

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CAMPAIGN TO MAKE NORTH CAROLINA A NO-TORTURE STATE

WHEREAS, the non-governmental North Carolina Commission of Inquiry on Torture (NCCIT, www.nccit.org) was established to examine the role of North Carolina in the United States' secret, global torture program launched soon after September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, the volunteer led NCCIT has conducted an inquiry into the use of public airports by the CIA to facilitate torture and learned that Aero Contractors, a CIA affiliated company, transported at least 49 people for torture, many of them innocent of any terrorist ties; and

WHEREAS, Aero Contractors is headquartered at the Johnston County Airport in Smithfield, NC , and also used the state-run Global TransPark in Kinston for "torture taxi" flights; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina residents have been calling since 2005 for investigation of Aero Contractors, and support has come from people of faith, veterans, elected officials, civic groups, labor, various political parties, and members of different racial and ethnic groups; and

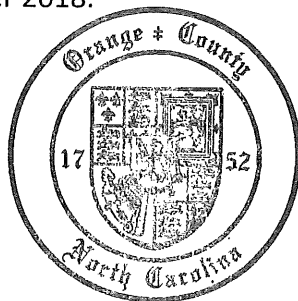
WHEREAS, 10 NCCIT Commissioners – a diverse, blue-ribbon panel of distinguished individuals – heard testimony from 20 witnesses (survivors, journalists, human rights experts) on November 30 and December 1, 2017, in Raleigh; and

WHEREAS, Governor Roy Cooper and Attorney General Josh Stein are expected to respond to the 84-page NCCIT Report (NCTortureReport.org) since its release on September 27, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Board of Commissioners adopted the RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION OF INQUIRY ON TORTURE (RES-2016-08) in December 2016;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Orange County Board of Commissioners, do hereby urge Governor Cooper and Attorney General Stein to hold private contractors such as Aero Contractors accountable for involvement in the torture program; to enforce state, federal, and international law; and to stop hosting Aero at public airports to prevent North Carolina from being the home to "torture taxis."

This the 18th day of December 2018.



A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Penny Rich".

Penny Rich, Chair
Orange County Board of Commissioners