

RESOLUTION 2019 – 275

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BARNEGAT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY SUPPORTING THE LAWSUIT BY THE OCEAN COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS, CHALLENGING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S IMMIGRATION TRUST DIRECTIVE

WHEREAS, Attorney General Gubir S. Grewal issued the "Immigration Trust Directive" ("Directive") last November, 2018, which went into effect March, 2019 statewide; and

WHEREAS, under the Directive, Local, County and State law enforcement personnel are ordered not to stop, search or detain immigrants at the request of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), except in cases of serious or violent crimes, or final deportation orders; and

WHEREAS, the Directive has led to increased concerns by governmental entities and police forces due to the lack of information sharing and cooperation with ICE; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders ("Board") has announced its intention to file a lawsuit to challenge the legality of the Directive in Federal Court, as the Board does not agree with the Directive; and

WHEREAS, several local Ocean County departments, such as the Ocean County Jail, have continued to provide information to ICE, despite the Directive, leaving them susceptible to reprimand from the State; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to authorize its Police Department to continue cooperating and sharing information with ICE but will refrain from ordering the department to disobey the Directive, in fear that such individuals would be subject to retaliation; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body supports the Board and its decision to fight the Directive and further believe that this course of action is the most proper, as it will insulate its employees from retaliation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Township of Barnegat, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. That the Governing Body supports the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholder's decision to file a lawsuit to challenge the legality of the Immigration Trust Directive; and
2. That a certified copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Mayors of Ocean County municipalities and Attorney General Grewal.

CERTIFICATION

I, Michele Rivers, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Barnegat, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Governing Body at their meeting, a quorum being present, held on the 6th day of August, 2019.

Michele Rivers, RMC
Municipal Clerk