

CITY COUNCIL**The City of Orange Township, New Jersey**DATE June 18, 2024NUMBER 325-2024

TITLE: A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING LGBTQIA+ PRIDE MONTH AND HONORING DR. JEFFREY POIRIER
(Sponsored by Council Member Quantavia Hilbert).

WHEREAS, the City of Orange Township has residents that are proud members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (“LGBTQIA+”) community; and

WHEREAS, in August of 1966, the “Screaming Queens” of the Gene Compton’s Cafeteria Uprising in the Tenderloin District of San Francisco led one of the first recorded transgender uprisings that erupted in response to police harassment, and continued to protest against police brutality and improper policing of the LGBTQIA+ community; and

WHEREAS, those who took a stand for human rights and dignity at the Stonewall Inn Uprising in New York City on June 28, 1969, were led by two brave and visible transgender women of color, Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera; and

WHEREAS, the LGBTQIA+ protesters at the Stonewall Inn Uprising and Gene Compton’s Cafeteria Uprising were subject to police harassment and invidious discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity; and

WHEREAS, within years of these decisive moments in history, LGBTQIA+ rights organizations were created in every major city of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Brenda Howard, often called “The Mother of Pride,” helped to plan a Gay Pride Week and the Christopher Street Liberation Day Parade in June of 1970 to commemorate the first anniversary of the Stonewall Inn Uprising; and

WHEREAS, Brenda Howard’s Gay Pride Week and Christopher Street Liberation Day Parade evolved into the annual New York City Pride March and Pride celebrations now known around the world; and

WHEREAS, the month of June has become a symbolic month in which members of the LGBTQIA+ community come together in various celebrations of pride; and

WHEREAS, celebrating Pride Month raises awareness and provides support and advocacy for the LGBTQIA+ community, and is an opportunity to become educated, engage in dialogue, strengthen alliances and build understanding; and

WHEREAS, while there has been remarkable progress towards acceptance and equality, members of the LGBTQIA+ community continue to face discrimination, intolerance, and hate; and

WHEREAS, we must remain vigilant in deterring oppression and discrimination against people on the basis of sex, gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Orange Township supports the rights, freedoms, and equality of those who are LGBTQIA+. In celebration of LGBTQIA+ Pride Month, let us pay

tribute to the extraordinary residents of the City of Orange and beyond that have made positive contributions to our society; and

WHEREAS, in so doing this body further honors and recognizes **Dr. Jeffrey Poirier** for his service to the community; and

WHEREAS, **Dr. Jeffrey Poirier** is a dentist and member of the LGBTQIA+ community; and

WHEREAS, **Dr. Jeffrey Poirier** is originally from Massachusetts. He received his undergraduate degree from St. Joseph's College in Maine, and his dental degree from Temple Dental School in Philadelphia. He volunteered at the Harvard Dental Clinic for two years and subsequently moved relocated to New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, **Dr. Jeffrey Poirier** operated the only mobile dentist working throughout the pandemic. His practice is still open today, and continues to provide services to our older adults in assisted living facilities; and

WHEREAS, **Dr. Jeffrey Poirier** was a front-line emergency worker who took care of elderly patients with Alzheimer's and dementia; and

WHEREAS, **Dr. Jeffrey Poirier** has shown a commitment to serving our most vulnerable citizens and providing health education throughout Essex County; and

WHEREAS, **Dr. Jeffrey Poirier** currently resides in the City of Orange with his husband Angel Emmanuel Poirier, and dogs, Nala, Pincho, Quintus, Callie, Lucky, and their two dogs Rico and Sophie who passed during the pandemic. Both **Dr. Jeffrey Poirier** and Angel Emmanuel Poirier are also huge advocates for Autism awareness, community inclusion, and animal rescue for the county's lost or abandoned pets.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Orange Township honors **Dr. Jeffrey Poirier** and expresses its appreciation for contributions to the City of Orange and greater Essex County community. The City Council of the City of Orange Township further celebrates LGBTQIA+ Pride Month and the many contributions of LGBTQIA+ citizens. The City Council of the City of Orange Township encourages the citizens of the City of Orange Township to observe LGBTQIA+ Pride Month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

Adopted: June 18, 2024

Joyce L. Lanier
City Clerk

Tency A. Eason
Council President