THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 318

EFFECTIVE ~~Approved~~ July 17, 2005

WHEREAS, The Fraternal Order of Eagles gifted an 8-foot granite monument of the Ten Commandments to the City of Providence in November 1963; and,

WHEREAS, The Ten Commandments monument was accepted by the City of Providence and located in Roger Williams Park where it remained for 42 years; and,

WHEREAS, By accepting said monument it became city property, subject to the same rules and regulations as any other city asset; and,

WHEREAS, Acting upon inaccurate advice from the City Solicitor, the Fraternal Order of Eagles relocated the monument to another site outside the City of Providence; and,

WHEREAS, The U.S. Supreme Court has recently ruled that displaying the Ten Commandments on public property is in fact allowable and constitutional; and,
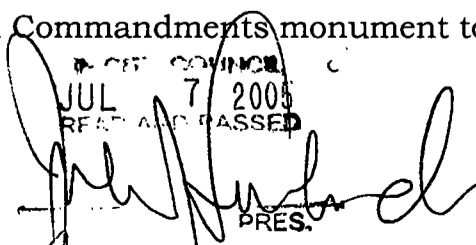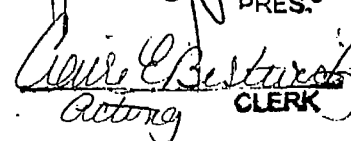
WHEREAS, The City Solicitor acted frivolously and with undue haste in recommending its removal; and,

WHEREAS, Said transfer of city property was done in violation of the Providence City Charter and without consultation with the Board of Park Commissioners which oversees Roger Williams Park; and,
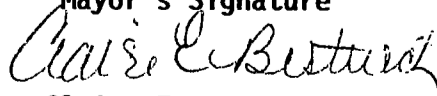
WHEREAS, Numerous citizens have expressed their concern, outrage and displeasure with the removal of this monument.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Solicitor is hereby directed to immediately commence efforts to effectuate the safe return of the Ten Commandments monument to its former home in Roger Williams Park.

IN CITY COUNCIL
JUL 7 2005
READ AND PASSED

PRES.

Acting CLERK

Effective without the
Mayor's Signature

Claire E. Bestwick
Acting City Clerk

Councilmen W. King and Johnson

Council President Lombardi, Councilmen Butler, Mancini, Oakridge, Oliveta,

Council President Lombardi, Councilmen Butler & Mancini

Resolution directing the City Solicitor to immediately initiate discussion with the Fraternal Order of Eagles for the return of the Ten Commandments monument to its former home in Roger Williams Park.

Text will follow – per Tom Glavin