

Resolution #18

SOLIDARITY WITH VICTIMS OF POLICE BRUTALITY

PRESENTED BY: **ROOFERS AND WATERPROOFERS LOCAL 36**

WHEREAS, union brother Philando Castile was a member of Teamsters Local 320 since 2002 as a Nutrition Services Supervisor in the St. Paul Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Brother Castile was killed by St. Anthony police while complying with a simple traffic stop for an alleged broken taillight; and

WHEREAS, Teamsters Local 320 President Sami Gabriel stated that brother Castile “was an amazing person who did his job at St. Paul Public Schools because he loved the children he served. He will be deeply missed by his colleagues and his community”; and

WHEREAS, an injury to one is an injury to all; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton said, “I’m forced to confront...that this kind of racism exists”; and

WHEREAS, President Obama said, “These are not isolated incidents. They are symptomatic of a broader set of racial inequalities that exist in our criminal justice system”; and

WHEREAS, the number of fatal shootings by officers increased from 465 in the first six months of last year to 491 for the same period this year, with Blacks continuing to be shot at 2.5 times the rate of whites, according to an on-going two-year study by the Washington Post; and

WHEREAS, there lacks accountability and transparency in the criminal justice system to ensure equal justice under the law; and

WHEREAS, the highest level of confidence in law enforcement is necessary to ensure a safe and civil society;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we stand in solidarity with the family and community of brother Philando Castile and all victims of police brutality and racism; and

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Labor Movement is committed to working together on the side of justice for all and passing comprehensive criminal justice reform, along with our community partners, civil rights, human rights and community defense organizations, that encompass the principles of equality, fairness and justice that strengthens our democracy.

Adopted by Delegates