RESOLUTION 2019-07

Denouncing the District Attorney's Refusal to Seek Justice for Stephon Clark, and Calling for Reform of Officer Use of Force

WHEREAS, Sacramento Police officers shot and killed Stephon Clark, an unarmed Black man, on March 18, 2018, and as a result his family and the community have demanded justice by holding his killers accountable by enacting changes in public policy to ensure that there is not one more victim of police violence like Stephon Clark; and

WHEREAS, Sacramento County District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert declined to prosecute the officers who killed Stephon Clark, and released unnecessary personal details of Mr. Clark’s personal life that only served to attack his character and exacerbate the pain felt by his family after being denied justice; and

WHEREAS, The platform of the California Democratic Party states that Democrats will “work to end police brutality,” and to that end, Sacramento Democrats are committed to enacting policies that will prevent more people from being victimized by police violence and later denied justice through legislation such as Assembly Bill 392 (Weber & McCarty) that will reform the standard for an officer’s use of deadly force;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of Sacramento County denounces District Attorney Schubert’s decision to decline to prosecute the officers who killed Stephon Clark, and denounces her actions to attack Mr. Clark’s character and exacerbate the pain felt by his family.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of Sacramento County calls on our elected officials to support reforms to officer use of force, and support the enactment of AB 392 (Weber & McCarty).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of Sacramento County demands that the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors and City Councils within Sacramento County adopt a ‘necessary use of lethal force’ standard in the spirit of AB 392, replacing any local ‘reasonable use of force’ standards, to protect lives and civil rights in our community – notably, members of historically marginalized communities.

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Sponsors: Andrés Ramos, Andrew Scot Becker, Jeff Otter, Terry Schanz, and Valeria Hernandez