

RESOLUTION NO. 65,182-N.S.

OBTAIN HUMANE TREATMENT AND CONDITIONS OF PRE-TRIAL CONFINEMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ANYONE SUBJECTED TO SUCH CONDITIONS INCLUDING PFC. BRADLEY MANNING

WHEREAS, the Peace and Justice Commission advises the City Council on all matters relating to the City of Berkeley's role in issues of peace and social justice (Berkeley Municipal Code (BMC) Chapter 3.69.070); and

WHEREAS, PFC. Bradley Manning has been held in solitary confinement for 23 hours a day since his arrest on May 22nd, 2010 and "In 2006, a bipartisan National Commission on America's Prisons was created and it called for the elimination of prolonged solitary confinement. Its Report documented that conditions whereby 'prisoners end up locked in their cells 23 hours a day, every day. . . is so severe that people end up completely isolated, living in what **can only be described as torturous conditions.**' The Report documented numerous psychiatric studies of individuals held in prolonged isolation which demonstrate 'a constellation of symptoms that includes overwhelming anxiety, confusion and hallucination, and sudden violent and self-destructive outbursts.' The above-referenced article from the *Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law* states: 'Psychological effects can include anxiety, depression, anger, cognitive disturbances, perceptual distortions, obsessive thoughts, paranoia, and psychosis.'"¹; and

WHEREAS, PFC. Bradley Manning is made to sleep in his boxer shorts with no pillow and no sheets and a heavy blanket so rough that he must turn carefully beneath it to avoid rug burn; and

WHEREAS, PFC. Bradley Manning is required to sleep with light shining in his eyes at night and is required to affirm every five minutes when awake that he is OK when asked; and

WHEREAS, PFC. Bradley Manning, although originally put on suicide watch, soon had his status changed by the military to "Prevention of Injury" watch (POI), "and under this lesser pretense he has been forced into his life of mind-numbing tedium. His treatment is harsh, punitive and taking its toll."² and

WHEREAS, PFC. Bradley Manning has not been outdoors for months and has not been allowed to exercise in or out of his cell and has only been allowed out of his cell to shower and walk in chains and has not been allowed to watch TV during news time nor read a newspaper nor have personal possessions in his cell, nor have a pen or a pencil at most times or see most of the mail addressed to him; and

¹ "The inhumane conditions of Bradley Manning's detention", Glenn Greenwald, 15 December 2010, <http://www.salon.com/news/wikileaks/index.html?story=/opinion/greenwald/2010/12/14/manning>

² "Bradley Manning's Life Behind Bars", Denver Nicks, 17 December 2010, <http://www.thedailybeast.com/blogs-and-stories/2010-12-17/bradley-manning-wikileaks-alleged-sources-life-in-prison/>

WHEREAS, PFC. Bradley Manning has yet to receive a trial date and is innocent of all charges until proven guilty.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley calls for the immediate end to the cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment of anyone subjected to such conditions including PFC. Bradley Manning during his military confinement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the Quantico Base Commander, COL Daniel Choike [Phone: (703) 784-2707] 3250 Catlin Avenue Quantico, VA 22134, the Marine Brig Commander, CWO4 Denise Barnes [Fax: (703) 784-4242] 3247 Elrod Avenue Quantico, VA 22134, Secretary of the Army, John McHugh, Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates, Congresswoman Barbara Lee, Senator Barbara Boxer, Senator Dianne Feinstein, and President Barack Obama. A record signature copy of said Resolution to be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Berkeley City Council on February 15, 2011 by the following vote:


Ayes: Anderson, Arreguin, Capitelli, Maio, Moore, Wengraf, Worthington, Wozniak and Bates.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.



Tom Bates, Mayor

Attest: 

Deanna Despain, CMC, City Clerk