

RESOLUTION NO. 204-2023(CRR),
First Reading

By Councilwoman Russell

A Resolution proclaiming January 11, 2024 as *National Human Trafficking Awareness Day*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

WHEREAS, every country in the world is affected by human trafficking, as countries of origin, transit, or destination—or even all three; and

WHEREAS, in 2017 the International Labour Organization estimates there were 24.9 million victims of human trafficking around the world, including both sex trafficking, or commercial sexual exploitation, and forced labor exploitation, both in the private sector and state-imposed; and

WHEREAS, as of June 2022, Ohio ranks fifth in the nation for human trafficking cases at a rate of 3.84 victims per 100,000 state residents; and

WHEREAS, the methods for trafficking in persons include abuse of power, deception, coercion, and threats of or use of force; and

WHEREAS, the most trafficked forced labor occurs in agriculture, construction, garments and textiles, catering and restaurants, domestic work, the provision of healthcare services, entertainment and the sex industry; and

WHEREAS, sexual exploitation (e.g., sex trafficking) is by far the most commonly identified form of human trafficking, while other forms of exploitation are under-reported; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland Security has created a national public awareness campaign to educate the public, law enforcement, and others about human trafficking, known as the Blue Campaign, which has designated January 11th as #WearBlueDay, when members of the public are invited to take photos of themselves, friends, family, and colleagues wearing blue clothing, and to share those photos on social media along with the #WearBlueDay hashtag, to raise awareness of human trafficking.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, that:

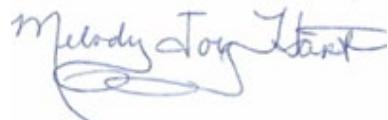
SECTION 1. This Council hereby proclaims January 11, 2024 as *National Human Trafficking Awareness Day* and urges all of its residents to educate themselves

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on the issues and to encourage and support those affected within, and outside of, our community.

SECTION 2. Notice of the passage of this Resolution shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of its content, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 3. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective as an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need to recognize National Human Trafficking Awareness Day on a timely basis. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more of the members elected or appointed to this Council, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.



MELODY JOY HART
President of the Council



ADDIE BALESTER
Clerk of Council

PASSED: 12/18/2023

Presented to Mayor: 12/22/2023

Approved: 12/27/2023



KAHLIL SEREN
Mayor