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Resolution on the Murder of Trayvon Martin

Whereas, George Zimmerman took it upon himself to determine that Trayvon Martin, a young African American, was "suspicious" and then disregarded the instructions of a 911 dispatcher, first stalking and then initiating a confrontation with Trayvon Martin that left the unarmed youth dead; and

Whereas, Trayvon Martin, an innocent young man was unjustifiably killed, and George Zimmerman is walking free, acquittal of the crime only makes this injustice both palpable and maddening; and

Whereas, the decision of the Florida jury to acquit George Zimmerman is causing many to not respect the decision of the jury any more than we would respect the jury that acquitted the 1955 killers of Emmett Louis Till; and

Whereas, we can only conclude that Trayvon Martin was a victim of this senseless crime because of his race; and

Whereas, when an unarmed 17 year old African American youth is approached and killed with impunity by a gun-wielding adult, the acquittal in this case sends the wrong message that the value of a human life depends upon race or skin color; and

Whereas, our shared humanity demands that we are all entitled to equal human and civil right and when those rights are violated, the federal government must uphold them when the state or local government will not,

Therefore Be it Resolved that we demand that Attorney General Eric Holder bring criminal civil rights charges against George Zimmerman, and

Be it Finally Resolved that we send this resolution to Attorney General Eric Holder and to the congressional representatives in the jurisdiction of this Labor Council, to our Senators, our affiliates, neighboring Labor Councils, and the AFL-CIO asking for their immediate concurrence and action.

Submitted by Conny Ford, OPEIU 3, and adopted by the Executive Committee of the San Francisco Labor Council on August 5, 2013 and by the delegates of the San Francisco Labor Council on August 12, 2013.

Respectfully,

Tim Paulson
Executive Director

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