



Resolution #6-26-20

**RESOLUTION TO REMOVE JOHN WAYNE
FROM ORANGE COUNTY AIRPORT**

WHEREAS, A national movement to remove white supremacist symbols and names is reshaping American institutions, monuments, businesses, nonprofits, sports leagues and teams, as it is widely recognized that racist symbols produce lasting physical and psychological stress and trauma particularly to Black communities, people of color and other oppressed groups, and the removal of racist symbols provides a necessary process for communities to remember historic acts of violence and recognize victims of oppression; and

WHEREAS, Orange County is now a diverse region far different from the time when John Wayne was chosen as namesake for the airport, as today Orange County is vibrantly multicultural, and according to the most recent Orange County Annual Survey, 79% of respondents see the county's increasing ethnic diversity as a source of great strength; and

WHEREAS, There have been numerous calls to remove John Wayne's namesake from Orange County's airport because of Wayne's white supremacist, anti-LGBT, and anti-Indigenous views which were shared in part in a 1971 interview, where Wayne is quoted saying, "I believe in white supremacy" and "I don't feel guilty about the fact that five or 10 generations ago these people were slaves;"

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Democratic Party of Orange County condemns John Wayne's racist and bigoted statements, and calls for John Wayne's name and likeness to be removed from the Orange County airport, and calls on the OC Board of Supervisors to restore its original name: Orange County Airport.

Submitted by

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