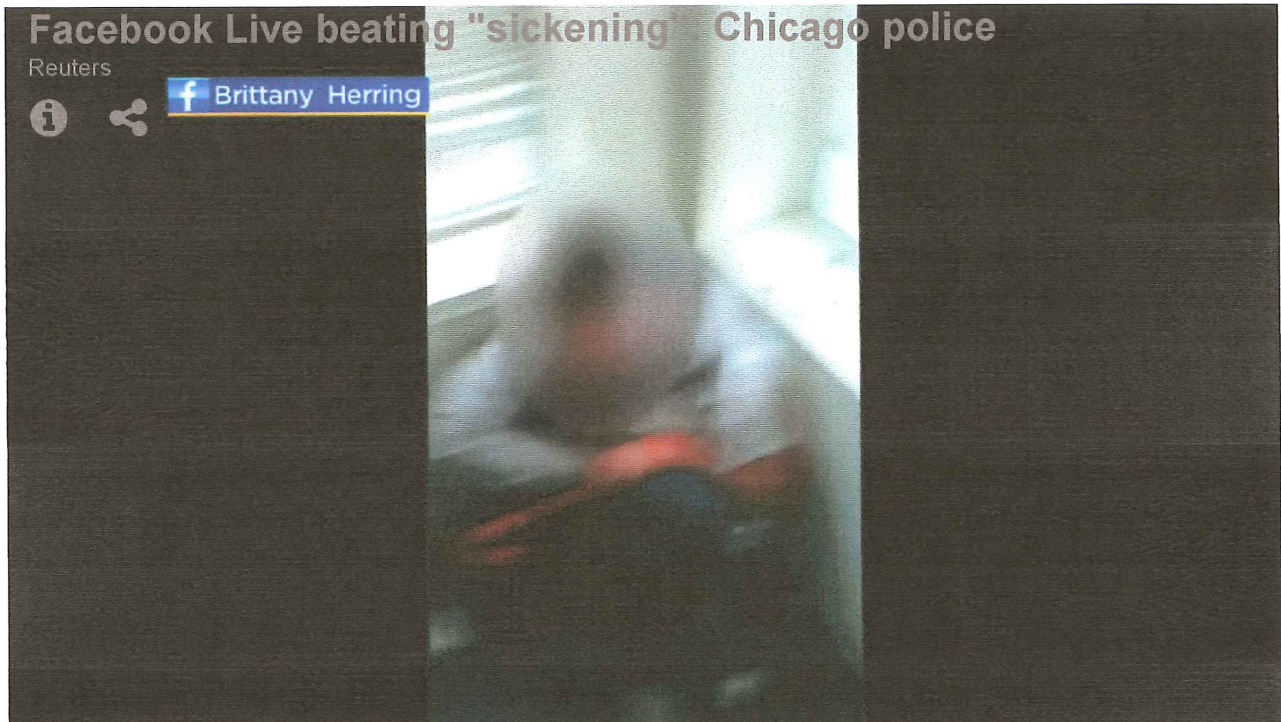
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68



Dimitrios Kambouris/Getty Images for CNN

by [KATIE MCHUGH](#) | 5 Jan 2017 | **6,002**



CNN host Don Lemon said Wednesday evening the broadcasted torture of a bound and gagged victim in Chicago was not “evil,” adding that the suspects had “bad home training.”

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News broke nationally Wednesday after a Facebook Live video showed the victim beaten, slashed, held at knifepoint, and more in a Chicago apartment while assailants are [heard](#) saying “fuck white people” and “fuck Trump.” Chicago police held a press conference the same day to announce an investigation is underway and four adults are in police custody. The suspects held the “traumatized” victim for as many as 48 hours, police [said](#).

THE LID

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The Top 30 Fake Hate Crimes Exposed Since Trump Was Elected

by [Jeff Dunetz](#) | Dec 30, 2016 | [Politics](#)

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Guest Post by [Warner Todd Huston](#)

Since November 9, the day Donald J. Trump became the President-Elect of the United States, the media has erupted in reports of “hate crimes” against a large swath of liberal focus groups, especially Muslims. However, despite early reports, it also turns out that

nearly every single one of those reports turned out to be a hoax. So, here are the top thirty fake hate crimes since Election Day.

But before we get to the list, though, at least one American Muslim has **spoken up** to tell his fellow Americans to stop it with the fake hate crimes. Siraj Hashmi took to the pages of Red Alert Politics to tell his fellows to just cut it out.

Hashmi warned the fakers that they are only hurting themselves along with anyone who might suffer a *real hate crime* by turning all so-called hate crimes into mere cries of wolf in the eyes of the American people. Hashmi said, "please don't make up a hate crime, especially when these incidents are so politically charged. Faking a hate crime questions the credibility of anyone and everyone who suffers from real hate crimes."

It is sound advice, indeed. But the only flaw in Hashmi's point is that, thus far at least, it seems as if the only "hate crimes" we are seeing ARE the fake ones!

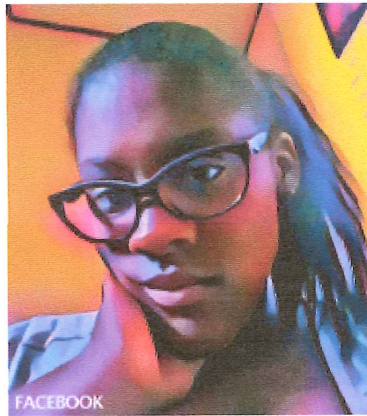


Anyway, starting on the day after the November 9 announcement that Donald Trump was to become our 45th U.S. president, here are the top 30 fake hate crimes:

#1: Minnesota Police Say it Never Happened

On November 10 the Minneapolis Police Department **assured the city** that there was never any hate crime reported despite the rumors of one started on social media.

#2: Busted Tale of 4 White Men Harassing Black Woman in Delaware



In another story where **police noted that they were never told** of any such crime, a black woman in Delaware made the claim that four white men attacked her at a gas station in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. There is no proof it ever happened and the woman who made the claim deleted her Facebook post and disappeared from social media.

#3: Vandalism of Trump and Nazi Slogans Appears to be Black Man

Though police in Philadelphia refused to identify the race of a suspect in the spray-paint vandalism featuring pro-Trump and pro-Nazi slogans on a local building, **surveillance video appears to show a black man** is the top suspect.

#4: UL Student Busted for Lying About Racial Attack

The story of a University of Louisiana Lafayette student who said she was beaten and had her Muslim headscarf pulled of her head by mean "wearing Trump hats" fell apart after police became involved. **The student later admitted she lied** about the whole thing.

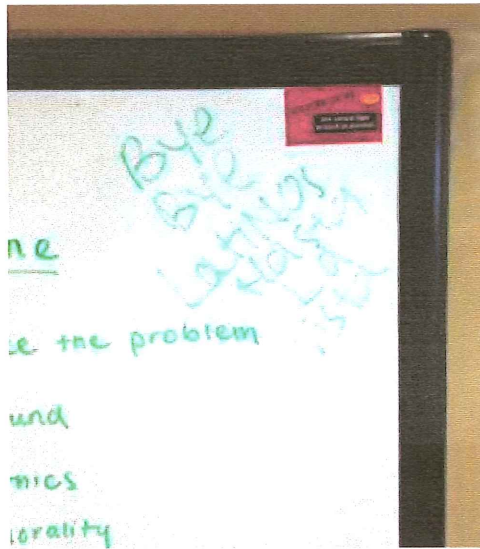
#5: Blacks Claim They Beat A Man for Flaunting His Vote for Trump

A group of black teens **beat a white man and stole his car in Chicago** because they claimed he was flaunting his vote for Donald Trump. Police investigated and found the man had no Trump paraphernalia or bumper stickers and he made no mention of Trump during the attack.

#6: SPLC 'Report' Portrays Many Fake Hate Crime Incidents as Real

The Southern Poverty Law Center are experts at fake hate crimes. Not because they report on them but because some of what they report *is fake in and of itself!* Indeed, just after the election the SPLC put out **an absurd report** regurgitating a list of crimes it claimed were hate crimes many of which were later proven to be hoaxes.

7: University Snowflakes Upset Over 'Bye Bye Latinos' Message, But Hispanic Wrote It



Snowflake students at Elon University in North Carolina were initially **frightened by a message** left on a classroom white board that read "Bye Bye Latinos Hasta La Vista." But it later turned out a Hispanic student who was mad at Trump wrote the slogan on the board.

#8: Reporter Turns Trump Sign Into a 'Sign of Racism'

A reporter talking about a "Trump for President" sign posted on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point decides that this **MUST BE RACISM**. There was nothing obviously racist about it, but **the reporter made up his own fake news**.

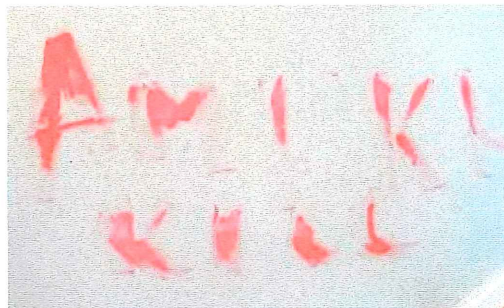
#9: USA Today Falsely Claims Hate Crimes See 'Dramatic Rise'

A November 14 report in *USA Today* **makes the false claim** that hate crimes had seen a "dramatic rise" since election day. But most of these crimes have since been revealed as hoaxes.

#10: Chicago Student Claims She is Sexually Harassed

An openly bi-sexual student at North Park University in Chicago made national headlines after claiming she was sexually harassed by a sign taped to her door reading "Back To Hell #Trump." **She later admitted** she made it all up.

#11: KKK Vandalism on Massachusetts Campus a Hoax



Students and faculty at Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts, were shocked by vandalism reading "AMKKK Kill." It was later **found to have been a hoax** perpetrated by liberal students pretending to be Trump supporters in order to stir up fellow liberals on campus.

#12: Kentucky Student Lies About Racial Slur

A student at Bowling Green State University told police she was attacked by white men in Trump shirts who threw rocks at her and called her names. After a police investigation, **Eleesha Long admitted she lied** about the whole thing.

#13: Police Find Racial Attack Never Happened

At the same time Eleesha Long was lying to police about an attack she never suffered at Bowling Green State University, police also took a report from a black man who claimed he was beaten, robbed, and had racial slurs yelled at him. **Police later revealed** that the incident as a hoax.

#14: Man Admits Vandalizing His Own Trunk



This hoax runs in the other direction as a white man in Texas reported a hate crime against him when his truck was vandalized with Black Lives Matter graffiti. **Turns out he did it himself** to gain sympathy and to reap the reward of the \$6,000 sent to him by well wishers from a crowd source fundraising page.

#15: 'Trump Country' Attack Never Happened

A black man in Malden, Massachusetts, told police he was attacked by white men yelling that he was going to be lynched because this nation is now "Trump country." **Police discovered later** that the "crime" never happened.

#16: College Snowflakes Call 'Suck it Up Pussies' Note a 'Hate Crime'

Snowflake students at Edgewood College in Madison, Wisconsin, melted when a post it note saying, "Suck it up, pussies!" and featuring a smiley face with its tongue sticking out was found on a window of the Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion. **School officials called the silly incident a "hate crime."** The claim couldn't be sillier and qualifies as a fake hate crime, without question.

#17: Snowflake Professor Claims Anti-Muslim Hate Crime

University of Oklahoma Professor Mashhad Fahes claims she was handed anti-Muslim propaganda and that she reported this "hate crime" to campus police before running to Facebook to make a stir. **Campus police, though, say no report was ever made** so the professor's claim seems to be nothing but anti-Trump propaganda.

#18: Trump Rules Painted on Wall, Hoax Hate Crime



Police in Philadelphia initially investigated spray-painted vandalism reading "Trump Rules" as a hate crime. **But it turned out** a black man committed the crime. So, it was hate-crime interruptus for local police hoping for a big case to get in the news.

#19: University Student Suddenly Refuses to Help Investigation into So-Called Hate Crime Attack

Philadelphia authorities **ended a hate crime investigation** filed by a black Villanova University woman who claimed she was beaten by men yelling "Trump, Trump, Trump" because the so-called victim suddenly clammed up and refused to cooperate.

#20: Man Set Fire to Own Home to Create Fake Racial Incident

In a second case of the very few incidents where a white man perpetrated a racially tinged hoax, **a New York fireman was arrested** for setting his own home on fire in an effort to frame the Black Lives Matter movement for the crime.

#21: Black Man Pleads Guilty to Setting His Own Mosque on Fire

A black man in Texas pleaded guilty to setting his own mosque on fire in a case that was at first assumed to be an anti-Muslim hate crime.

#22: Black Man Admits Faking Trump/KKK Note

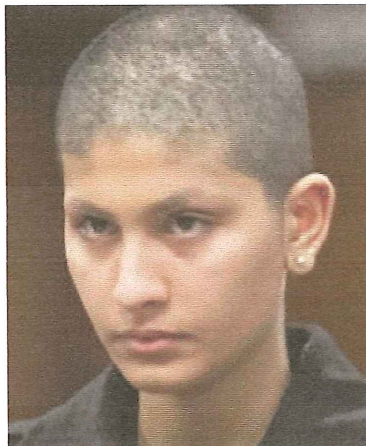


A black man in Orlando, Florida, told police that he was the victim of race hate when a brick was thrown through his girlfriend's car window and a note reading "KKK" and "Trump" was left behind. Fire fighters immediately felt that the car fire was suspicious. **He later admitted** that he is the one who did the damage.

#23: Students Cleared of Hate Crime

Two students at Babson College in Wellesley, Massachusetts, were cleared after they were **falsely accused** of harassing other students with a Trump flag and by yelling "Make America Great Again."

#24: Muslim Girl Admits Lying About Trump Attack



A Muslim teen in New York City said she was attacked by white men wearing Trump hats on the New York City subway. But the faux victim, teenager **Yasmin Seweid, later admitted she lied** to draw attention away from being in trouble with her parents for staying out too late and for wanting to date a white boy.

#25: Sister Claims Hate Crime Happened Even Though it Didn't

In a second story related to Yasmin Seweid's lies about being attacked in a New York subway, the faker's sister, Sara Seweid, **went public to insist** that her sister was still a victim of anti-Muslim hate because evil American society made her lie. So, even when a hate crime isn't committed... it's a hate crime... or... or something.

#26: Muslim Arrested for Nazi Graffiti in New York

Police imagined they had a hate come on their hands when Nazi Swastikas were left on walls at Long Island College. **Police later called the incident a hoax** and charged a 20-year-old Muslim man, Jasskirat Saini, for the crime.

#27: Muslims Claim They Are Thrown Off Delta Airline Flight Just for Being Muslim



A pair of Youtube cretins manufactured a video to make it look like they were thrown off a Delta Airlines flight just because they were Muslim. **Later reports showed they were lying** and intended to be thrown of so they could make a hoax video of the whole faux incident.

#28: Michigan College Dismisses Hate Crime Hoax

Police in Ann Arbor, Michigan, were forced to **dismiss a hate crime report** when no evidence could be found for claims made by a Muslim woman who said she was attacked by a Trump supporter. Video from half a dozen different surveillance cameras in the area not only didn't show the alleged attack, they video didn't even prove the "victim" was there, either! The woman later admitted she was a liar.

#29: Mississippi Church Burning Committed by Black Man, Not Trump Voter



Police in a small, predominantly black Mississippi town have now proven that a black man burned a local black church and left Trump related graffiti. The "hate crime" aspect of the investigation has been canceled.

#30: Man Found to Have Vandalized His Own Home With 'Ni**er' Graffiti

For a third tale of da-white-man-dunnit, a white man in Texas has been charged with filing a false report after police found out he spray-painted "Ni**er Lovers" on his own garage.

With all this, there is a lesson. There may, indeed, be a lot of hate in the U.S.A. After all, it is the human condition. But this wild-eyed claim that there are hate crimes being perpetrated everywhere is far more of a myth than a reality.

Crossposted from Constitution.com



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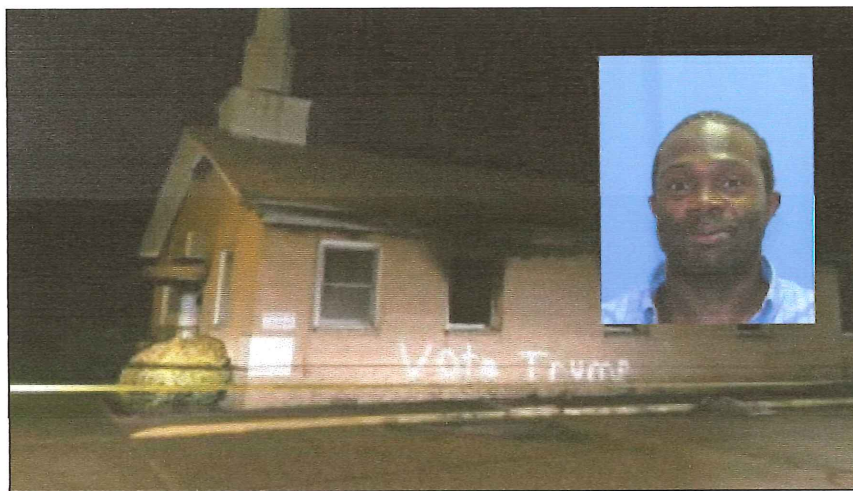
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HATE HOAX: BLACK MAN ARRESTED IN 'VOTE TRUMP' MISSISSIPPI BLACK CHURCH BURNING

Chris Menahan
InformationLiberation
Dec. 22, 2016



No one could have predicted this.

From [The Daily Mail](#):

A historically black Mississippi church that had 'Vote Trump' sprayed on it prior to being torched was attacked by a black member of its own congregation, police have said.

The blaze broke out at the 200-member Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church in Greenville at around 9.15pm on December 1, a week before the presidential election. Commentators were quick to point out the possible political ad racial implications.

Officials say that they don't believe suspect Andrew McClinton, 45, was politically motivated - but suggest that he might have staged the attack to make it look like a hate crime.

After the fire at the historically black church, which serves a 78 per cent black city and has a congregation stretching back 111 years, many were concerned about the racial implications.

US Rep. Bennie Thopmson, a Democrat whose district includes Greenville, said at the time that the fire and graffiti hearkened 'back to a much darker day in Mississippi.'

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'The political message of the vandalism is obviously an attempt to sway public opinion regarding the upcoming election,' he said. 'I encourage all citizens not to be deterred by this cowardly act and exercise your right to vote at the ballot box.'

Here's how The Daily Beast reported it:

REAL TALK

A Burned Down Black Church Shows President Trump Wouldn't Condemn His Own Terrorists

The stakes of the election couldn't be clearer from Greenville, Mississippi where "Vote Trump" was spray painted on the charred remains of Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church.



JUSTIN GLAWE 11.06.16 12:15 AM ET

The Atlantic:

A Black Church Burned in the Name of Trump

Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church in Greenville, Mississippi, was reportedly set on fire and spray painted with the words "Vote Trump" on Tuesday night.

EMMA GREEN NOV 2, 2016 POLITICS

I wonder if they'll be labeled as "fake news."

But the announcement that the attacker was not just black, but - according to Hopewell Bishop Clarence Green - a member of the church's congregation, has turned that theory on its head.

Officials have not yet revealed a motive in the ongoing investigation, but have suggested that McClinton, of Leland, Mississippi, may have attempted to make the attack look like a hate crime.

'We do not believe it was politically motivated. There may have been some efforts to make it appear politically motivated,' Mississippi Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney, who is also the fire marshal, said.

This isn't the first time McClinton has been in trouble with the law. In 1997 he was sentenced to seven years for attempted armed robbery in Lee County.

And in 2004 he was convicted of armed robbery again, serving eight years in prison.

He also received three years' probation for grand larceny in 1991; that probation was revoked the following year because he received stolen property.

McClinton's supervision by the department ended in February, the spokeswoman said.



France: Muslim Men Ban All Women from Public Spaces

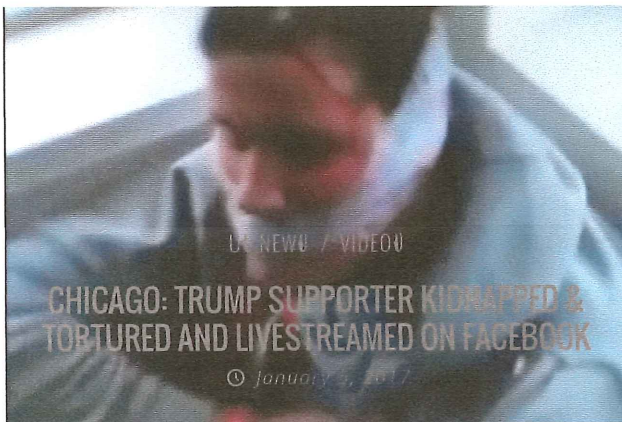


CNN Panelist Suggests Trump's 'Inflammatory Rhetoric' To Blame For White Man's Beating



Sarah Palin to Julian Assange: 'I Apologize'

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US NEWS

ISLAMIC HONOR VIOLENCE: MUSLIM HATE-CRIME HOAXER IN DANGER FROM HER OWN FAMILY

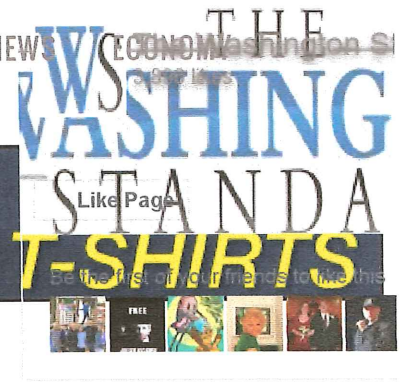
The Washington Standard / December 28, 2016 / 160

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The internationally publicized story about a Muslim teen who claimed that she was “[verbally abused on a New York train](#)” by three “Islamophobic” Trump supporters has turned out to be a hoax. I was right – [read my column here](#). It wasn’t a guess. I was right because this story fits a definite and disturbing pattern. But the enemedia could not get enough of the story. It was worldwide news. No one in the media questioned all the holes in the teenager’s story. And now the media are missing an even bigger story: This girl is in real danger – not from Trump supporters, but from her family.

The [New York Post](#) reported that “Seweid had been having problems with her strict Muslim Egyptian family in North New Hyde Park because she is becoming ‘Westernized,’ one source said. Those problems were aggravated when they learned she was dating a Catholic, the source said.” Yasmin should be punished for her hate crime hoax, but there is a larger story here that is being ignored by mainstream media: the terror of devout Muslim households.



Because she has a non-Muslim boyfriend, Yasmin is in real danger from her father, her mosque and devout members of ummah. Yasmin Seweid was so afraid of her own family that she preferred to face jail than risk being the recipient of violent treatment from her “strict

Muslim parents.” And it’s clear she had good reason: They shaved her head. A news photo shows Yasmin’s brother Abdoul gripping her in a chokehold.

Ironically, [New York Newsday reported police charges](#) against Abdoul from a few years ago. Allegedly, Abdoul Seweid and his friends were involved in some serious criminal activity Abdoul tried to cover by blaming the involvement of “three unknown males.” Maybe that gave Yasmin the idea for how she was supposedly attacked by the three “Trump supporters.”

It could have been worse for Yasmin, and may still be. But Yasmin’s sister wouldn’t break rank, blaming the NYPD because they exposed the hoax. It’s always this way. Amina and Sarah Said’s brother aided and abetted their father in the cold-blooded execution of their two Texas Muslim teen sisters who merely wanted to live a freer life.

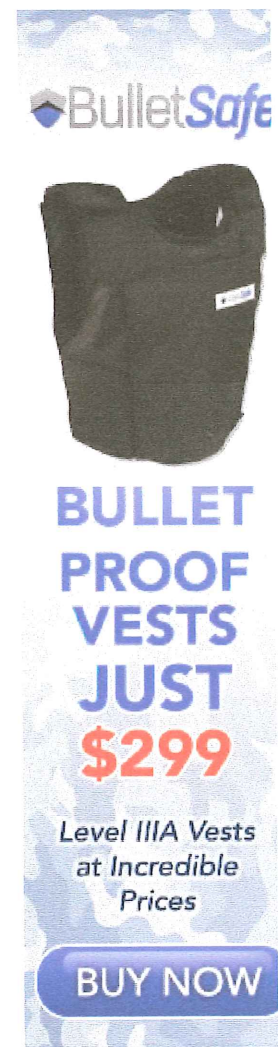
Aqsa Parvez, a Muslim girl in Mississauga, Ontario, lived in what can only be described as a homemade concentration camp before being murdered by her father and brother because she did not want to wear the hijab.

Rifqa Bary, an Ohio Muslim teen who converted out of Islam, was threatened with death by her father before she escaped to safety in Florida.

Bus ads and taxi ads sponsored by the American Freedom Defense Initiative and offering help to these girls have been banned from running in numerous cities. It’s an outrage: Authorities are consigning these girls to their fate and denying them the help that could save them.

The abject terror these young Muslims live with is a deep, dark secret. Fatima Abdullah was abused, beaten and sexually assaulted by family members. Her honor killing in Florida was [classified as a suicide](#) (by repeatedly hitting her head against a coffee table) because the Tampa Police Department feared Muslim reprisals – how does one commit suicide by banging one’s head on a coffee table? Tampa Rescue said she looked as if she had been beaten.

According to neighbors, Fatima Abdullah had brought shame to her Muslim family because of her divorce. The family allegedly didn’t allow her to return to their homeland in the Middle East. Sources close to the family say that they didn’t even allow her to drive on her own, even



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though she had a license. She was the subject of numerous family arguments, and her brothers allegedly treated her horribly. There is a great deal more information on this [here](#) and [here](#).

If Yasmin's sister really loves Yasmin, she should stop blaming the NYPD and help her to freedom. Yasmin Seweid is under severe threat – and she is just the kind of girl who we seek to help at the American Freedom Defense Initiative (AFDI). We get help to Muslim girls who want to be free. At [RefugeFromIslam.com](#), Yasmin can connect with other Muslims who have suffered under the boot of Islamic honor violence. And most importantly of all, she can get to safety.

Sara Yasin of BuzzFeed News asked on Twitter: "so, who is going to save muslim women from pam geller trying to save muslim women." How despicable. Apparently, Sara Yasin would rather see Yasmin end up like Noor al-Maleki, Amina Said, Sarah Said, Jessica Mokdad and other dead American Muslim girls than get my help.



Yasmin, if you're reading this, contact me at pamelageller@gmail.com. We will get you help.

Article posted with permission from [Pamela Geller](#)

[Pamela Geller's commitment to freedom from jihad and Shariah shines forth in her books](#)

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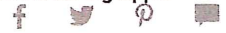
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Kim Burrell's Radio Show Cancelled Following Homophobic Rant

H Kim Burrell's Radio Show Cancelled Following Homophobic Rant

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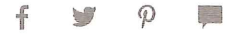
Gospel signer Kim Burrell felt the full consequence of [homophobia](#) this week when her radio program was cancelled following [an anti-gay rant](#).

Texas Southern University [announced Wednesday evening](#) that Burrell's radio show "Bridging The Gap" would no longer broadcast on the KTSU airwaves, the station that carried the program. The show first began airing through KTSU seven months ago.

"The Kim Burrell show is no longer airing as part of KTSU Radio programming," a representative of KTSU confirmed to The Huffington Post.

Kim Burrell Bashes Homosexuals | Implies They Will Die In 2017

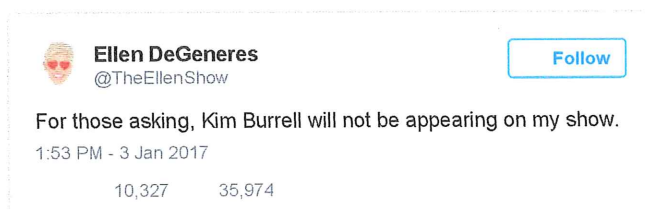
H Kim Burrell's Radio Show Cancelled Following Homophobic Rant



Burrell, who appeared on tracks with Pharrell, Frank Ocean and others, made waves on New Year's Eve when [video surfaced of the singer delivering a sermon](#) that spewed homophobic rhetoric and called gays and lesbians "perverted."

"That perverted homosexual spirit, and the spirit of delusion and confusion, it has deceived many men and women. You as a man, you open your mouth and take a man's penis in your face — you are perverted," Burrell can be heard in the above video saying. "You are a woman and will shake your face in another woman's breast, you are perverted."

Burrell was initially scheduled to perform with Pharrell on the Ellen DeGeneres show on Thursday, but the talk show host and gay icon [cancelled Burrell's performance](#) following the revelation of her homophobia.



[Pharrell still appeared](#) on DeGeneres' show Thursday, however, and used the opportunity to deliver a powerful message about hate speech.

"Whenever you hear some sort of hate speech and you feel like it doesn't pertain to you because you may not have anything to do with that, all you got to do is put the word black in that sentence, or put gay in that sentence, or put transgender in that sentence, or put white in that sentence, and all of the sudden it starts to make sense to you," [Pharrell said](#). "I'm telling you, the world is a beautiful place but it does not work without empathy and inclusion."

We couldn't agree more.

H/T [Towleroad](#)

Socio-Political Commentary...

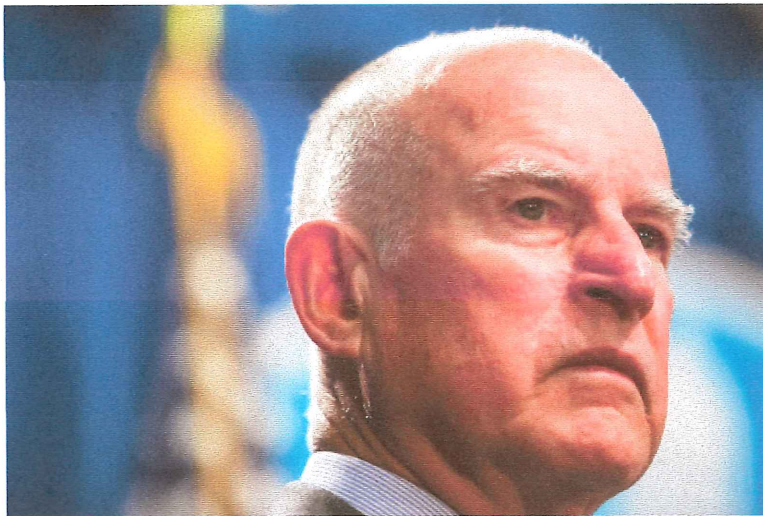
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theodore M I R A L D I mpa ... editor, publisher, writer

Thursday, January 5, 2017

California's Governor: 'You're NOT Our President'

[Is Our Nation Under Attack? Are We Allowing Subversive Actors to Manipulate Our Freedoms to Overthrow Our Constitutional Republic?...tmiraldi](#)



California Governor Jerry Brown

18 U.S. Code § 2381 - Treason

Whoever, owing allegiance to the United States, levies war against them or adheres to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort within the United States or elsewhere, is guilty of treason and shall suffer death, or shall be imprisoned not less than five years and fined under this title but not less than \$10,000; and shall be incapable of holding any office under the United States.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 807; Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, § 330016(2) (J), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2148.)

18 U.S. Code § 2382 - Misprision of treason

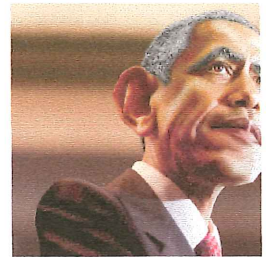
Whoever, owing allegiance to the United States and having knowledge of the commission of any treason against them, conceals and does not, as soon as may be, disclose and make known the same to the President or to some judge of the United States, or to the governor or to some judge or justice of a particular State, is guilty of misprision of treason and shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than seven years, or both.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 807; Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, § 330016(1) (H), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2147.)

Featured Post

OpEd: Obama, The International Terrorist

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18 U.S. Code § 2383 - Rebellion or insurrection

Whoever incites, sets on foot, assists, or engages in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the United States or the laws thereof, or gives aid or comfort thereto, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both; and shall be incapable of holding any office under the United States.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 808; Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, § 330016(1) (L), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2147.)

18 U.S. Code § 2384 - Seditious conspiracy

If two or more persons in any State or Territory, or in any place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, conspire to overthrow, put down, or to destroy by force the Government of the United States, or to levy war against them, or to oppose by force the authority thereof, or by force to prevent, hinder, or delay the execution of any law of the United States, or by force to seize, take, or possess any property of the United States contrary to the authority thereof, they shall each be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than twenty years, or both.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 808; July 24, 1956, ch. 678, § 1, 70 Stat. 623; Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(N), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2148.)

18 U.S. Code § 2386 - Registration of certain organizations

(A) For the purposes of this section:

"Attorney General" means the Attorney General of the United States;

"Organization" means any group, club, league, society, committee, association, political party, or combination of individuals, whether incorporated or otherwise, but such term shall not include any corporation, association, community chest, fund, or foundation, organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes;

"Political activity" means any activity the purpose or aim of which, or one of the purposes or aims of which, is the control by force or overthrow of the Government of the United States or a political subdivision thereof, or any State or political subdivision thereof;

An organization is engaged in "civilian military activity" if:

(1)

it gives instruction to, or prescribes instruction for, its members in the use of firearms or other weapons or any substitute therefor, or military or naval science; or

(2)

it receives from any other organization or from any individual instruction in military or naval science; or

(3)

it engages in any military or naval maneuvers or activities; or

(4)

it engages, either with or without arms, in drills or parades of a military or naval character; or

(5)

it engages in any other form of organized activity which in the opinion of the Attorney General constitutes preparation for military action;

An organization is "subject to foreign control" if:

like father, like son,,,,,Cuomo
1/11/2011

How unusual -- a politician w/ plan to reduce the budget and articulate it to the public ("The Democrat," ...



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(a)

it solicits or accepts financial contributions, loans, or support of any kind, directly or indirectly, from, or is affiliated directly or indirectly with, a foreign government or a political subdivision thereof, or an agent, agency, or instrumentality of a foreign government or political subdivision thereof, or a political party in a foreign country, or an international political organization; or

(b)

its policies, or any of them, are determined by or at the suggestion of, or in collaboration with, a foreign government or political subdivision thereof, or an agent, agency, or instrumentality of a foreign government or a political subdivision thereof, or a political party in a foreign country, or an international political organization.

(B)

(1)

*The following organizations shall be required to register with the Attorney General:
Every organization subject to foreign control which engages in political activity;
Every organization which engages both in civilian military activity and in political activity;*

Every organization subject to foreign control which engages in civilian military activity; and

Every organization, the purpose or aim of which, or one of the purposes or aims of which, is the establishment, control, conduct, seizure, or overthrow of a government or subdivision thereof by the use of force, violence, military measures, or threats of any one or more of the foregoing.

Every such organization shall register by filing with the Attorney General, on such forms and in such detail as the Attorney General may by rules and regulations prescribe, a registration statement containing the information and documents prescribed in subsection (B)(3) and shall within thirty days after the expiration of each period of six months succeeding the filing of such registration statement, file with the Attorney General, on such forms and in such detail as the Attorney General may by rules and regulations prescribe, a supplemental statement containing such information and documents as may be necessary to make the information and documents previously filed under this section accurate and current with respect to such preceding six months' period. Every statement required to be filed by this section shall be subscribed, under oath, by all of the officers of the organization.

(2)

This section shall not require registration or the filing of any statement with the Attorney General by:

(a)

The armed forces of the United States; or

(b)

The organized militia or National Guard of any State, Territory, District, or possession of the United States; or

(c)

Any law-enforcement agency of the United States or of any Territory, District or possession thereof, or of any State or political subdivision of a State, or of any agency or instrumentality of one or more States; or

(d)

Any duly established diplomatic mission or consular office of a foreign government which is so recognized by the Department of State; or

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California's Governor: 'I
NOT Our President'

(e) Any nationally recognized organization of persons who are veterans of the armed forces of the United States, or affiliates of such organizations.

(3)

Every registration statement required to be filed by any organization shall contain the following information and documents:

(a)

The name and post-office address of the organization in the United States, and the names and addresses of all branches, chapters, and affiliates of such organization;

(b)

The name, address, and nationality of each officer, and of each person who performs the functions of an officer, of the organization, and of each branch, chapter, and affiliate of the organization;

(c)

The qualifications for membership in the organization;

(d)

The existing and proposed aims and purposes of the organization, and all the means by which these aims or purposes are being attained or are to be attained;

(e)

The address or addresses of meeting places of the organization, and of each branch, chapter, or affiliate of the organization, and the times of meetings;

(f)

The name and address of each person who has contributed any money, dues, property, or other thing of value to the organization or to any branch, chapter, or affiliate of the organization;

(g)

A detailed statement of the assets of the organization, and of each branch, chapter, and affiliate of the organization, the manner in which such assets were acquired, and a detailed statement of the liabilities and income of the organization and of each branch, chapter, and affiliate of the organization;

(h)

A detailed description of the activities of the organization, and of each chapter, branch, and affiliate of the organization;

(i)

A description of the uniforms, badges, insignia, or other means of identification prescribed by the organization, and worn or carried by its officers or members, or any of such officers or members;

(j)

A copy of each book, pamphlet, leaflet, or other publication or item of written, printed, or graphic matter issued or distributed directly or indirectly by the organization, or by any chapter, branch, or affiliate of the organization, or by any of the members of the organization under its authority or within its knowledge, together with the name of its author or authors and the name and address of the publisher;

(k)

A description of all firearms or other weapons owned by the organization, or by any chapter, branch, or affiliate of the organization, identified by the manufacturer's number thereon;

(l)

In case the organization is subject to foreign control, the manner in which it is so subject;

*THE Man Who MOST
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the LIBERAL ELITE?*

*Job-Crushing
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HOPE*

*House GOP Votes to G
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A copy of the charter, articles of association, constitution, bylaws, rules, regulations, agreements, resolutions, and all other instruments relating to the organization, powers, and purposes of the organization and to the powers of the officers of the organization and of each chapter, branch, and affiliate of the organization; and

(n)Such other information and documents pertinent to the purposes of this section as the Attorney General may from time to time require.

All statements filed under this section shall be public records and open to public examination and inspection at all reasonable hours under such rules and regulations as the Attorney General may prescribe.

(C)

The Attorney General is authorized at any time to make, amend, and rescind such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out this section, including rules and regulations governing the statements required to be filed.

(D)

Whoever violates any of the provisions of this section shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

Whoever in a statement filed pursuant to this section willfully makes any false statement or willfully omits to state any fact which is required to be stated, or which is necessary to make the statements made not misleading, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 808; Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(I), (L), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2147.)

Source > <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/2386>

California Sends DEVASTATING Message To Trump: 'You're Not Our President'

Ron Delancer

Donald Trump will soon take office as the most unpopular president-elect in U.S. history. His bigotry and belief in all sorts of discredited nonsense make him a threat to the republic. So it's understandable the California doesn't want to be part of this nightmarish experiment, and they are making it clear in the most resounding way.

California Governor Jerry Brown has vowed to fight Donald Trump's dangerous policies on his state tooth and nail.

Brown said California will push back against trump's efforts to stop or reverse policies fighting global climate change.

"We've got the scientists, we've got the lawyers and we're ready to fight," Brown told the applauding audience.

"If Trump turns off the satellites, California will launch its own damn satellite," roared Brown to the crowd.

And referring to Rick Perry, the former Texas governor Trump has selected to lead the Department of Energy, Brown reminded everyone of California's advantages over Texas when it comes to renewable energy.

"We've got more sun than you've got oil," he said.

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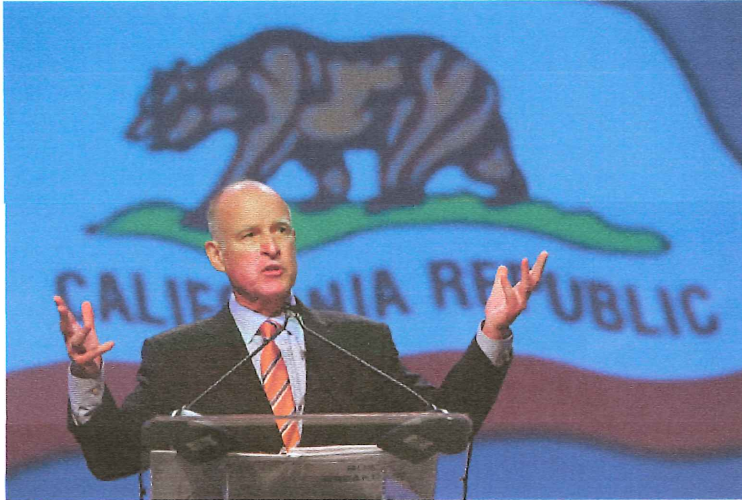
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- ▶ 2011 (73)
- ▶ 2010 (65)
- ▶ 2009 (6)

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Brown, who during the presidential campaign joked that if Trump was elected, "we'd have to build a wall around California to defend ourselves from the rest of this country," called Trump a "fraud."

It was fairly clear for whom the message was intended.



Following Brown's footsteps, the state Democratic leadership has also taken a hard stance against Trump.

Senate President Pro Tem Kevin de León traveled to a United Nations summit in Morocco to reassure foreign officials that California would press forward on climate change, while Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom called on the state's public universities to declare themselves "sanctuary campuses" for undocumented immigrant students. And both Secretary of State Alex Padilla and U.S. Sen.-elect Kamala Harris issued statements criticizing Trump's selection of Sen. Jeff Sessions for attorney general.

And last week, leaders of an effort to split California into its own country opened what they call an "embassy" for the state in Russia as a step to investigate Trump's connection with the Kremlin, according to Politico.

To make it even clearer, some media outlets are sending the message in an unequivocal way: "We'll soon have two presidents, and one will live in Sacramento," positioning the governor of the nation's most populous state as a Democratic counterweight to Donald Trump.

"The most consequential and important Democrat in the United States is the Democrat who governs more Americans than anyone save the president," columnist Joe Mathews Mathews wrote. "Meet Jerry Brown, your shadow president," he added.

There is precedent for a California governor to gird the state against a Republican administration. When George W. Bush was elected president in 2000, California Democrats raised concerns about Republican policies related to water, logging, clean air and energy. Fearing a change on the U.S. Supreme Court could result in the overturning of Roe vs. Wade, then-governor Davis signed legislation in 2002 designed to protect abortion in California even if the landmark case was reversed.

Mathews ends his column writing: "You're our president now, Jerry. Please don't let us down."



theodore M I

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What I will try to the socio-political ramifications of deviant social Behaviors born solely by conviction. Unfortunate ethical mistakes have long laid upon our lives, and our comments have been published Letters to the Editor NYPost c times since 2007.

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Email address...

Calvin are you suggesting all Howard County residents who supported Trump are Xenophobic islamophobic and racist? Do you personally know such people?

1 WHEREAS, Howard County is comprised of immigrants from throughout the world who contribute to
2 our community's social vitality, cultural richness, and economic strength; and

3 WHEREAS, Howard County has a strong tradition of leadership on issues of human rights, respecting
4 the rights of and providing equal services to all individuals, regardless of race, ethnicity, or
5 immigration status; and

6 WHEREAS, the recent national political climate has galvanized support for xenophobic, Islamophobic,
7 and racist sentiments within certain portions of the population, resulting in increased incidents of
8 hate speech and violence; and

9 WHEREAS, unfortunate statements made by our nation's President-elect have bolstered such dangerous
10 sentiments and caused many residents throughout our country and within Howard County to fear
11 for their personal safety and the loss of civil liberties; and

12 WHEREAS, the Howard County Council wishes to ensure that all residents of Howard County,
13 regardless of nationality or citizenship, shall have fair and equal access to County benefits,
14 opportunities, and services; and

15 WHEREAS, we must act now and always to uphold our commitment to be a community free of
16 prejudice, bigotry, and hate; and

17 WHEREAS, the Howard County Council wishes to affirm that commitment by declaring Howard
18 County a sanctuary county;

19
20 *Section 1. Be It Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the Howard County*
21 *Code is amended as follows:*
22 *By adding:*

do you agree unfortunate statements made by HRCClinton have bolstered such dangerous sentiments and caused many.... ie shutting down roads, rioting and looting, shutting down schools etc.

2 How is it fair to law abiding tax paying citizens to be forced to follow the law and give up any benefits they have earned to fund illegal aliens who have not followed the law and have not paid into our social programs.

Calvin aren't you claiming portions of our population are xenophobic, islamophobic, and racist with no proof ... essentially you are racially profiling them?

Introduced _____
Public Hearing _____
Council Action _____
Executive Action _____
Effective Date _____

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2017 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 1

Bill No. 9 -2017

Introduced by: Calvin Ball and Jennifer Terrasa

AN ACT providing that certain individuals shall take, or refrain from taking, specified actions with respect to the immigration status of specified individuals; prohibiting certain discrimination based on citizenship status; requiring that certain information related to citizenship status be kept confidential; providing a procedure whenever specified provisions may be preempted by other law; requiring specified officials to take actions under certain circumstances; and generally relating to human rights in Howard County.

Introduced and read first time _____, 2017. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order _____
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on _____, 2017.

By order _____
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on _____, 2017 and Passed ____, Passed with amendments _____, Failed _____.

By order _____
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this ___ day of _____, 2017 at ___ a.m./p.m.

By order _____
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive _____, 2017

Allan H. Kittleman, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 *Title 12 - Health and social services.*

2 *Subtitle 21 - Rights of non-U.S. citizens*

3
4 **Title 12 - Health and social services.**

5 **SUBTITLE 21 - RIGHTS OF NON-U.S. CITIZENS**

6
7 **12.2100. DEFINITIONS.**

8 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE, THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

9 (B) (1) *EMPLOYEE* MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS CONSIDERED TO BE AN EMPLOYEE UNDER
10 THE HOWARD COUNTY MERIT SYSTEM.

11 (2) *EMPLOYEE* INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO:

12 (i) AN OFFICER OF THE HOWARD COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT; AND

13 (ii) AN ELECTED OR APPOINTED OFFICIAL.

14 (C) (1) *IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT* MEANS A UNIT OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THAT
15 ENFORCES IMMIGRATION LAWS.

16 (2) *IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT* INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, THE UNITED STATES
17 DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT.

18 **12.2101. FEDERAL OR STATE PREEMPTION OR CONFLICTS.**

19 (A) A PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL NOT APPLY WHENEVER THE PROVISION CONFLICTS
20 WITH STATE OR FEDERAL LAW, ^{Prohibits Illegal Invaders} INTERNATIONAL TREATY, OR AN EXISTING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
21 COUNTY AND A FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL AGENCY.

22 (B) THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT PROHIBIT THE HOWARD COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM:

23 (1) INVESTIGATING OR ARRESTING VIOLATORS OF THE CRIMINAL LAW; OR

24 (2) ASSISTING A FEDERAL AGENCY WITH INVESTIGATIONS OR ARRESTS RELATING TO
25 CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AND SUSPECTED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY, OTHER THAN VIOLATIONS OF THE
26 IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES.

27 (C) THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT PROHIBIT DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION REGARDING CITIZENSHIP
28 OR IMMIGRATION STATUS IF THE DISCLOSURE IS:

1 WHEREAS, Howard County is comprised of immigrants from throughout the world who contribute to
2 our community's social vitality, cultural richness, and economic strength; and

3 WHEREAS, Howard County has a strong tradition of leadership on issues of human rights, respecting
4 the rights of and providing equal services to all individuals, regardless of race, ethnicity, or
5 immigration status; and

6 WHEREAS, the recent national political climate has galvanized support for xenophobic, Islamophobic, *False*
7 and racist sentiments within certain portions of the population, resulting in increased incidents of
8 hate speech and violence; and

9 WHEREAS, *What are those?* unfortunate statements made by our nation's President-elect have bolstered such dangerous
10 sentiments and caused many residents throughout our country and within Howard County to fear
11 for their personal safety and the loss of civil liberties; and

12 WHEREAS, the Howard County Council wishes to ensure that all residents of Howard County,
13 regardless of nationality or citizenship, shall have fair and equal access to County benefits,
14 opportunities, and services; and

15 WHEREAS, we must act now and always to uphold our commitment to be a community free of
16 prejudice, bigotry, and hate; and *the only bigotry + hate I'm aware of comes from Liberal Democrats*

17 WHEREAS, the Howard County Council wishes to affirm that commitment by declaring Howard
18 County a sanctuary county;

19
20 *Section 1. Be It Enacted* by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the Howard County
21 Code is amended as follows:

22 By adding:

1 (1) REQUIRED OR AUTHORIZED BY COUNTY, STATE, OR FEDERAL LAW,
2 INTERNATIONAL TREATY, OR BY AN EXISTING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND A FEDERAL,
3 STATE OR LOCAL AGENCY;

4 (2) REQUIRED UNDER SECTION 23-1405 OF THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE ARTICLE OF
5 THE MARYLAND CODE;

6 (2) AUTHORIZED IN WRITING BY THE SUBJECT OF THE INFORMATION; OR

7 (3) MADE TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN CONNECTION WITH AN
8 APPLICATION FOR A UNITED STATES PASSPORT.

9 **12.2102. NO ENFORCEMENT OF IMMIGRATION LAWS.**

10 (A) IN THE PERFORMANCE OF OFFICIAL DUTIES, AN EMPLOYEE SHALL NOT ENGAGE IN THE
11 ENFORCEMENT OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES AND SHALL NOT
12 ASSIST IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT IN THE INVESTIGATION OR ARREST OF A PERSON FOR A CIVIL OR
13 CRIMINAL VIOLATION OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES, EXCEPT AS
14 REQUIRED OR AUTHORIZED BY STATE OR FEDERAL LAW, INTERNATIONAL TREATY, OR AN EXISTING
15 AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND A FEDERAL, STATE OR LOCAL AGENCY

16 (B) IN THE PERFORMANCE OF OFFICIAL DUTIES, AN EMPLOYEE SHALL NOT ASSIST IMMIGRATION
17 ENFORCEMENT IN THE COLLECTION OF INFORMATION ABOUT ANY PERSON, EXCEPT AS REQUIRED OR
18 AUTHORIZED BY STATE OF FEDERAL LAW, INTERNATIONAL TREATY, OR AN EXISTING AGREEMENT
19 BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND A FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL AGENCY.

20 **12.2103. NO INQUIRIES INTO CITIZENSHIP.**

21 (A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, IN THE PERFORMANCE OF
22 OFFICIAL DUTIES, AN EMPLOYEE SHALL NOT ASK ANY PERSON ABOUT:

23 (1) HIS OR HER CITIZENSHIP, NATIONALITY, OR IMMIGRATION STATUS; OR

24 (2) THE CITIZENSHIP OR IMMIGRATION STATUS OF ANOTHER PERSON.

25 (B) THIS SECTION DOES NOT PROHIBIT:

1 (1) THE COLLECTION OF INFORMATION REGARDING CITIZENSHIP STATUS IN CONNECTION
2 WITH THE REGISTRATION OR ATTEMPTED REGISTRATION TO VOTE IN COUNTY ELECTIONS;

3 (2) INQUIRIES REGARDING THE CITIZENSHIP OF APPLICANTS FOR POSITIONS AS SWORN
4 OFFICERS WITH THE HOWARD COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT OR THE HOWARD COUNTY
5 DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS;

6 (3) THE COLLECTION OF INFORMATION IN CONNECTION WITH APPLICATIONS FOR UNITED
7 STATES PASSPORTS;

8 (4) INQUIRIES REGARDING THE CITIZENSHIP OR IMMIGRATION STATUS OF EMPLOYEES
9 AND APPLICANTS FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH THE COUNTY AS REQUIRED BY TITLE 8, CHAPTER 12,
10 SUBCHAPTER II, PART VIII, OF THE UNITED STATES CODE; OR

11 (5) INQUIRIES REGARDING CITIZENSHIP OR IMMIGRATION STATUS REQUIRED OR
12 AUTHORIZED BY STATE OR FEDERAL LAW, INTERNATIONAL TREATY, OR AN EXISTING AGREEMENT
13 BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND A FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL AGENCY.

14 **12.2104. DISCRIMINATION BASED ON CITIZENSHIP PROHIBITED.**

15 IN THE PERFORMANCE OF OFFICIAL DUTIES, AN EMPLOYEE SHALL NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST
16 ANY PERSON ON THE BASIS OF CITIZENSHIP, NATIONALITY, OR IMMIGRATION STATUS.

17 **12.2105. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION ABOUT CITIZENSHIP STATUS.**

18 AN EMPLOYEE SHALL NOT DISCLOSE ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE CITIZENSHIP,
19 NATIONALITY, OR IMMIGRATION STATUS OF AN INDIVIDUAL TO A THIRD PARTY EXCEPT:

20 (1) AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 12.2101(C) OF THIS SECTION; OR

21 (2) IN THE PERFORMANCE OF OFFICIAL DUTIES.

22 **12.2106. CHANGES IN PRACTICES.**

23 (A) WHENEVER THE COUNTY ATTORNEY LEARNS OF A STATE OR FEDERAL LAW OR
24 INTERNATIONAL TREATY THAT MAY PREEMPT THIS SUBTITLE, THE COUNTY ATTORNEY SHALL ADVISE
25 THE COUNTY COUNCIL AND THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE:

1 (1) ABOUT THE LAW OR TREATY; AND

2 (2) WHETHER THE COUNTY SHOULD CHANGE ANY PRACTICES UNDER OR PROVISIONS OF
3 THIS SUBTITLE.

4 (B) THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL NOTIFY THE PUBLIC OF ANY CHANGES IN PRACTICES
5 MADE AS A RESULT OF THIS SECTION.

6 *Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that this Act*
7 *shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.*

8

Testimony in support of CB9

Ying Matties

10228 Little Brick House, Ellicott City, MD 21042

Good evening. My name is Ying Matties. I have been a Howard County resident for the past 16 years. I'm here to support CB9. I am a first-generation Chinese American. I came to this country more than twenty five years ago on a student visa to pursue a doctorate and have been a citizen for 15 years. As a young woman who had never been far from home, the first few years were hard. A feeling of uncertainty about my future was never far below the surface. Missteps in school could jeopardize my legal status. Any major illness or an accident could stretch the limits of my health insurance coverage. There was no safety net to catch me. These struggles are familiar to many immigrants.

Yet I was extremely lucky. Born into a family of two teachers after the end of a destructive period called the 'Cultural Revolution", I was able to obtain an education in some of Beijing's top schools and one of the most prestigious universities in China. Such a completely random event in one's life, the place and time of your birth, set me on a path to a relatively easy life. So many of the undocumented immigrants weren't so lucky.

Let me be clear – I do not support illegal immigration. Congress should fix our broken immigration system. However, lost in the debate is the fact that no child aspires to break the law and become undocumented immigrant someday. Nobody wants to live in the shadows.

One of the statistics we haven't heard much about is that since 2000, unauthorized immigration from Asia has grown at rates much faster than from Mexico and Central America. According to results published in 2015 by the Migration Policy Institute, Asians represent about 14% of the 11 million undocumented immigrants living in the US. That percentage has tripled over the last 15 years and is projected to grow even more.

It's not hard to imagine that if and when our relationship with China takes a turn for the worse, the new boogiemán in our immigration and national security debate will be someone born in China, someone like me.

I think about these possibilities sometimes, but my worries pale in comparison to the fear of the more vulnerable members of our community. Our friends and neighbors who might not have the language skills yet to advocate for themselves. Or citizens and legal residents who have experienced and are still facing discrimination because of their race or religion. Their fear is real.

In closing, I support CB9 because Howard County is known for its shared values of inclusion and respect of neighbors of all backgrounds and beliefs. And I believe that those values should continue regardless as to what the future brings. Thank you for this opportunity to present my testimony in support of CB9.

Howard County Public Hearing , Bill 9-2017 January 17, 2017

I. Frederick C. Ruff, 9324 Kings Grant Rd., Howard County, 20723

II. The very outset of this bill there is a statement: **“Howard County is composed of immigrants from throughout the world who contribute to our community’s social vitality, cultural richness and economic strength.”**

A. This statement is not correct because the persons that this Bill relates to, basically targets foreigners that have entered the U.S. **illegally**. Unfortunately in some cases their children who are under the umbrella of their parent’s illegal entry would also be involved .

B. You suggest that giving persons entering the U.S. **illegally “fair and equal access to county benefits, opportunities and services”** will solve stated problems.

C. This bill suggests a remedy that **cannot solve the problems** that you desire. The problems you state are: **Personal “Phobics, Racism, Hate Speech and Violence”**. They do not address the root problems that are related to so called objectives you wish to correct.

D. There are already active laws in effect that deal with problems of **“Racism, Hate Speech and Violence”** via **Local, State and Federal** personal protection agencies.

E. I agree that we need to uphold the commitment to be a community free of prejudice, bigotry and hate as well as a community that upholds the laws that address these issues.

F. In section 8 of the Bill you take a personal attack on the President Elect with no substantial evidence to back it up, which is undocumented and very cowardly to say the least.

G. Bill 9-2017 will not solve the problems that you state in this Bill but will only put additional burdens on the citizens and legal immigrants of Howard County via the Education System, Social Services, Police and Fire services and the Howard County Budget ,for what I believe is your personal Political reasons.

I thank you for this opportunity to share My thoughts on this Bill and only hope and pray that it is not passed.

Sincerely,

Mr. Frederick C. Ruff

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TESTIMONY OF IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY JONATHAN S. GREENE SUPPORTING C.B. 9-2017 JANUARY 17, 2017

Good Evening Chairperson Weinstein, Vice Chairperson Ball, and Councilmembers Terrasa, Sigaty and Fox.

I am an attorney practicing immigration law in Maryland for more than 20 years. My office has been in Columbia for more than 10 years. I reside in Ellicott City and have been a Howard County resident for more than 20 years. I am the first attorney who has served both as a Chair of the Maryland State Bar Association Immigration Law Section and the D.C.-Maryland Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association. I have been an expert witness on immigration issues in state and federal cases, and I have taught other attorneys and the public about immigration law through national and local venues including the Maryland State Bar Association and the American Bar Association. I have presented seminars on immigration detainers to the Office of the Public Defender and I have been a guest speaker for classes at both the University of Maryland and University of Baltimore Law Schools. I also serve as an adjunct professor at Stevenson University teaching immigration law.

I have testified dozens of times before the Maryland General Assembly as a representative of legal organizations to assist in explaining how federal immigration law relates to proposed legislation. I am appearing today for the same purpose, to share knowledge of federal immigration law. I am here as a resource to you and to help you understand that this bill does not violate federal law but it very importantly establishes the law for how immigration law works in Howard County.

This bill does not violate federal immigration law. It does not interfere with federal immigration enforcement actions, which will continue to be carried out by the federal government. The Constitution gives the immigration function to the federal government exclusively.¹ Counties are not supposed to be immigration enforcers.

¹ See U.S. Constitution, Art. 1, § 8, Cl. 4 and 150 years of U.S. Supreme Court decisions.

The GREENE LAW FIRM, LLC

January 17, 2017

Page 2

Immigration law is complex and hard to understand. There are a lot of people in this room who are going to testify and give your wrong information about federal immigration law.² That's understandable. Even our County Executive doesn't seem to understand immigration law. This bill establishes in law what the limits will be for Howard County's involvement with federal immigration law. County Executive Kittleman said that Howard County police have never been engaged in the enforcement of immigration law and that job belongs to the federal government. This bill would make that policy the law in Howard County. But County Executive Kittleman said he will veto a law that makes clear that our police will continue to fight crime but will not carry out the civil immigration enforcement job of the federal government. If he supports the policy, he should support the law. But instead, County Executive Kittleman said he would veto the bill because that law would compromise public safety. If County Executive Kittleman thinks community safety is endangered if our police are not enforcing federal immigration law, then he must be saying that he intends to have our police become federal immigration law enforcers.

This bill will also establish that Howard County government employees will not reveal immigration information about Howard County residents to Donald Trump so he can make a registry of Muslims or Mexicans or anyone else he does not like. County Executive Kittleman said he will veto this bill because Donald Trump is threatening to take away our federal funding. Instead of standing up to a bully, County Executive Kittleman is telling us to turn in our neighbors, our coworkers and our children. That is why this law is needed now. We need to tell Donald Trump and County Executive Kittleman that we are one Howard County, that we choose civility, that we are a place of compassion and diversity and we stand up for our residents.

For these reasons, I ask that the Council vote in favor of CB 9-2017.

² Social media continues falsely to echo the myth that undocumented immigrants are criminals. The U.S. Supreme Court has recognized that it is not a crime to be present in the United States in violation of the immigration law. *U.S. v. Arizona*, 132 S.Ct at 2505. This principle has been echoed by the Fourth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, which applies federal law to Maryland and three other states. See *U.S. v. South Carolina*, 720 F.3d 518 (2013). The Immigration and Nationality Act, the federal immigration law statute created by Congress, does not even contain the term "illegal alien."

JONATHAN S. GREENE

Jonathan Greene is the founder of the Greene Law Firm, LLC in Columbia, Md. Mr. Greene practices in the areas of family law and immigration law. He is admitted to practice before the Maryland Court of Appeals, the U.S. District Court for Maryland, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth and Sixth Circuits and the U.S. Supreme Court. He is also an adjunct professor at Stevenson University in immigration law.

Mr. Greene has substantial experience in immigration law. He is the first attorney to serve both as the chair of the Maryland State Bar Association's Immigration Law Section and the American Immigration Lawyers Association Washington D.C., Maryland and Virginia Chapter. Mr. Greene has served on the MSBA Immigration Law Section Council since its founding in 2008. Mr. Greene previously served as AILA chapter chair-elect, vice chair, chapter secretary, annual conference committee chair, Maryland bar liaison, ICE liaison (twice), CBP liaison, Maryland advocacy coordinator and ICE raid response coordinator. Mr. Greene served in 2005-06 as a member of AILA's national board of governors and was elected to the 2006 national officer nominating committee. He has previously served on other national AILA panels, including the 2014 USCIS Field Operations, 2013 Annual Conference, 2011 Distance Learning and 2010 ICE Liaison Committees. Mr. Greene has advocated for years before the Maryland General Assembly on immigration, and he received the 2008 AILA Washington D.C. Chapter Advocate of the Year Award.

Mr. Greene has given extensive presentations on immigration issues. He has spoken on advanced naturalization and family immigration issues at the national AILA 2003, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2014 Annual Conferences. He has spoken on legal professionalism issues for national AILA conferences in 2011 and 2013 and on state immigration legislation for a 2008 AILA national podcast. Mr. Greene spoke on immigration issues affecting the Latino community at the American University Washington College of Law in 2014. He presented webinars on marriage fraud in 2013 to AILA's national new members division and AILA's Nevada Chapter. He also presented webinars to the Maryland State Bar Association on Special Immigrant Juveniles, Immigration Court and Professional Responsibility. In 2011-2012, Mr. Greene presented four seminars to the Maryland Public Defenders office and he spoke on professional responsibility and family immigration at a Public Defender's Conference in 2015. He has presented immigration seminars for the American Law Institute-American Bar Association in 2004 -2006. He has also addressed family issues for AILA national audio seminars in July 2009 and March 2011, a web seminar in November 2006 and the New York Chapter conference in December 2006. He spoke on immigration law ethics at the AILA New England Regional Conference in 2006 and the AILA Washington D.C. Chapter 2004, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 Fall Conferences. Mr. Greene also spoke on family support issues at the AILA Washington D.C. Chapter 2016 Fall Conference. He has spoken on client development at the AILA Washington D.C. Chapter 2002 Legal Practice Series, and he served as a moderator in 2001 and 2008 for chapter conferences. Mr. Greene spoke on immigration issues to the Family Law Committee of the Baltimore City Bar Association in 2004 and presented the association's Milton Talkin lecture in 1999. He has given seminars for Sterling Educational Services in 2006-7 and to Baltimore County Circuit Court judges in 2007. He has spoken at MSBA conferences in 2008-11 and 2015 and presented on criminal and immigration law for the Maryland Institute for Continuing Legal Education in 2008. In 2009, Mr. Greene also spoke at the National Consortium for Racial & Ethnic Fairness in the Courts conference.

JONATHAN S. GREENE (Continued)

Mr. Greene's family law experience includes serving as a committee member of the Maryland Lt. Governor's & Attorney General's Family Violence Council in 1996-97 and Vice-Chair of the Family Law Committee of the American Bar Association's Young Lawyer's Division. He served as a committee member and director of the Domestic Violence Task Force of Maryland's Public Justice Center in 1993-96, and he worked with the American Bar Association Commission on Domestic Violence in 1995-96.

Mr. Greene has spoken on family law and immigration issues at the Family Law Hot Tips 2009 seminar of the Maryland Institute for Continuing Legal Education. He also gave a presentation on domestic violence to the Baltimore County Social Services Department in 1996 and taught seminars in 1999-2008 for the National Business Institute on the topics of "Child Custody and Visitation," "Avoiding Common Liability Pitfalls in Maryland Family Law," "Complex Divorce Issues for the Maryland Paralegal," "Complex Issues in Divorce for the Maryland Practitioner" & "Financial Settlement Strategies for Your Divorce Clients."

Mr. Greene's publications in immigration law include "Paying Special Attention: The Changing Strategies for Special Immigrant Juveniles," Thompson Immigration Briefings (Dec. 2016); "The Tricky Triangle: Marriage, Divorce and Permanent Residence," Thompson Immigration Briefings (Mar. 2015); "Preparing Clients for the Marriage Interview," Voice Magazine (Mar. 2015); "Visa Options for International Business," Maryland Bar Bulletin (Aug. 2014); "Spousal Green Cards: The Golden Ticket," Maryland Bar Bulletin (Aug. 2014); "Increasing Importance of Immigration in Family Law," MAJ Journal (July 2014); "Adjustment of Status vs. Consular Processing" AILA's Guide to Immigration Law for Paralegals 2013-14 (Nov. 2013); "Family Feuds: The Impact of Domestic Relations Law on Naturalization," Thompson Immigration Briefings (Aug. 2013); "Immigration Issues in Criminal Law," Maryland Bar Bulletin (Aug. 2012); "Immigration Opportunities for 2012," Maryland Bar Bulletin (Aug. 2012); "Unfortunate Fairy Tale: Unhappy Marriage of Immigration and Family Law," Maryland Bar Journal, Vol. XLI, No. 5 (2008); "All in the Family: How Messy Divorces Can Make a Mess of Naturalization," Immigration & Nationality Law Handbook 717 (2006); "When Immigration Meets Family Law: An International Collision," Family Law News, MD State Bar Association Section Council of Family & Juvenile Law (July 2005); "Immigration Issues for the Family Law Attorney," Maryland Bar Bulletin (Sept. 2004); "H Nonimmigrants," 2 Immigration & Nationality Law Handbook 1 (2003); and the conclusion to the Fall 1999 Cardozo School of Law Journal of International and Comparative Law Fall issue focusing on international violence against women. Mr. Greene also lead coauthored "V Nonimmigrant Visas: A New Breath of LIFE," Immigration & Nationality Law Handbook 575 (2005); "The Vagabond Life of the V Visa Kids," Immigration Law Today Vol. 24, No. 5 (2005); "Marital Disharmony: Immigration Consequences of Separation and Divorce," Immigration Law Today Vol. 26 No 6 (2007); and "Every Rose Has Its Thorn: Issues in Difficult Marriage Adjustment Cases," Immigration & Nationality Law Hndbk. 563 (2008).

Mr. Greene's publication list in family law includes coauthoring "Increasing Remedies for Domestic Violence" for the Maryland Journal of Contemporary Legal Issues (1995). In 1996, he wrote the chapter on Sports and Entertainment Law for The Impact of Domestic Violence on Your Legal Practice: A Lawyer's Handbook, published by the American Bar Association Commission on Domestic Violence.

JONATHAN S. GREENE (Continued)

Mr. Greene has provided extensive pro bono representation and counsel. In 2011 and 2012, he provided pro bono assistance on immigration issues in criminal law matters to the Maryland Office of the Public Defender. Mr. Greene also made a presentation to the Howard County Domestic Violence Center in 2012. Mr. Greene has provided counsel to the Maryland Department of Transportation on immigration law issues. Mr. Greene has represented pro bono clients on behalf of such organizations as the Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Society, Catholic Charities, Lutheran World Relief and Kids in Need of Defense.

Mr. Greene has also served as a guest lecturer in immigration law at the University of Maryland Law School and the University of Baltimore Law School since 2011.

Mr. Greene has substantial trial and appellate experience in immigration and family law, including reported cases *Simbaina v. Bunay*, 221 Md. App. 440 (2015); *Kuusk v. Holder*, 732 F.3d 302 (4th Cir. 2013); and *Fox v. Fox*, 167 F.3d 880 (4th Cir. 1999).

Mr. Greene served for several years as a Contributing Editor to the American Bar Association Student Lawyer Magazine. From 1997-2005, he authored the “Coping” Column, which was recognized by the American Society of Business Publications Editors with the national Gold award for Editorial Excellence in 2001, as well as regional awards from 1999-2001. Mr. Greene has also written feature articles for the magazine from 1995-2002, including several cover stories and an interview with former U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno. Mr. Greene has previously been recognized with a “Laurel” for investigative reporting from Columbia Journalism Review. From 1996-2000, Mr. Greene was a frequent contributor to Maryland’s two family law publications, the Maryland Domestic Law Report and the Maryland Family Law Monthly.

Mr. Greene has served as an expert witness and consulting attorney in immigration law and other matters and has been qualified as an expert witness in state court.

Mr. Greene’s media appearances have included WJLA-TV and WAMU Radio in Washington, D.C., and WBAL and WYPR Radio in Baltimore. He has appeared on cable talk shows in Baltimore and Washington. He has also been interviewed, quoted and consulted on numerous occasions by the Daily Record, the Baltimore Sun and the former Examiner. He has also appeared on foreign television broadcasts.

Mr. Greene earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Maryland in 1988 (Dean’s List) and his J.D. in 1996. In 1993, Mr. Greene was recognized with the American Jurisprudence Award for Professional Responsibility. In 1996, he also served as a lobbyist on domestic violence issues before the Maryland General Assembly and as a committee member of the Maryland Commission on the Future of the Courts.

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IMMIGRATION LAW BACKGROUNDER FOR HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL¹

By Jonathan S. Greene

U.S. immigration is nearly exclusively the domain of the federal government, and different parts of the government have specific roles in the process. The U.S. Congress, the legislative branch of the federal government, is the primary creator of federal laws, and the immigration statutes passed by Congress are largely contained in Title 8 of the United States Code. The title is also known as the Immigration and Nationality Act (“INA”). The executive branch of the federal government is responsible for carrying out the laws created by Congress, but the statutes are usually very broad in nature and require the executive branch to issue regulations to fill in the gaps of the statutes. Regulations can be issued by the different executive branch Departments overseen by the Presidents, and such departments can also issue further explanation of law in the form of policy manuals, practice manuals, FAQs, officer manuals, policy memoranda, stakeholder announcements and other subregulations. Final interpretation of immigration law is conducted by the courts of the judicial branch of the federal government, but administrative law courts often decide cases before they get to the federal courts.

While Congress and the federal courts have important roles in creating and interpreting immigration law, the executive branch handles the vast majority of immigration law matters in its domain of executing the laws. Six Departments handle major components of immigration law, but none more important than the **Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”)**. Prior to the tragic events of September 11, 2001, U.S. immigration was primarily the province of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (“INS”) under the Department of Justice. In 2002, Congress proposed the creation of a new Department of Homeland Security to combine intelligence agency operations. When DHS opened its doors in 2003, Congress broke up the old INS and moved most of its components to the new Department.

The Department of Homeland Security contains three offices focused on immigration issues. **United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (“USCIS”)** is responsible for adjudicating petitions and applications for immigration status, visa eligibility and citizenship. USCIS also manages employment authorization applications, international travel permission,

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The GREENE LAW FIRM, LLC

January 17, 2017

Page 2

biometrics and fingerprinting, and asylum requests. **U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”)** primarily focuses on investigating, apprehending, detaining and removing noncitizens. ICE’s Office of Chief Counsel provides the attorneys who litigate deportation and removal cases in the immigration courts. **Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”)** inspects persons and goods at airports, seaports and land borders, as well as managing the Border Patrol.

The **State Department** is responsible for issuing visas outside the United States, as well as passports and citizenship certificates for U.S. citizens born abroad. Whereas DHS is in charge of immigration matters inside the United States, the State Department’s immigration role is solely for foreign nationals who are outside the United States. The State Department manages a U.S. Embassy in most countries. Within each embassy is a consular division, which handles the issuance of visas and immigration matters. In countries with large geographical territory or many population centers, the State Department operates separate consulates in other locations away from the embassy. For example, the U.S. Embassy in Brazil is in the capital city of Brasilia, while the State Department also maintains consulates in Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and Recife.

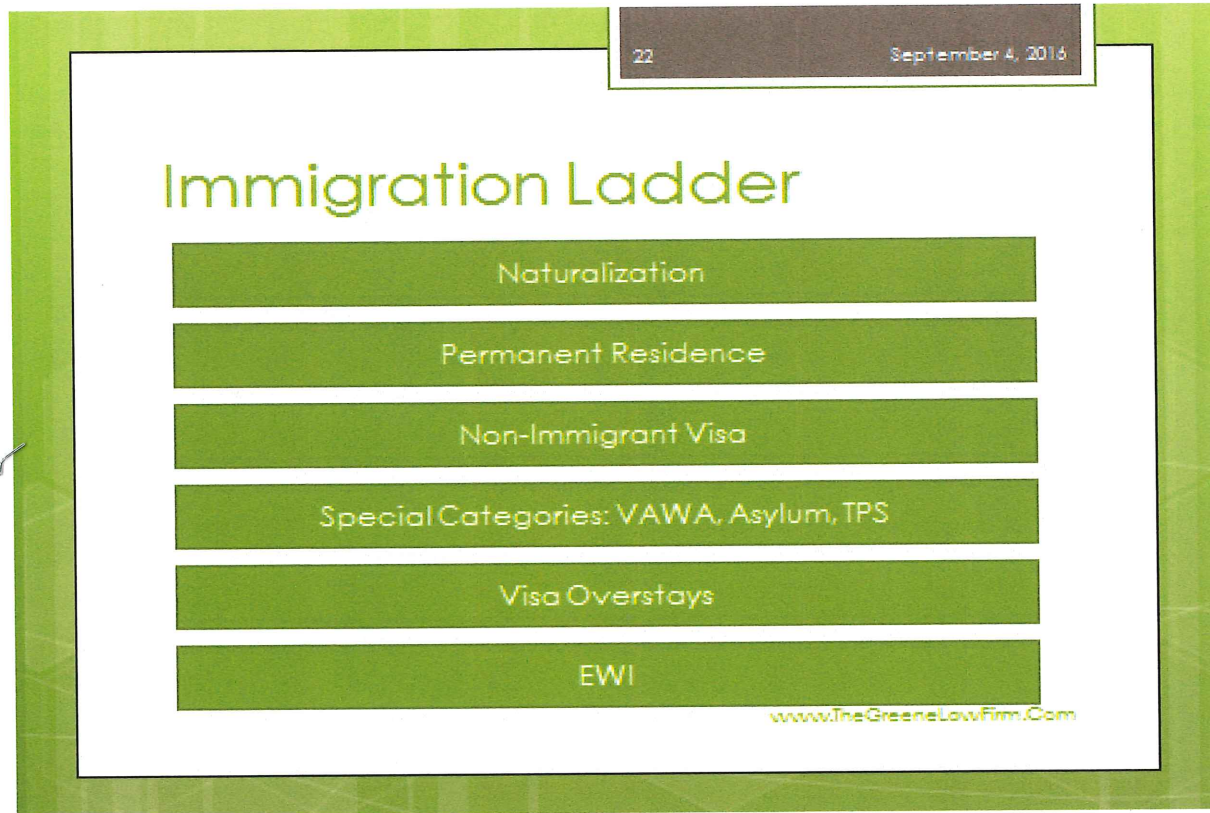
The **Justice Department** was once home to the Immigration and Naturalization Service, most of which was transferred to DHS. The Justice Department still retains the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), which is composed of more than 50 immigration courts across the United States. Immigration courts are administrative law courts charged with issuing orders pertaining to removal and deportation. EOIR also contains the Board of Immigration Appeals, which considers appeals from the immigration courts.

Three other executive branch departments also serve important functions related to immigration law. The **Department of Labor** provides immigration review of certain employment applications in the Office of Foreign Labor Certification, including Labor Certification of employment-based permanent residence cases and H-2 nonimmigrant visas. The Department of Labor also certifies Labor Condition Applications for temporary visas in the H-1B category and makes prevailing wage determinations for all of these kinds of cases. The **Commerce Department** can issue licenses related to the export of certain technology in particular nonimmigrant visa cases. The **Department of Health and Human Services** is responsible for resettling refugees in the United States, providing shelter services for unaccompanied children arriving in the United States and issuing annual poverty guidelines which affect the ability of people to sponsor immigrants who would otherwise be public burdens.

January 17, 2017

Page 3

To understand how the immigration system works, it can be helpful to visualize a ladder of immigration benefits:



The best place to start with a ladder is usually the bottom, but in this case, the best place is actually the middle. If you draw an imaginary line below **Non-Immigrant Visa** on the ladder, everything above the line offers traditional legal immigration status and everything below the line does not have such status. For those entering the United States by lawful means, obtaining a nonimmigrant visa at a U.S. embassy or consulate is often the first step on the immigration ladder. Nonimmigrant visas offer a temporary period of stay in the United States, from as little as a few days to as much as seven years or even more. Typical categories include tourists, business visitors, employees, students, trainees, and survivors of crime and human trafficking. (NOTE: Nonimmigrant visa categories start with a letter, such as A, B or C and often include a number, such as L-1, F-1, H-4 or O-2.) Once present in the United States, a visitor can seek to **change status** to another nonimmigrant visa category or **adjust status** by moving up the ladder to permanent residence. Some nonimmigrants are authorized to work in the United States, depending on the visa category.

Permanent Residence in the United States is typically obtained by seeking an **immigrant visa** (instead of nonimmigrant visa) at a U.S. embassy or consulate outside the United States. Those who are present in the United States as nonimmigrants are eligible to move up the immigration ladder by adjusting status to permanent residence, if they meet eligibility

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January 17, 2017

Page 4

criteria. A permanent resident is issued a card by USCIS (historically known as the “green card,” although not actually green in color). Permanent residence allows a citizen of another country to reside permanently in the United States and travel in and out of the country without having to seek admission, in most cases. All permanent residents are authorized for employment by virtue of that status.

Moving to the top of the immigration ladder provides permanent residents a chance to become U.S. citizens through the process of **Naturalization**. U.S. citizenship often can be conferred through birth in the United States or birth outside the United States to U.S. parents, but the most frequent path to citizenship for immigrants is through naturalization. To become a citizen, naturalization applicants must establish a period of residence and presence in the United States, as well as good moral character. Most applicants also take a test showing their knowledge of the English language and U.S. government and history. Achieving citizenship is the ultimate goal of the immigration ladder.

The categories below Nonimmigrant Visa all may have some opportunities to move up the ladder to citizenship, but there are special challenges and significant limitations for these categories. The **Special Categories** of **VAWA, Asylum and TPS** all feature transitions in legal immigration status. The Violence Against Women Act allows abused spouses, children and parents of U.S. citizens and permanent residents to leapfrog to permanent residence, even if they did not have valid nonimmigrant status. Those who have been granted asylum are neither nonimmigrants nor permanent residents, but they are allowed to stay and work in the United States and eventually seek permanent residence. Temporary protected status (“TPS”) is granted to persons present in the United States who come from particular countries which Congress has recognized as devastated by natural disaster or civil conflict, making return to the home country impossible. TPS does not confer permanent residence but allows those with such status to work and remain in the United States as long as Congress authorizes such status. There are other similar quasi-status categories in immigration law, such as Deferred Action and those granted Withholding of Removal. All of these special categories have their own rules for moving or not moving through the immigration ladder.

Visa Overstays are a common category which offers limited opportunities to move up the immigration ladder. Nearly all nonimmigrant visa holders have an expiration date on the amount of time they are allowed to stay in the United States, but more than a few overstay their authorized time. Because most nonimmigrant visa holders cannot change or adjust their status once they have overstayed, many cannot move up the immigration ladder unless they leave the United States and file new applications. However, a special exception allows visa overstayers to adjust status to permanent residence if they are sponsored by U.S. citizens who are their spouses, children over 21, or parents (if the visa overstayers are under 21).

Those who **Enter Without Inspection (“EWI”)** represent the lowest level of the immigration ladder because they have the most challenges to moving up the ladder. Without any legal status to start, even sponsorship by relatives usually requires that those who entered without being inspected by an immigration officer leave the United States and seek a waiver to be able to pursue permanent residence. EWI category applicants who are eligible for Special Category

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January 17, 2017

Page 5

relief under VAWA, asylum, TPS and related options can remain in the United States in limited circumstances, but many who have entered without inspection have no options to obtain legal status or move up the immigration ladder.

NOTE: Important Concepts. The **Visa** is issued by the State Department at an embassy or consulate. A consular officer affixes the visa on a page in the applicant's passport. Visas are essentially entry tickets to the United States and they contain expiration dates. Some visas can be used for multiple entries and some are only good for one entry (the number of entries is spelled out on the visa page in the passport). If a visa expires while a person is in the United States, that fact alone does not require the person to depart the United States at that time.

Period of Authorized Stay pertains to the length of time a person is allowed to be in the United States. When a person obtains a nonimmigrant visa and presents the passport and visa page to a CBP officer at the airport in the United States (or the border or sea port), the CBP officer will stamp the passport and write the expiration date for the stay in the United States. Sometimes the period of authorized stay is six months or a year, but in some cases it can even be three years long. Students sometimes have no expiration date for their period of authorized stay and can remain in the United States as long as they are complying with the terms of their visas. When a person changes status or extends status in the United States, USCIS issues a Form I-797 notice that features a new period of authorized stay.

Lawful Status is obtained by a person when entering the United States with inspection from a CBP officer. Maintaining lawful status requires compliance with the terms of a visa category, such as attending classes if present in the United States on a student visa. If an application to extend, change or adjust status is filed before the expiration of the period of authorized stay, the applicant also continues to have lawful status while the application is pending with USCIS. A person fails to maintain lawful status by overstaying a period of authorized stay (without a proper pending USCIS application) or by failing to maintain the terms of a visa category.

Unlawful Presence is accrued when a person enters without inspection or overstays a period of authorized stay. Unlawful presence periods result in inadmissibility of the person and may require a waiver to pursue permanent residence.

Testimony in support of CB9-2017

January 17, 2017

Good evening, and thank you for the opportunity to speak on this important issue. My name is Dawn Popp and I have been a resident of Howard County for almost my whole life, after moving to Columbia when I was in preschool. My family and I now live in Elkridge, Council District 1. I am here to express my strong support for CB9.

From a practical perspective, I support this bill because common sense, and the experience of other sanctuary cities and counties, indicate that such communities are safer. When people who witness or are victims of crime know that they need not fear questions about their own immigration status if they come forward, that makes us all safer. A safer community should be something we can all support.

Moreover, from a moral perspective, I support this bill because it's simply the right thing to do. This is a defining moment for us as a community. This is where we get to decide if we truly embrace and stand up for the values reflected in the "OneHoward" pledge, or if we are swayed by fear tactics, misinformation, and hate speech that refers to members of our community as "illegals" and other such dehumanizing language. The hateful rhetoric being spread on social media by those opposed to this bill should be evidence enough of how much we need it. Of course, I recognize that passing CB9 is not going to magically eliminate racism in Howard County, but we cannot underestimate the symbolic value of having our government and our community publicly and "officially" take a stand against bigotry in all its forms.

One of the arguments I've heard against CB9 is the concern that federal funding might be withheld in retaliation for us becoming a sanctuary county. I note that Congress, not the President, would need to act to withhold such funding, and that it is extremely unlikely it would *or could* successfully do so. I believe that the same principles of federalism that led the Supreme Court to strike down the part of the Affordable Care Act permitting the federal government to withhold federal funding from states opting out of the Medicaid expansion would also prevent Congress from withholding existing funding based upon the passage of CB9.

Thank you again for the opportunity to speak. I hope that you will join me in supporting CB9 so that "OneHoward" is who we really are, and not just an empty hashtag.

County Council Hearing Testimony in Support of Council Bill 9-2017

Tuesday, 17 January 2017 | 6:00pm

Testimony by Jill Marie Bussey, resident

5257 Open Window, Columbia, MD 20144

Phone: 240-353-5208 | Email: jillmbussey@gmail.com

Good evening. Thank you for this opportunity to provide my testimony in support of CB9. I am Jill Marie Bussey, a resident of Columbia for more than a decade – a home that my husband and I very purposefully chose for raising our family. We love our diverse community and hope that James Rouse’s vision will endure for decades, if not centuries, to come.

I am also an immigration lawyer, advocate and community volunteer. While many of you may know me in my current and former capacities, I wish to be clear that the testimony that I am providing is in my personal capacity alone and do not necessarily represent the organizations to which I am or have been associated with. I support this legislation because I believe that it is an important measure to promote community trust, reduce discrimination and racial profiling and allocate local resources to our local priorities. Further, it is consistent with the *President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing*, which states, “whenever possible, state and local law enforcement should not be involved in immigration enforcement.”¹

¹ https://cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/taskforce/taskforce_finalreport.pdf

In my work, I have seen numerous jurisdictions take initiatives similar to CB9 prior to² and now increasingly more so following the election. The most common rationales are for localities to comply with federal law³ and, now, in response to the very real and tangible consequences of a long and divisive campaign that has inspired acts of intolerance, bullying, hate crimes and other related violence.⁴ Indeed, we have heard of multiple reports in our county and will, no doubt, hear of more experiences this evening.

Tonight, I would like to talk about fear because it is such a tremendous factor in this debate. Martin Luther King Jr. said, “people fail to get along because they fear each other; they fear each other because they don’t know each other; they don’t know each other because they have not communicated with each other.” I do hope that this community, a community that I love and have dedicated myself to serve, will see this legislation as an opportunity to communicate and that this discourse will lead us to choices that reflect that we have, in fact, listened to each other.

President-elect Trump has stated that he would increase rates of deportation and detention, going beyond President Obama’s all time record

² There was a significant increase in 2014, following a decision by the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, which held that local law enforcement cannot be compelled to detain prisoners for the federal government; and if they choose to do so, they will be liable for the results. This was followed by *Miranda-Olivares v. Clackamas County*. In that case, a United States magistrate judge in Portland ruled that an immigrant’s rights had been violated when she was held in a county jail on a detainer request. By 2015, 350 jurisdictions had enacted policies to limit detainer compliance. Today, the estimate is nearly 400 jurisdictions.

³ *Jimenez Moreno v. Napolitano* establishes that jurisdictions across the country that have adopted detainer-limiting policies are complying with—rather than violating— federal law.

⁴ Southern Poverty Law Center: <https://www.splcenter.org/hatewatch/2016/11/18/update-incidents-hateful-harassment-election-day-now-number-701> and <https://www.splcenter.org/20161128/trump-effect-impact-2016-presidential-election-our-nations-schools>.

at 2.8 million people.⁵ To accomplish, the Trump administration would have to resort to aggressive enforcement actions such as sweeps and raids and pressure localities to use their own resources to assist without reimbursement. I note that this would likely entail constitutionally questionable practices as ICE and local police have mistakenly held and even deported U.S. citizens in the past.⁶ Many of these deportations have placed people who have legitimately articulated fear of persecution and violence back into the very situation in which they have fled – in some cases leading to their death.

This legislation is needed to protect our community and acknowledge these realities. It is needed because, just as federal immigration policy, our County's current policy could be changed at any moment with little or no notice to the public. It is needed to affirm our values as a community of diversity and inclusion. As a taxpayer, it is needed to serve as assurance that our local resources will not be diverted from pressing local initiatives such as our schools, libraries and infrastructure.

There are residents who have expressed concern about lowered property values because the community becomes too diverse or "brown" – these are fears that we have heard at times in this county and this nation's past – desegregation; during waves of Polish, Irish and Italian immigration; and fears we heard when refugees fled Vietnam and Korea. Many of these

⁵ <http://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/upfront/2017/01/barack-obama-deporter-chief-170113105930345.html>; <http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/obamas-deportation-policy-numbers/story?id=41715661>

⁶ Such was the case for Ernesto Galarza. In his case, the Third Circuit held that the County of Lehigh, Pennsylvania, could be liable for damages to Ernesto Galarza, a U.S. citizen improperly targeted and held on the basis of a detainer.

fears have culminated in a very ugly discourse - dehumanizing undocumented immigrants, calling them “illegals” – a term that is neither morally or legally accurate, and is purposefully being used to marginalize and create distance.⁷ Let us not fall into these traps – let us not create distance but challenge ourselves to stay true to the values of this community – **diversity, inclusiveness and civility.**

I urge you to pass this legislation because it will ensure that our local law enforcement and resources will remain focused on protecting and serving our residents, and ensure all who come to live in Howard County (including my family) feel safe and welcome.

As always, thank you for your time and consideration.

⁷David Bacon, *Illegal People: How Globalization Creates Migration and Criminalizes Immigrants* (2007)

Erika Strauss Chavarria
10925 Shadow Lane
Columbia, MD 21044
Testimony In Support of Council Bill 9-2017

I am speaking in support of Council Bill 9. As a Jewish woman it is my moral obligation to support this bill and stand up for human rights. Countless times throughout history, individuals, communities, and countries offered sanctuaries for the Jewish people ensuring our survival and existence. The book of Exodus states "You shall not oppress a stranger for you know the feelings of the stranger, having yourselves been strangers in the land of Egypt". Those who feel entitled as US citizens and oppose this bill forget that unless you are native to this land or were forced here against your will through enslavement, we are all immigrants in this country.

County Executive Kittleman vows to veto CB9 that provides optimism and hope for the same undocumented students who he listened to and shook hands with at Stand Up Howard. His statement conveniently mentioned MS13 gangs, and sex and human traffickers, closely echoing Trumps sentiments towards Mexicans, portraying a false image of immigrants as criminals and dangers to our community. He failed to mention that many of the clients of trafficking are white male US citizens and that many of the victims of trafficking are undocumented woman who without this bill would be reluctant to go to the police for help for fear of consequences due to their legal status.

Sanctuary cities create safer communities. They lead to increased cooperation of the undocumented community with the police. CB9 does not interfere with ability of police to investigate or arrest anyone involved in criminal activity, undocumented or otherwise.

US Foreign economic policy like CAFTA And NAFTA along with government corruption has created conditions of extreme poverty, violence, and desperation that lead to immigration. Imagine watching your loved ones starve and suffer, or knowing that your children won't have a future? Wouldn't you do anything to ensure the survival and well-being of your family?

Councilman Fox said that this bill undermines the hard work of immigrants who have obtained citizenship legally. Councilman Fox, I implore you search a US Embassy website for any country in Central America and find where the visa application is. You won't find it because it doesn't exist. Only if you are of wealth and means or come from a developed country are there visa options for you. For a person living in poverty from Central America or Mexico desperate to save their family, there is no process or visa to apply to. With no legal avenue there is no choice but to risk your life through harsh deserts and dangerous rivers and terrain to come here. No one wants to choose that path.

Undocumented residents in this county are our friends, neighbors, and hardworking positive contributors to our community and society. They are also my students whose parents have sacrificed so that they may succeed. As a teacher, I am witness to their potential, dreams, and determination, every day. They are leaders in their schools, honor roll students, and our future teachers, doctors, and lawyers if given the chance. As a teacher it is unbearable to see the fear in the eyes of my students faced with their unknown fate left in the hands of the incoming administration.

The jobs that our undocumented residents do allow everyone in Howard County to have a better quality of life here. If you don't support our undocumented residents, then don't eat the food they cook for you

or eat off the plates they wash for you. Don't enjoy the landscapes and foliage they provide for you. Don't live in the houses they build for you or use the buildings they construct for you in the new downtown Columbia development.

This bill ensures the well-being of all residents in Howard County and truly represents the vision of #ONEHOWARD. I urge you to vote in favor.

My name is Deeba Jafri and I live in Elkridge MD, in Mr. Weinstein's district.

"Mama will Nani be able to visit us? What if Nani can't visit us?" Tears. A flood of them. She's 9 years old and has just heard Trump's words on banning all Muslims from entering the U.S. She is worried my mother will not be able to visit her from England. I will never forgive him for that, for robbing my little girl of her childhood, and for putting such fear into her heart. I hold her. I rock her. I am as bewildered as she is and tell her to put her trust in God and if Nani can't visit us we will visit her. "But I want to show her the cherry blossoms and the azaleas at Brighton Dam and Longwood Gardens, all the spring stuff. She's never been in the Spring. Nani always comes in the fall."

Days later talk of a registry surfaces, the need to have surveillance at our mosques. Now the teenager is upset, reading everything about Japanese internment that he can find. "Mom you should become American now. They treated citizens differently from non-citizens. What if they split us up? You'd die right there and then."

And then there was the backpack. An old Nemo backpack pulled out of her closet packed with things, ready to go if they came for us. She'd swap out the cuddly from time to time. I let it be. Her way.

Calvin and Jen didn't have to introduce this bill. Not at all. But what they have done with this bill is to walk in the shoes of those who don't feel as secure as most of America feels, be it Muslim American adults and children or undocumented immigrants and their children. What this bill does is that it provides peace of mind to my children. For some of you that peace of mind is something you take for granted. On the 23rd of December when the bill was released I said that it was the best Christmas present I could wish for. I meant it, but little did I realize the impact it would have.

I told both of my children what was proposed that evening. "I am happy there are 2 grown-ups in charge who are standing up for me," she said. So just a few days ago I was tidying her room. The backpack is unpacked. The books are back on the shelf, the pencils back in her pencil box, her stuffed animals all reunited again. This is the true power of this bill for me. The peace of mind of a child. I want my children to know that whatever is happening nationally that in their world in their little county two people stood up for them showing tremendous courage and then two more supported them to let the rest of America know that the "othering" of people is just not acceptable in this county. OneHoward with no caveats at all.

Deeba Jafri, Elkridge MD.

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2015/dec/08/donald-trump-muslim-ban-republican-party-chaos>

Testimony in Support of CB9

January 17, 2017

Good evening,

Thank you for holding a hearing on this important issue facing our community and the nation as a whole. My name is Becca Niburg and I live in North Laurel in Southern Howard County. I am here speaking on behalf of Together We Will Howard County (TWW-HC). Many of our members are here in the audience tonight wearing white or green, I will invite them to stand now. You will also hear from some of our members individually as they present their own personal stories about what they have faced recently and what they are seeing as residents of this County. I will let their stories of the importance of inclusivity and safety speak for themselves, but I did want to provide some overall perspective for their testimony as we are all concerned about the safety of our community.

TWW-HC's mission is to take action to foster a safe and inclusive community and to protect and secure equal rights for all people. Our diverse network of close to 800 members live and work in all districts of the County. We believe that Howard County is a great place to live precisely because of its diversity. The County is home to approximately 60,000 foreign born residents and you need only look around the room to see evidence of that here, particularly those of color and our foreign-born neighbors, who feel fear. We also understand that opponents to this initiative have also raised safety concerns.

The Washington Post undertook an investigation in October 2016 to determine the effect of declaring a jurisdiction a sanctuary city or county on the crime rate in the year following

passage of the legislation.¹ In analyzing FBI crime statistics, the investigative reporter found that out of 54 jurisdictions analyzed, 29 jurisdictions experienced no change or a drop in crime. The investigation further compared sanctuary jurisdictions and those jurisdictions as statistically similar as possible. There was no statistical difference.

A research team at the University of Illinois at Chicago noted anecdotal evidence has suggested that sanctuary jurisdictions may end up being safer in the long term.² Other research so far has only looked at the first year after passage, but the first year does not fully demonstrate how sanctuary legislation helps communities. As reported in the University of Chicago Social Service Administration magazine, research consistently shows that immigrants are less likely than those born in the US to commit crimes even as the incarceration rates have gone up in the US.³ When the American Immigration Council used 2010 Census data to analyze incarceration rates for males between 18 and 39, it found that 1.6 percent of foreign-born males are in jail, compared with 3.3 percent of the native born population.⁴ Similar trends go back to the 1980s. In a national survey of police chiefs in large and medium-sized cities administered in 2007-08, 52 percent of law enforcement officials reported that gaining the trust of undocumented immigrants was a top priority in their departments.⁵ If this entire population fears that interaction with police would lead to arrest and deportation, they will be reluctant to report crimes, make statements, or testify in court. This chilling effect leaves our community less safe for all of us.

1

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2016/10/03/sanctuary-cities-do-not-experience-a-n-increase-in-crime/>

² http://www.policylink.org/sites/default/files/INSECURE_COMMUNITIES_REPORT_FINAL.PDF

³ <http://www.ssa.uchicago.edu/sanctuary-cities-debate>

⁴ <https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/research/criminalization-immigration-united-states>

⁵ <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/immigration-federalism-which-policy-prevails>

While conducting research to make sure that these national studies apply to Howard County, I consulted with a colleague in ICE who investigates many of the child pornography and human trafficking cases in this area. He stated to me, unequivocally, that this bill would not hinder any current initiative or action being taken by ICE. ICE will continue to work with the Howard County police as it currently does. This bill will not lead ICE to turn a blind eye to crime within our community nor will it keep criminals from being investigated, charged, and incarcerated regardless of their immigration status.

This bill will help our local law enforcement in gaining trust in traditionally insular immigrant communities which leads to more criminals being taken off of our streets. Because we believe that everyone in our community should be safe, regardless of national origin or any physically defining feature, Together We Will Howard County supports CB9.

Howard County Council Bill 9-2017
Howard County Police Chief Gary Gardner

January 17, 2017

The Howard County Police Department has a long established reputation for treating all people equally, with respect and dignity. We work hard to make sure that everyone who lives, works, and visits Howard County feels safe and protected from victimization. This is our top priority, and it applies to every person in this county, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, or immigration status. In fact, when it comes to immigration status, **we don't ask**. For us in local law enforcement, it doesn't matter. A victim is simply a victim and a witness is simply someone who may be able to help us solve a case, regardless of their status in this country. There is no connection with the enforcement of civil immigration and your police department.

We understand that being undocumented may come with its own general sense of risk or fear, and perhaps recent national events have heightened those concerns. But any victim of a crime may avoid police for a number of reasons.....embarrassment, language barrier, fear of retaliation

from a suspect, or negative cultural experiences with law enforcement in other countries. But in Howard County, fear of being discovered as undocumented by local police shouldn't be one of them.

While I understand the intent of Council Bill 09, I believe we are already achieving much of what this bill is attempting to do. However, passing this practice into law may come with some unknown and unintended consequences, which is why I cannot support this legislation. As Police Chief, I can assure you that addressing crime in Howard County, including gangs, drugs, child pornography, and human trafficking, requires strong partnerships and uninterrupted cooperation with all federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. This bill could tie our hands in those crime-fighting efforts.

For example, we need to be able to work with ICE if a deported dangerous felon returns to a Howard County neighborhood. Or if a known violent gang member is living in our community. Our responsibility is to keep all people safe from anyone who would victimize them.

The Police Department's commitment to serving and protecting everyone, without regard to nationality, was not in question before Council

Bill 09 was introduced. We are known and respected as an agency that upholds Howard County's values of diversity and inclusion. I believe we all want the same thing for our county: to promote a sense of security for ALL people and denounce hatred and bigotry. We have confirmed with the Office of Law, and those familiar with federal legal requirements, that there are potential ramifications of this bill.

COMPROMISE PUBLIC SAFETY

The first concern is the potential impact on public safety and our relationship with ICE and other federal partners. The police department has been successful in addressing real concerns of crime, gang activity, illegal drugs and human trafficking through these partnerships.

For example, in the early 2000's, we saw an increase in violence in Howard County by the gang MS-13 from Central America, including homicide, rape, assault, robbery, theft, prostitution, extortion and drugs...a total of more than 60 cases. ICE's help was critical to assist us with arrest and prosecution and in many cases the deportation of these violent offenders. Even after having a significant impact, we still saw deported felons returning to the US and Howard County, creating ongoing concerns.

This type of partnership could be restricted if Howard County adopts a sanctuary status and the federal government deems us non-compliant with federal law. Partnerships with federal agencies cannot be switched on and off if they are going to be effective.

LOSS OF GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AND FUNDING

Secondly, there has been much discussion about the risk of potentially losing federal funding that provides vital support to our public safety efforts. Presently, the police department receives Department of Justice Grants totaling about \$200,000. In some years, we have received over 1 million dollars. These grants support critical programs like victim services, child advocacy services, and overtime related crime suppression details throughout the year.

The police department has *already* received notice from the DOJ in regards to our Justice Assistance Grant, known as "JAG," which we must re-apply for every year. The notice warns that jurisdictions with sanctuary policies may face consequences, including the loss of grant funds. This is not speculation. The language has already been incorporated into the current

grant application, and we are in the process of re-applying for those funds now.

This is further reinforced by a recent opinion from the Office of the Inspector General that sanctuary ordinances may be inconsistent with federal law, which could result in the loss federal grant money. We seem to be risking funds to adopt a law that would not change any of the current local police practices already in place in the county.

CONCLUSION

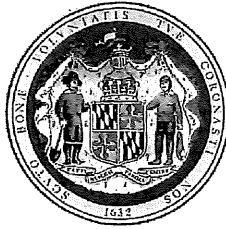
The Police Department's commitment to serving and protecting everyone, without regard to nationality, remains strong. I was recently moved and inspired by two students from HCC who expressed their concerns about being undocumented at a recent county forum. I understand the angst that undocumented students, and undocumented people in general, may feel. But here in Howard County, people who are law-abiding residents and visitors should have no fears regarding their immigration status when dealing with local law enforcement.

We currently have a strong relationship with partners like FIRN, working with people who are foreign-born; HopeWorks, helping ALL victims

of domestic violence; and AGAST, fighting human trafficking. Immigration status is not a factor in any of these cases. In fact, we help foreign nationals or undocumented immigrants in obtaining their U-Visas, when they have been victims of crime.

I believe the police department, county agencies, and other advocacy groups have done an outstanding job keeping lines of communication open with our immigrant communities, providing support, and offering a host of services that allow people to thrive if they wish. We remain committed to building trust in our community and fostering relationships that will continue to make Howard County a great place to live, work, and visit for everyone.

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January 17, 2017

Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Council

My name is Byron Macfarlane, Register of Wills and Howard County native. I'm here tonight to express my strong support for Council Bill 9. I support this measure because these are uncertain times. We all talk about Howard County as an open, welcoming, caring place - and it is. But these days it doesn't feel that way to everyone who lives here, and just because this *has* been an open, welcoming, caring place doesn't guarantee it always will be. We are not immune to larger forces that threaten our citizens. We're not sure what the future holds. Some things are certain, though:

While over 70% of Howard County residents voted for a candidate other than Donald Trump, we know he will be our next President. While Donald Trump has maligned immigrants, promised to build a wall, pledged to register and deport all Muslims, then says "They're just words," we know that words matter. And while some dismiss the concerns of our immigrant community and its allies, we know that the anxiety and fear is real. We felt it at the county executive's #OneHoward meeting, at Congressman Cummings' "Stand Up Speak Up" forum, and we are feeling it here tonight.

I felt it the morning after the election, when I received an email from a dear friend who had just moved to Howard County with his husband. They came here for jobs and to raise a family. "Numb," "sick," "scared." Those were the words he used to describe how he felt. Specifically, he was scared about what a Trump presidency could mean for his marriage to another man.

In preparing for tonight's hearing I reflected on how much progress we've made in America, how fragile that progress is, and how hostile and dangerous much of the world remains today. While my friend, like most of us in the LGBT community, is rightfully concerned for his future, we know that there is far greater risk to the quarter of a million undocumented LGBT immigrants living here in America. Many of them have fled the 72 countries where homosexuality is a crime, including half a dozen where it is punishable by death. Many of them have come from regions now controlled by ISIL, which executes gay men by raping them in public, stoning them to death, and throwing them off buildings.

People don't come here for a free ride or a handout. They come here to raise a family, start a business, get an education, and some come just for the chance to live.

Just as the words of a hateful demagogue matter, the words of a community, united by shared values, matter.

My name is Bess Altwerger. I reside at 10925 Shadow Lane, Columbia, MD 21044. As you all know, I am currently a member of the Howard County Board of Education. However, I offer my testimony tonight in strong support of CB9, not on behalf of the Board but as a citizen of Howard County, daughter of first generation Americans, Professor of Education, and national action coordinator of Save Our Schools, a non-profit education advocacy organization.

As an educator, I am particularly concerned that our students' fear of parental loss due to deportation has been heightened by the threats and strong rhetoric of the Presidential campaign. The Migration Policy Institute finds that effects on children of unauthorized immigrants include psychological trauma, material hardship, residential instability, family dissolution and poor academic performance. While they also find that support of teachers and other staff in public school can lead to improved academic performance, it cannot be the sole responsibility of educators to create an optimal environment for learning in our schools. County government must demonstrate their commitment to the education and well-being of our most vulnerable students by encoding into law provisions that would greatly enhance their sense of safety and security.

In 2015, this community celebrated the 50th anniversary of school desegregation in Howard County due in no small part to the persistent efforts of Howard County NAACP members Silas E. Craft and Robert H. Kittleman who knew that only through official decree rather than informal policies and practices would equal educational opportunity be guaranteed. Despite widespread public controversy and threats of violence to their families, Craft and Kittleman prevailed in their efforts to end segregation in our county schools.

Today, we read almost weekly reports of bullying, threats and racially charged incidents in our schools and community. I believe that we again stand at the forefront in the battle against hatred and bigotry which today extends beyond race and ethnicity to our immigrant population. CB 9 explicitly directs our county resources toward law enforcement practices that protect the safety and security of all our residents regardless of immigration status. Despite accusations to the contrary, CB9 in fact acknowledges the overriding authority of state and federal agencies, and ensures that law enforcement officers continue to exercise their duties in regard to criminal activity. Further, legal experts agree that despite public threat, it is unlikely and possibly illegal to withhold our federal funds or those of the growing number of jurisdictions in U.S. and Maryland that have enacted policies and ordinances to create safe zones for its undocumented residents.

I urge the County Council and County Executive to support CB9 and continue in the tradition of making Howard County a safe, welcoming home to all our county residents.