

**City of Mesquite Mayor Bruce Archer
July 6, 2020 Statement**

Tonight in the City of Mesquite, Texas, we take part in a very historic moment. Tonight this city council and really this entire city - makes a statement that we hope will be a lasting example for future generations of leaders and citizens in our city.

As a community and a nation, we have all endured much pain and suffering over the last few weeks, and I wish I could say that was only because of the Coronavirus Pandemic. We have all endured pain and sorrow that comes from division, tragedy and the consequences of too many years of ungodly racism and inequality.

After the signing of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, President Johnson surely hoped as did all Americans that he had finished the work of President Lincoln. And when we had our first African-American President, we surely all hoped that had finally ended the endurance of inequality. And yet, we know that is also not true - we simply aren't there yet. As I've said many times, for myself and others - we may not be able to fix all of America or even all of Texas. But we can do more to do good here at home in Mesquite! We should and we must!

I've said many times that if we are to have law and order and be crime free, that law and order must be for ALL citizens of all colors and all backgrounds. ALL citizens must feel like they are treated equally and fairly under the law and that the law protects them just the same and that safety is for everyone. And indeed, all lives cannot matter unless black lives matter as well! We know that the great seal of the U.S. House of Representatives that says "E Pluribus Unum" - or "Out of Many - One." Thus absolute equal value for every citizen.

Tonight, this city council will undertake a resolution that we hope tells the entire world - that in Mesquite, Texas - we absolutely and unequivocally denounce as never before - all forms of hatred and racism! We resolve with all we have within us - that Mesquite must be a city where every race, ethnicity, economic status and background feel welcome and that they know that they are welcome at the table of decision making and that we must be one city - one people - under God and indivisible!

At this time, I will read the resolution before us - which I count as a distinct honor and a privilege.