

June 18, 1996

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Introduced By:

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Proposed No.:

96-534

MOTION NO. **9881**

1

2 A MOTION requesting the county executive,
3 sheriff and prosecuting attorney to fully
4 support the concerted, aggressive
5 investigation into crimes of arson,
6 especially those committed against churches
7 with predominantly African-American or other
8 ethnic minority memberships, and to support
9 the immediate apprehension of the
10 perpetrators of such crimes, and to fully
11 cooperate with other law enforcement agencies
12 at the state and federal levels in seeking a
13 resolution to this problem.

14

15 WHEREAS, the crime of arson is vicious, reprehensible and
16 destructive to ties of family and community, and

17 WHEREAS, attacks of arson on churches undermine the sanctity
18 and protection of religious freedom and also assault the
19 foundations of personal faith and identity, and

20 WHEREAS, increased bigotry, intolerance and interracial
21 mistrust result from targeting for arson those churches whose
22 membership is comprised primarily of ethnic minorities, and

23 WHEREAS, attacks of arson on churches are escalating and
24 appear to be focused against churches whose membership is
25 primarily African-American, and

26 WHEREAS, the Constitutions of the State of Washington and the
27 United States of America protect freedom of religion and guarantee
28 justice for all citizens;

29 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

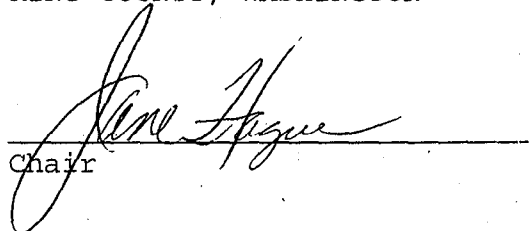
1 A. The county executive, sheriff and prosecuting attorney
 2 are requested to fully support the aggressive investigation into
 3 crimes of arson, especially those committed against churches with
 4 predominantly African-American or ethnic minority memberships, and
 5 to support the immediate apprehension of any perpetrators of such
 6 crimes. The county executive, sheriff and prosecuting attorney
 7 are encouraged to work in concert with law enforcement agencies of
 8 our state, other states, and the federal government to curtail
 9 these heinous crimes which are rapidly spreading across the
 10 country on an interstate basis.

11 B. The clerk of the council shall forward copies of this motion
 12 to the county executive, county sheriff, county prosecuting
 13 attorney, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of
 14 Washington, the Speaker of the Washington State House of
 15 Representatives, the Majority Leader of the Washington State
 16 Senate, each member of the Washington State congressional
 17 delegation, and the President and Vice President of the United
 18 States of America with the hope that similar initiatives be
 19 undertaken at all levels of governance.

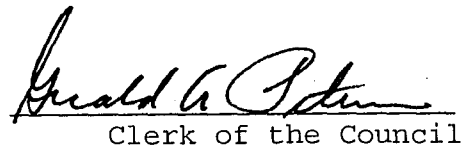
20 PASSED by a vote of 11 to 0 this 24th day of

21 June, 1996.

22 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
 23 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

24 
 25 Chair

26 ATTEST:

27 
 28 Clerk of the Council

29 Attachments: None
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