

RESOLUTION NO. 12-17

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA
IN SUPPORT OF A CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION REGARDING THE
IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP**

WHEREAS, the Foreign Emoluments Clause of the United States Constitution provides that “no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under [the United States], shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State;” and,

WHEREAS, the Domestic Emoluments Clause of the United States Constitution provides that, besides the fixed salary for his four-year term, the President “shall not receive within that Period any other Emolument from the United States, or any of them;” and,

WHEREAS, the term “emoluments” includes a broad range of financial benefits, including but not limited to monetary payments, purchase of goods and services even for fair market value, subsidies, tax breaks, extensions of credit, and favorable regulatory treatment; and,

WHEREAS, Donald J. Trump, the President of the United States, owns various business interests and receives various streams of income from all over the world; and,

WHEREAS, many of these businesses receive, and streams of income include, emoluments from foreign governments, states of the United States, or the United States itself; and,

WHEREAS, leading constitutional scholars and government ethics experts warned Donald J. Trump shortly after the November 2016 election that, unless he fully divested his businesses and invested the money in conflict-free assets or a blind trust, he would violate the Constitution from the moment he took office; and,

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2017, nine days before his inauguration, Donald J. Trump announced a plan that would, if carried out, remove him from day-to-day operations of his businesses, but not eliminate any of the ongoing flow of emoluments from foreign governments, state governments, or the United States government; and,

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2017, Donald J. Trump took the oath of office and became President of the United States,

WHEREAS, from the moment he took office, President Trump was in violation of the Foreign Emoluments Clause and the Domestic Emoluments Clause of the United States Constitution; and,

WHEREAS, these violations undermine the integrity of the Presidency, corruptly advance the personal wealth of the President, and violate the public trust; and,

WHEREAS, our democracy is premised on the bedrock principle that no one is above the law, not even the President of the United States; and,

WHEREAS, there are considerable, questionable ethnic concerns in terms of the election and President Trump’s selected staff.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Richmond City Council, hereby calls upon the United States House of Representatives to support a resolution authorizing and directing the House Committee on the Judiciary to investigate whether sufficient grounds exist for the impeachment of Donald J. Trump, President of the United States, including but not limited to the violations listed herein; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted officially to the Member of the United States House of Representatives that represents the city, namely, the Honorable Congressman Mark DeSaulnier; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to all the city clerks of West County cities (El Cerrito, San Pablo, Hercules, Pinole), as well as Berkeley, Albany, Oakland, Emeryville, and San Francisco.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof held on **February 21, 2017**, by the following vote:

AYES:	Councilmembers Choi, Martinez, McLaughlin, Myrick, Willis, Vice Mayor Beckles, and Mayor Butt.
NOES:	None.
ABSTENTIONS:	None.
ABSENT:	None.

PAMELA CHRISTIAN

CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND
(SEAL)

Approved:

TOM BUTT

Mayor


Approved as to form:

BRUCE GOODMILLER

City Attorney

State of California	}	
County of Contra Costa	}	: ss.
City of Richmond	}	

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of **Resolution No. 12-17**, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on February 21, 2017.



Pamela Christian, Clerk of the City of Richmond