

Resolution in Support of Racial Equity and Justice

The following resolution was approved by the Board of Directors of the National Association of Women Lawyers on the 6th day of October, 2020.

WHEREAS, the mission of the National Association of Women Lawyers is to provide leadership, a collective voice, and essential resources to advance women in the legal profession and advocate for the equality of women under the law;

WHEREAS, the National Association of Women Lawyers, as an organization that is over one hundred twenty years old, recognizes systemic racism and injustice have long persisted in our country;

WHEREAS, the National Association of Women Lawyers acknowledges that this country is at an inflection point from which we can and must collectively move forward in recognition that an injustice against one is an affront to all and we must make our organizational commitment to racial equity and justice clear, intentional and explicit;

WHEREAS, the National Association of Women Lawyers acknowledges that creating meaningful change starts within our own organization, by amplifying voices in our community that are unrepresented or silenced by the vestiges of racism and prejudice and implementing an internal accountability system that engages all of the leaders within our organization to work for justice and equality within the organization and beyond;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the National Association of Women Lawyers commits to actively oppose structural racism and combat the impact of systematic racism by reiterating and reinforcing NAWL's commitment to racial equity and justice as an active priority within our leadership structure, research and data collection, program content and speakers, organizational policies and communications, and the overall mission of our organization;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that as the National Association of Women Lawyers continues to restructure with meaningful change within, we will encourage our organizational and corporate partners to also actively prioritize racial equity and justice as a part of their internal structures in order to effect change within the legal profession and beyond;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, the National Association of Women Lawyers stands steadfast in our commitment to foster an inclusive environment where every member is welcomed, respected, and has a seat at the table;

FINALLY, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the National Association of Women Lawyers recognizes that our commitment to racial equity and justice requires ongoing reflection and continuous learning, and commits to an ever-evolving approach as we encounter new perspectives and gain new insights to effect real and sustainable equality and change in the study and practice of law.