



3350 Commercial Drive, Suite #103
P.O. Box 240294, Anchorage, Alaska 99524
Office: (907) 277-1882 Fax: (907) 277-1883
bridgebuilders@bridgebuildersak.org

**A RESOLUTION
BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
BRIDGE BUILDERS OF ANCHORAGE,
August 19, 2009**

Elsa Sargento
(Filipino American)
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(English German)
Vice President,
Board Development

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Lipan Apache)*
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(Hmong)

Paula Pawlowski
(German-Welsh)
Director

Denée Dubeau Zah
*(Finnish Irish
French-Canadian)*
Administrative Assistant

Whereas, in spite of the good faith efforts of City Hall, the School District, hundreds of Bridge Builders, members of the faith communities and other organizations of goodwill, an event reminiscent of the paintball attacks of 2001 and 2003 repeated itself in Anchorage early this month, and

Whereas, in all three incidents, Alaska Native people were physically harassed and verbally abused, and

Whereas, any violent or verbal act in Anchorage, especially those motivated by hatred or prejudice, is repugnant to this community and the spirit of openness and racial harmony to which we aspire, and

Whereas, when such despicable acts take place against any person, regardless of ethnic origin, it is incumbent upon all citizens of goodwill to repudiate it personally and publicly, and

Whereas, if such repudiation does not take place, Anchorage, which we believe can become the “first city without prejudice” will become known for the bias, brutality and ignorance of a few;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Directors of Bridge Builders of Anchorage, representing Anchorage residents from over 53 cultures, condemns the recent attack, and

Be it further resolved that as citizens of Anchorage we condemn this act and re-affirm our respect for all Alaskans of Native heritage, and

Be it further resolved, that we urge Mayor Dan Sullivan, the Municipal Assembly, the Anchorage Police Department, the FBI, and the court system to act promptly to mete out justice to the perpetrators of this heinous crime and send a message that racial hatred is not acceptable in Anchorage, Alaska.