

# PROCLAMATION

## Commemorating The Ten-Year Anniversary Of The Former Woodfin Hotel ICE Raids, Honor The Workers And Their Community Allies Who Organized To Defend Immigrant Workers Rights

**WHEREAS**, this month (April 2017) is the ten-year anniversary of the ICE raids against Woodfin Suites hotel workers who were organizing for their right to a living wage; and

**WHEREAS**, ICE raids separate families, create panic in immigrant communities, lead to the imprisonment of immigrants in ICE detention centers with horrendous living conditions, and stifle the courage of immigrant workers organizing for their rights; and

**WHEREAS**, immigrants living in the East Bay have experienced ICE raids, including the April 2007 ICE audit at the Woodfin Suites in Emeryville hotel;

**WHEREAS**, after workers at former Woodfin Hotel organized to enforce their right to a living wage, hotel management put 21 workers on unpaid leave, citing their immigration status, and hired replacement workers;

**WHEREAS**, after a court ordered the hotel to put the workers back to work for several months while the City of Emeryville investigated whether the hotel was retaliating against the workers for organizing for a living wage;

**WHEREAS**, in early April 2007, ICE conducted an audit of the Woodfin Suites, which led to the firing of 12 workers on April 27, 2007;

**WHEREAS**, the threat and the presence of ICE intimidates workers regardless of immigration status, sending a clear message to *all* workers that they should not stand up for their rights;

**WHEREAS**, Emeryville has declared itself a Welcoming City; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the City of Emeryville hereby commemorates the ten-year anniversary of the Woodfin ICE raids in order to remind ourselves of the horror that ICE raids inflict on immigrants and their families, to honor the workers and their community allies who fought back, to celebrate the ongoing organizing efforts of immigrant workers to win respect and dignity in the workplace, and to reaffirm the City's commitment to immigrant workers' rights; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That, as a Welcoming City, Emeryville calls upon employers to establish sanctuary workplaces, where immigrant workers are respected and not threatened or discriminated against based on their immigration status.

**PROCLAIMED** this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April 2017, at a regular meeting of the City Council by the Mayor of the City of Emeryville.

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MAYOR