

## **RESOLUTION 2020-28**

### **A RESOLUTION TO COMMIT TO ACTION REGARDING CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM**

**WHEREAS**, the Monroe County Board of Commissioners recognize:

Our position of privilege as white women in our community;

**WHEREAS**, the Monroe County Board of Commissioners recognize:

Our position of privilege as elected officials;

**WHEREAS**, the Monroe County Board of Commissioners recognize:

Across the United States, racism exists in the criminal justice system, education, economics, health care, housing, job opportunities and in social interactions. It is detrimental to the life, welfare, safety, and well-being of people of color;

**WHEREAS**, the Monroe County Board of Commissioners recognize:

That compared with other countries, the United States spends more on policing and criminal justice than on the social safety net;

**WHEREAS**, the Monroe County Board of Commissioners recognize:

Black Lives Matter.

**Now Therefore, the Monroe County Board of Commissioners resolve as follows:**

The Monroe County Board of Commissioners acknowledge that we have a duty to the community – especially people of color - to listen and learn, and to seek input and suggestions from our community in order to make improvements;

Accordingly, we resolve to reaffirm our commitment to continue our work on the Criminal Justice Reform study - which began in 2019 with community input – and to implement recommendations. Monroe County engaged with a group of expert consultants in 2019 to review every part of our County's criminal justice system. The County Commissioners, County Council, Prosecuting attorney, the Sheriff and the Board of Judges made a commitment to review and reform the Monroe County Criminal Justice System. The Criminal Justice System includes any public employee from a public agency that engages with a person – from interaction or an arrest by law enforcement and if convicted through the end of probation – and everything that happens in between. The Study will incorporate data on corrections, social service agency information, and input from community conversations held in 2019;

We reaffirm our commitment to ensure the continued provision of body cameras for County deputies and jail staff as well as psychological assistance in the jail;

We resolve to carefully review our Monroe County personnel policy and to mandate regular diversity training for all county employees;

We resolve to utilize our Criminal Justice Reform study consultants to provide an external review of the County's contract with the Sheriff's Deputies;

We respectfully request the Monroe County Sheriff's Department to continue to develop written policies which implement the Pillars incorporated in the Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing, adopted by the Obama Administration in 2015;

We respectfully request the Monroe County Sheriff's Department to continue to develop written policies which implement Eight Can't Wait principles;

We reaffirm our commitment to attend the Listening Session, scheduled for June 30<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

We reaffirm our commitment to continue our support of the STRIDE coalition. As an active member of the coalition, we have provided space and technical support for a crisis diversion center for community members as an alternative to arrest or incarceration;

Resolution 2020-28 is hereby adopted this 10<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020.

MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

"YEAS"

"NAYS"

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Julie Thomas, President

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Julie Thomas, President

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Lee Jones, Vice President

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Lee Jones, Vice President

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Penny Githens, Commissioner

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ATTEST:

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Catherine Smith, Monroe County Auditor