



INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
OF OFFICIAL
HUMAN RIGHTS
AGENCIES

RESOLUTION # 1

Adopted by the
**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL HUMAN RIGHTS
AGENCIES**
September 1, 2009

REPLY TO:

IAOHRA
C/O Pinellas County OHR
400 S. Ft. Harrison Ave. 5th Floor
Clearwater, Florida 33756

TITLE: JACQUELINE A BERRIEN

**PURPOSE: TO SUPPORT PRESIDENT OBAMA'S NOMINEE TO THE
CHAIR OF THE U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION**

Leon W. Russell
President
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Vanessa Ruiz Boling
First Vice President
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Gerald Foday
Second Vice President
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Homer C. Floyd
Treasurer
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James L. Stowe
Past President
Rockville, MD 20850
(240)777-8490

WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Right Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 states, county, and local human relations commissions in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, these state and local agencies share work with the U.S. Equal Opportunity Commission and process approximately 40% of discrimination cases nationwide; and,

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama announced on July 16, 2009 his intent to nominate Jacqueline A. Berrien as Chair of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; and

WHEREAS, "Jacqueline Berrien has spent her career fighting to give voice to Underrepresented communities and protect our basic rights"; and

WHEREAS, that Ms. Berrien's distinguished career in the field of civil and human rights and her dedication to the field of public interest law makes her eminently qualified for the position of Chair with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, as it fulfills its mission.

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Page 2
Jacqueline Berrien

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the membership of IAOHRA hereby supports the nomination of Jacqueline A. Berrien as Chair of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and urge Senate confirmation.


Leon W. Russell, President



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RESOLUTION # 2

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**TITLE: CITY OF ORLANDO OFFICE OF HUMAN
RELATIONS**

**PURPOSE: IN RECOGNITION OF THE CITY OF ORLANDO
OFFICE OF HUMAN RELATIONS' STAFF FOR
THEIR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE CAUSE
OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commissions in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Orlando's ordinance prohibiting discriminatory practices in employment, housing and public accommodations is set forth in Chapter 57 of the City Code was substantially suspended on July 23, 2009, and,

WHEREAS, the City of Orlando will process complaints filed under the local ordinance based on sexual orientation, against employers with less than 15 employees and public accommodations;

WHEREAS, this change is a product of a budget deficit which will reduce the staffing from eleven persons to two, resulting from the tax reform initiated by the Florida State Legislature as well as current economics nationwide; and,

WHEREAS, the staff members have served as dedicated professional staff committed to the enforcement of Civil Rights within the City of Orlando; and,

WHEREAS, these staff members will be remembered for their dedication, and hard work in attempting to eradicate discrimination and commitment to equality and justice for all in Orlando; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the membership of IAOHRA extends its heartfelt support as these individuals move forward in their careers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that IAOHRA recognizes the many years of outstanding dedicated service to the City of Orlando and the civil rights arena.



Leon W. Russell, President



INTERNATIONAL
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RESOLUTION # 3

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**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL HUMAN RIGHTS
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September 1, 2009

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**TITLE: CITY OF ORLANDO, FLORIDA ESTABLISHMENT OF A
HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY STATEMENT**

**PURPOSE: SUPPORT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A HUMAN
RIGHTS POLICY STATEMENT TO REPLACE THE
SUSPENSION OF THE CITY OF ORLANDO HUMAN
RIGHTS ORDINANCE**

WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commissions in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, Orlando, FL is the largest metropolis in the Southeast United States and home to one of the most diverse populations in Florida, and should have a local Human Rights policy that states that in Orlando diversity and equal rights for all residents is valued; and

WHEREAS, the City of Orlando, Florida is known for providing services equally to all individuals without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, marital status, gender, sexual orientation or disability; and

WHEREAS, the City of Orlando's ordinance prohibiting discriminatory practices in employment, housing and public accommodations as set forth in Chapter 57 of the City Code was substantially suspended on July 23, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Orlando has historically been seen as a model for other human rights organizations from the days of Albert Nelson former Director, to Shirley James the current Director; and

WHEREAS, the City should affirm the necessity of good community relations between all individuals in order to gain continuous growth in development of a just and righteous society.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the membership of IAOHRA support the establishment of a Human Rights Policy Statement to supplement the remnants of the Human Rights Ordinance in Orlando, FL.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leon W. Russell". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Leon W. Russell, President



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RESOLUTION # 4

Adopted by the
**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL HUMAN RIGHTS
AGENCIES**
September 1, 2009

TITLE: DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

**PURPOSE: TO URGE SECRETARY OF STATE HILLARY
CLINTON TO MAKE PREVENTING GENDER
BASED VIOLENCE A PRIORITY**

WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commissions in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, it is estimated that more than 200,000 women have been raped in the Democratic Republic of Congo; and

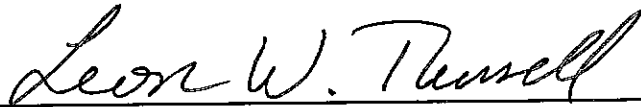
WHEREAS, during her recent trip to Africa, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton included a stop in the war-torn city of Goma, DRC to draw attention to the plight of the thousands of women and girls that are raped and abused there each year; and,

WHEREAS, Secretary Clinton encouraged the Congolese government as well as the U.N. peacekeeping force to bring an end to the sexual violence that is being used as a tool of war; and,

WHEREAS, rape is not a "women's issue" but a human rights violation; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that IAOHRA urges better leadership and coordination by supporting the appointment of a Special Representative of the UN Secretary General to ensure greater cooperation and effectiveness by the UN and partners, and accountability for implementing Security Council Resolution 1820 on sexual violence in conflict.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that IAOHRA supports Secretary Clinton's firm stance against the situation in the DRC and urge her to continue US leadership in helping women and girls around the world by taking steps to prevent and respond to this type of violence.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leon W. Russell". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Leon W. Russell, President



INTERNATIONAL
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AGENCIES

RESOLUTION #5

**Adopted by the
International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies
September 1, 2009**

REPLY TO:

IAOHRA
C/O Pinellas County OHR
400 S. Ft. Harrison Ave. 5th Floor
Clearwater, Florida 33756

TITLE:

BUDGET REQUEST

PURPOSE:

**TO REQUEST THAT THE EQUAL
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION
SUBMIT TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT
AND BUDGET (OMB) and THE APPROPRIATE
COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS, A BUDGET
REQUEST FOR STATE AND LOCAL FAIR
EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE AGENCIES (FEPAs)**

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WHEREAS, the International Association of Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commission in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and

WHEREAS, through the use of contractual Work-Sharing Agreements, the EEOC contracts with approximately 90 state and local FEPAs to process discrimination charges and with the Tribal Employment Rights Offices (TEROs) to manage charges of discrimination and protect the employment rights of Native Americans EEOC which results in automatically dually-filed charges of discrimination under both federal and, where they exist, state and/or local laws, that avoids duplication of effort while ensuring that a charging party's rights are protected under all applicable laws; and

WHEREAS, with its headquarters in Washington, D.C., and through the operations of 50 field offices nationwide, the EEOC coordinates all federal equal employment opportunity regulations, practices, and policies, interprets employment discrimination laws, monitors the federal sector employment discrimination program, sponsors outreach and technical assistance programs, and. provides funding and support to state and local FEPAs; and

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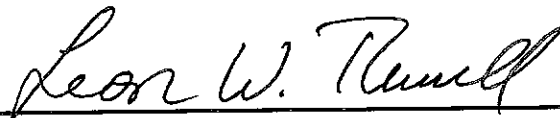
WHEREAS, EEOC 'S Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 Congressional budget request was \$26,000,000, resulting in \$1,997,000 less than the FY-2008 budgetary allocation and no budgetary increase for FY-2008 and FY-2009; and

WHEREAS, State and Local programs have been cut \$7 million in the last three years: and,

WHEREAS, state and local FEPAs rely on budgetary allocations from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in order to sustain the ability to fulfill their legal obligations under their Work-Sharing Agreements; and

WHEREAS, IAOHRA is committed to developing effective civil and human rights enforcement and advocacy through coalition building with national and international organizations (i.e. Leadership Conference on Civil Rights) that are similarly committed to equality and the protection of human rights; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that IAOHRA and its membership hold itself accountable to aggressively request that the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission submit to the OMB and the Congress, a ***budget request which includes an additional \$7 million for FY11*** to support **State and Local Fair Employment Practice Agencies**.



Leon W. Russell, President



INTERNATIONAL
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RESOLUTION # 6

**Adopted by the
International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies
September 1, 2009**

REPLY TO:

IAOHRA
C/O Pinellas County OHR
400 S. Ft. Harrison Ave. 5th Floor
Clearwater, Florida 33756

**TITLE: STRUCTURE AND IMPROVEMENT OF FEPA
CONTRACTS**

**PURPOSE: TO REVISE THE STRUCTURE AND IMPROVE THE
RESOLUTION OF FEPA CONTRACTS**

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WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commission in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination: and,

WHEREAS, IAOHRA envisions a world community where justice and equality prevail and all people appreciate and, accept differences celebrate diversity, and live in peace and harmony; and

WHEREAS, IAOHRA is committed to advocating for the development of public policies that advance its goals by working directly with Congress, the EEOC, other federal agencies and other national and international organizations to promote issues and advocate for public policies; and

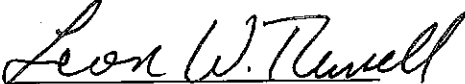
WHEREAS, IAOHRA is committed to developing effective civil and human rights enforcement and advocacy through coalition building with national and international organizations that are similarly committed to equality and the protection of human rights; and

WHEREAS, human rights agencies rely on budgetary allocations from every source in order to sustain the ability to fulfill their legal obligations; and

WHEREAS, human rights agencies must be able to provide training to employees so that their responsibilities are effectively and appropriately handled, public education and outreach; and

WHEREAS IAOHRA recognizes that the deep and unprecedented cuts in funding to FEPAs by the last administration have had a devastating impact on the ability of some FEPAs to carry out their programs, and have even resulted in some FEPAs being forced to close;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that IAOHRA and its membership hold itself accountable to aggressively lobby each other, Congress, the EEOC, other federal agencies and other national and international organizations, where appropriate, requesting that human rights agencies be paid 100% of FEPA contract amounts and that such contracts include specific provisions (whether in dollar amounts or in proportion to the contract) that allow FEPAS to budget for training, administration, public education and outreach and enforcement.


Leon W. Russell, President



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RESOLUTION # 7
Adopted by the
International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies
September 1, 2009

**TITLE: USE OF CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS IN
EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING**

**PURPOSE: ENCOURAGE THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION (EEOC) and THE
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING and URBAN
DEVELOPMENT (HUD) to UPDATE or ISSUE GUIDANCE
ON THE USE OF CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS IN
EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING**

WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commission in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination: and,

WHEREAS, approximately 650,000 people are released from state and federal prison in the United States every year and one in five adults has a criminal record;¹

WHEREAS, formerly incarcerated people have a 60% unemployment rate one year following their release from prison, making the need for employment and housing support critical for successful re-entry into society;¹

WHEREAS, it has been noted that the high number of convictions do not reflect rates of serious crime, but are the result of severe

sentencing policies such as mandatory prison sentences and three strikes policies as well as non-violent drug offenses;¹

WHEREAS housing options available to formerly incarcerated people are often limited to friends and family, or where those supports do not exist, transitional housing programs, homeless shelters or the private market which can be restrictive and costly;

WHEREAS it is well documented that disproportionate arrests and convictions rates for many communities of color including African Americans and Latinos continue to occur in every stage of the criminal justice system from arrest to sentencing;²

WHEREAS the EEOC existing guidance is over two decades old, and the EEOC has discussed the need Background Checks to update its guidance on arrests and convictions when investigating employment discrimination against communities of color that arises from criminal background checks;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that IAOHRA shall encourage HUD and the EEOC to issue updated guidance on the use of criminal records in employment and housing, including guidance that will assist enforcement agencies in addressing the discriminatory impacts of criminal background checks. Specifically, guidance should be provided examining the nature of the conviction, the relevance of the conviction, the length of time that has passed since the conviction and consideration of evidence of rehabilitation. Housing applicants with criminal records should have their housing application reviewed on a case by case basis.



Leon Russell, President

¹ No Second Chance: People with Criminal Records Denied Access to Public Housing, Human Rights Watch, 2004, www.hrw.org/reports/2004/usa1104/3.htm

² Justice Policy Institute <http://www.justicepolicy.org/content-hmID=1811&smID=1582&ssmID=34.htm>



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RESOLUTION # 8

**Adopted by the
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September 1, 2009**

REPLY TO:

IAOHRA
C/O Pinellas County OHR
400 S. Ft. Harrison Ave. 5th Floor
Clearwater, Florida 33756

TITLE: LINDA V. PARKER

PURPOSE: TO COMMEND FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE
CAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

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WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commissions in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, Ms. Parker was appointed on December, 2008 to the Wayne County Circuit Court by Governor Jennifer Granholm, and,

WHEREAS, Linda v. Parker served as Director of the Michigan Civil Rights Commission from 2003-2008; and

WHEREAS, under Ms. Parker's leadership the Michigan Department of Civil Rights co-hosted the second joint IAOHRA/NAHRW Training Conference in Detroit, MI, and,

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Civil Rights was a member agency of IAOHRA.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of IAOHRA hereby commend Linda V. Parker for her many years of outstanding dedicated service in the cause of human rights, and extends best wishes for her future endeavors.

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Leon W. Russell, President



INTERNATIONAL
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RESOLUTION # 9

**Adopted by the
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AGENCIES
September 1, 2009**

REPLY TO:

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TITLE: DON MC RAE

**PURPOSE: IN MEMORIAM AND COMMENDATION TO DON
MC RAE FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO
THE CAUSE OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND
HUMAN RIGHTS**

WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commission in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, Don Mc Rae passed away on Sunday, March 15, 2009; and,

WHEREAS, Don Mc Rae was a native of St. Petersburg, and was a graduate of Morehouse College, and served multiple tours in Vietnam as an Army helicopter pilot and retired with the rank of lieutenant colonel, and returned to St. Petersburg in 1972 to start the St. Petersburg Police Department's first canine and marine division; and,

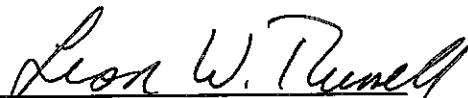
WHEREAS, Don Mc Rae later became the Deputy City Manager for Human Relations, and subsequently served as the City Administrator for several years, and was a skilled city administrator, who was always instrumental in identifying exceptional and skilled African American individuals to join the City's management ranks; and,

WHEREAS, Don Mc Rae was instrumental in the adoption of both the City's Human Rights, and Minority and Women Business Enterprise Ordinances that promoted equal rights in St. Petersburg; and,

WHEREAS, Don Mc Rae will be remembered for his commitment and dedication to equality and justice for all;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the membership of IAQHRA extends its heartfelt sympathy to the family of Don Mc Rae; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that IAQHRA recognizes the many years of outstanding and dedicated service of Don Mc Rae.


Leon W. Russell, President



INTERNATIONAL
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RESOLUTION # 10

**Adopted by the
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September 1, 2009**

REPLY TO:

IAOHRA
C/O Pinellas County OHR
400 S. Ft. Harrison Ave. 5th Floor
Clearwater, Florida 33756

TITLE: FRANK VESPA-PAPALEO

**PURPOSE: TO COMMEND FRANK VESPA-PAPALEO FOR
OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE CAUSE OF CIVIL AND
HUMAN RIGHTS**

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WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commissions in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, Frank Vespa-Papaleo served as Director of the New Jersey Division of Civil Rights from July, 2002 until December 31, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Frank served on the IAOHRA Board of Directors as a Member at Large where he chaired the Conference Planning Committee resulting in successful conferences and served as an invaluable member on the Federal Liaison Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights has been a member agency and consistently supported IAOHRA; and,

WHEREAS, under Frank's leadership the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights was transformed to one of the premier civil rights agencies in the nation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of IAOHRA hereby commend Frank for his years of outstanding and dedicated service in the cause of human rights and extends best wishes to him in his future endeavors.

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Leon W. Russell, President



INTERNATIONAL
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RESOLUTION # 11

**Adopted by the
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL HUMAN RIGHTS
AGENCIES
September 1, 2009**

REPLY TO:

IAOHRA
C/O Pinellas County OHR
400 S. Ft. Harrison Ave. 5th Floor
Clearwater, Florida 33756

TITLE: WALTER REED

**PURPOSE: TO COMMEND WALTER REED FOR OUTSTANDING
SERVICE TO THE CAUSE OF CIVIL AND HUMAN
RIGHTS**

Leon W. Russell
President
Clearwater, FL 33756
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Vanessa Ruiz Boling
First Vice President
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Homer C. Floyd
Treasurer
Harrisburg, PA 17101
(717) 787-4410

James L. Stowe
Past President
Rockville, MD 20850
(240)777-8490

WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commissions in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Culver appointed Walter Reed to the Board of Parole on March 13, 2009; and,

WHEREAS, Walter Reed served as Director of the Iowa Department of Human Rights and Executive Director of City of Waterloo, Iowa Commission of Human Rights; and,

WHEREAS, the Iowa Department of Human Rights has been a member agency of IAOHRA and has consistently supported IAOHRA; and

WHEREAS, Walter Reed has years of community and volunteer experience.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of IAOHRA hereby commend Walter for his many years of outstanding and dedicated service in the cause of human rights, and extends best wishes to him in his future endeavors.

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(202) 624-5410

Leon W. Russell, President



INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
OF OFFICIAL
HUMAN RIGHTS
AGENCIES

RESOLUTION # 12

**Adopted by the
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL HUMAN RIGHTS
AGENCIES
September 1, 2009**

REPLY TO:

IAOHRA
C/O Pinellas County OHR
400 S. Ft. Harrison Ave. 5th Floor
Clearwater, Florida 33756

TITLE: IDA RAWLS

**PURPOSE: TO COMMEND IDA RAWLS FOR OUTSTANDING
SERVICE TO THE CAUSE OF CIVIL AND HUMAN
RIGHTS**

Leon W. Russell
President
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Vanessa Ruiz Boling
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WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commissions in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, Ida Rawls retired as Director of Alachua County Equal Opportunity Division in October 2008; and,

WHEREAS, Ida Rawls served the citizens of Alachua County for 40 years; and,

WHEREAS, the Alachua County Equal Opportunity Division has been a member agency of IAOHRA and consistently supported IAOHRA; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rawls held leadership positions in the Florida Association of Community Relations Professionals (FACRP) and the National Association of Human Rights Workers (NAHRW) human rights professional organizations; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of IAOHRA hereby commend Ida for her many years of outstanding service in the cause of human rights, and extends best wishes in her future endeavors.

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Leon W. Russell, President



INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
OF OFFICIAL
HUMAN RIGHTS
AGENCIES

RESOLUTION # 13

**Adopted by the
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL HUMAN RIGHTS
AGENCIES
September 1, 2009**

REPLY TO:

IAOHRA
C/O Pinellas County OHR
400 S. Ft. Harrison Ave. 5th Floor
Clearwater, Florida 33756

TITLE: CARL BYRD

**PURPOSE: TO COMMEND FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE
CAUSE OF CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

Leon W. Russell
President
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WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commissions in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, Carl Byrd was the Director of the New Hanover Human Relations Department until the Department closed on June 30, 2009; and,

WHEREAS, the New Hanover Human Relations Department was a member agency of IAOHRA; and,

WHEREAS, the New Hanover Human Relations Department was targeted due to the budget cuts many local governments are facing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of IAOHRA hereby commend Carl Byrd for his many years of outstanding dedicated service in the cause of human rights, and extends best wishes in her future endeavors.

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Leon W. Russell, President



INTERNATIONAL
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HUMAN RIGHTS
AGENCIES

RESOLUTION # 14

**Adopted by the
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL HUMAN RIGHTS
AGENCIES
September 1, 2009**

TITLE: THOMAS E. PEREZ

**PURPOSE: TO SUPPORT PRESIDENT OBAMA'S NOMINEE TO THE
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR CIVIL RIGHTS
OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

REPLY TO:

IAOHRA
C/O Pinellas County OHR
400 S. Ft. Harrison Ave. 5th Floor
Clearwater, Florida 33756

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WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 states, county, and local human relations commissions in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, these state and local agencies have historically worked with the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division on cases of civil rights violations nationwide; and,

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama announced on March 13, 2009 his intent to nominate Thomas E. Perez as Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice; and

WHEREAS, "Thomas E. Perez has spent his entire career in public service advocating and litigating for the rights and basic dignities of all communities"; and

WHEREAS, that Mr. Perez's distinguished career in the field of civil and human rights and his dedication as a nationally recognized civil rights attorney and consumer rights advocate makes him eminently qualified for the position of Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division with the U.S. Department of Justice, as it fulfills its mission.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the membership of IAOHRA hereby supports the nomination of Thomas E. Perez as Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice and urge Senate confirmation.

A District of Columbia
Nonprofit Corporation

Leon W. Russell, President