

RESOLUTION NO. 86-20

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, IN
SUPPORT OF JUSTICE FOR ARMY SPECIALIST VANESSA GUILLÉN**

WHEREAS, the murder of Army Specialist Vanessa Guillén at Ft. Hood, Texas has highlighted the sexism and violence against women, and especially women of color, in our armed forces; and

WHEREAS, our sisters are dedicating their lives to protect ours, but we are failing to protect theirs. As the former Vice President Joe Biden stated, “We owe it to those who put on the uniform, and to their families, to put an end to sexual harassment and assault in the military and hold perpetrators accountable; and

WHEREAS, Vanessa’s family reported that she was being harassed, but did not feel comfortable making a credible report because the military hierarchical culture of discipline makes it difficult for soldiers to advocate for accountability; and

WHEREAS, allowing sexism and racism to go unchecked is unacceptable reports of such incidents should be taken seriously by the United States Military; and

WHEREAS, the Richmond City Council supports and joins our community in advocating for the military to guarantee our men and women serving our nation a safe and fair treatment when they have any complaints against any military member for any racist or sexual harassment incident; and

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond encourages other local, county and state government officials to join the movement and demand justice for all those young men and women who were inducted in the military and have suffered any mistreatment or harassment while serving in the United States Military.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Richmond hereby requests justice for Vanessa Guillén and encourages other government officials to support the effort by asking the US Armed Forces to investigate all reports of sexual harassment, assault and racism without retaliation.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof held July 28, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Choi, Johnson, Martinez Myrick, and Willis, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor Butt.
NOES: None.
ABSTENTIONS: None.
ABSENT: None.

PAMELA CHRISTIAN
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND
(SEAL)

Approved:

THOMAS K. BUTT
Mayor

Approved as to form:

RACHEL SOMMOVILLA
Interim City Attorney

State of California }
County of Contra Costa : ss.
City of Richmond }

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of **Resolution No. 86-20**, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on July 28, 2020.



Pamela Christian, Clerk of the City of Richmond