



**Resolution #21-03-2**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF LE MERIGOT HOTEL WORKERS**

**WHEREAS**, the General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) investigated and authorized complaint on eleven unfair labor practice charges against Columbia Sussex, the owner of the JW Marriott Santa Monica Le Merigot Hotel, alleging the company violated federal law in its treatment of its employees; in a 2019 settlement, the Company agreed to pay \$35,000 in bonuses the company withheld from workers, to rescind seven disciplines issued to employees, and to offer reinstatement to a fired worker; and

**WHEREAS**, housekeepers allege that when the City of Santa Monica raised the minimum wage, Columbia Sussex raised the work quotas required of housekeepers; Housekeepers reported that the hotel's burdensome workloads have interfered with their ability to take breaks and caused workers to work "off the clock" to complete their quotas; housekeepers further allege that in 2019, when they successfully pushed for a housekeeper protection ordinance to guarantee fair pay for heavy workloads, hotel managers illegally pressured housekeepers to sign statements opposing the ordinance, leading to another settlement in which management agreed to post a notice promising not to engage in unlawful "polling" of employees; ii and

**WHEREAS**, the Democratic Party of Orange County is aware that Le Merigot Hotel is up for sale;<sup>iii</sup> now therefore, be it

**Resolved, that the Democratic Party of Orange County:**

- 1) Calls on the Columbia Sussex Corporation to immediately abide by the law, orders from the National Labor Relations Board and all sanctions and settlements, and to not engage in actions that would be counter to such laws, orders, sanctions and settlements; and
- 2) Calls on the Columbia Sussex Corporation and its current management personnel to neither seek, nor accept any offer, to remain in any capacity to manage the operations of Le Merigot after the sale of the Hotel, and in the event the sale is not completed by December 31, 2021, the current management personnel will be replaced and have no authority for operations of the Hotel.

**SUBMITTED BY:** Veronica Chavez (AD 69)

**Adopted by the Democratic Party of Orange County  
Central Committee on March 22, 2021**