

RESOLUTION 2008/001

A RESOLUTION OF THE MONROE CITY COUNCIL
CENSURING COUNCIL MEMBER JOHN STIMA FOR
THE INAPPROPRIATE USE OF HIS POSITION AND
VIOLATING THE PUBLIC TRUST.

WHEREAS, the citizens of the City of Monroe expect and demand the highest ethical standards of its elected officials; and

WHEREAS, of paramount importance to the public trust is that elected officials only exercise the authority and influence of their position in the public interest; and

WHEREAS, on December 27, 2007 the Monroe City Council concluded the review of a report prepared by the Monroe Ethics Board in which the Board found that Council member Stima had violated two provisions of the Monroe Code of Ethics; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the City Council did not adopt the Board report because it could not find that Council member Stima had violated both Code of Ethics provisions as determined by the Board; and

WHEREAS, in adopting the Code of Ethics the Council did not intend to forfeit its right to express its opinion on the misconduct of public officials; and

WHEREAS, although the conduct of Council member Stima evaluated in the Board of Ethics report may not have technically justified Council action under the Code of Ethics, the City Council still finds the conduct to violate the public trust and the standards and expectations of the community for its elected officials; and

WHEREAS, specifically the conduct the City Council finds unacceptable and repugnant is Council member Stima's abuse of his position in pressuring Monroe Police Department staff to sign a contract to benefit a private organization supported by Council member Stima; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the City of Monroe, acting by and through its City Council, does hereby censure Council member Stima for abusing his elected position and violating the public trust in his efforts to pressure and threaten City staff into signing a contract on behalf of the City that was not considered or approved by the Monroe City Council.

PASSED and APPROVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Monroe, Washington, at a regular meeting thereof held this 15th day of January, 2008.

CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON

Donnetta Walser, Mayor

ATTEST:

Betty King, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Phil Olbrechts, City Attorney