



Resolution # 22-01-01

**Call for the County of Orange and Its Sheriff's Department to Stop Feeding
Incarcerated People Rotting Food**

WHEREAS, a new report by the Stop the Musick Coalition revealed hot meals previously provided twice daily in Orange County jails have been suspended since March 2020; and

WHEREAS, the County of Orange and its Sheriff's Department (OCSD) served cold, rotting bologna sandwiches on moldy bread for nearly every meal, while shifting more than \$1 million from food for incarcerated people, putting the money back into its general budget since March 2020; and

WHEREAS, a 2019 OC Grand Jury report found that hypertension and attendant heart conditions, which can be caused by high-sodium and unhealthy diets, were a leading cause of unnecessary deaths in OC jails. These nutrition deficits have increased since the kitchen closure in March 2020 attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of Orange County is concerned about the health and treatment of incarcerated people and affirms its belief that everyone deserves basic necessities, including adequate food; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Party calls upon the OCSD to reinstate full hot meals with fresh ingredients, provide fresh fruit and vegetables and a variety of meat, and to properly store food; and urges the Orange County Board of Supervisors (BOS) to agendaize the food conditions in the jails at its next BOS meeting.

Submitted by: Eugene Fields (AD-68); Lauren Johnson-Norris (AD-74)

Co-Sponsors:

- Ada Briceño (AD-65);
- Florice Hoffman (AD-68);
- Deborah Cunningham-Skurnik (AD-73);

- Ted Perle (AD-68);
- Jill Nelke (AD-74);
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- Dr. Bill Honigman (AD-68);
- Naz Hamid (AD-68);
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**Adopted by the Democratic Party of Orange County
Central Committee on January 24, 2022**