

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

HONORED AND DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

THIS IS A GREAT DAY FOR EVERY RESIDENT OF PROVIDENCE, REGARDLESS OF THE CANDIDATE THEY SUPPORTED OR THE NEIGHBORHOOD IN WHICH THEY LIVE.

IT'S A GREAT DAY THROUGHOUT THIS CITY BECAUSE WE'VE FINALLY REACHED THE END OF A TROUBLED PERIOD IN OUR HISTORY, A PERIOD OF INSTABILITY AND DIVISIVENESS. TODAY WE CAN LOOK BEYOND THE PROBLEMS OF THE PAST, BEYOND THE PROBLEMS THAT DEMORALIZED OUR CITY AND PREVENTED US FROM COMING TOGETHER.

NOW THAT THE MAYORAL ELECTION IS OVER, WE CAN COME TOGETHER, AND WE MUST COME TOGETHER! THE WORLD SHOULD GO OUT TODAY FROM EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD IN THE CITY THAT THE CITIZENS OF PROVIDENCE ARE COMING TOGETHER, THAT WE'RE PUTTING THE PAST BEHIND US, AND THAT WE'RE MOVING AHEAD TO SOLVE OUR CITY'S PROBLEMS.

I FEEL PRIVILEGED TO BE ABLE TO LEAD A NEW COOPERATIVE EFFORT TO

IMPROVE OUR CITY. I WANT TO REASSURE EVERYONE IN PROVIDENCE THAT I AM GOING TO CONTINUE TO SERVE ALL THE PEOPLE, PEOPLE OF EVERY POLITICAL BELIEF AND PARTY, PEOPLE OF EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD, RACE, RELIGION, AND ETHNIC BACKGROUND.

I PLEDGE TODAY THAT I WILL ALWAYS BE FAIR, CONSTRUCTIVE, AND OPEN IN MY ACTIONS AS MAYOR. CRONYISM AND DIVISIVENESS WILL NEVER HAVE A PLACE IN MY ADMINISTRATION. INSTEAD, PROFESSIONALISM AND COOPERATION WILL BE THE MAJOR TOOLS IN MY EFFORT TO REFORM THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE.

WE ALL KNOW THAT THE JUST CONCLUDED CAMPAIGN FOR MAYOR WAS A TOUGH AND SPIRITED CONTEST. THE CANDIDATES HAD THEIR DIFFERENCES WITH ONE ANOTHER, BUT EACH OF US WAS AND IS VITALLY CONCERNED ABOUT IMPROVING THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE. IN FACT, FRED LIPPIT, KEVEN MCKENNA AND EMANUEL TORTI ARE DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANTS WHO SHARE MY COMMITMENT TO GOVERNMENTAL REFORM, INCREASED MANAGEMENT EFFICIENCY AND NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION.

SO, TODAY, I AM ASKING FRED, KEVIN AND MANNY TO JOIN WITH ME AND EVERY PROVIDENCE RESIDENT IN A COOPERATIVE EFFORT TO MAKE THIS CITY REACH ITS FULL POTENTIAL FOR EXCELLENCE.

A SOLID FOUNDATION FOR THIS COOPERATIVE EFFORT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED DURING MY THREE MONTHS AS ACTING MAYOR. IN MANY AREAS OF CITY GOVERNMENT I'VE MADE A FRESH START, AND NOW I'M DETERMINED TO EXPAND ON MY EARLY REFORMS.

I'M DETERMINED, FOR INSTANCE TO CONTINUE IMPROVING THE CITY'S MANAGEMENT PRACTICES. IN FACT, THE FOCAL POINT OF MY ADMINISTRATION WILL BE TO IMPLEMENT THE EXTENSIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY WE WILL BE COMPLETING LATER THIS MONTH.

AS I REORGANIZE CITY GOVERNMENT, I'M DETERMINED TO CONTINUE ATTRACTING TOP-NOTCH PROFESSIONALS TO EVERY CITY DEPARTMENT:

I AM DETERMINED TO CONTINUE REFORMING AND STREAMLINING OUR CITY'S PURCHASING AND PERSONNEL POLICIES:

I AM DETERMINED TO CONTINUE ROOTING OUT CORRUPTION BY ENFORCING OUR NEW CODE OF ETHICS, BY COOPERATING FULLY WITH ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT INVESTIGATIONS, AND BY MAINTAINING AN ATMOSPHERE OF UNCOMPROMISING PROFESSIONALISM AND INTEGRITY:

I AM DETERMINED TO CONTINUE PROVIDING BETTER SERVICES TO OUR NEIGHBORHOODS THROUGH REGULAR NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UPS, A BETTER STREET SWEEPING SYSTEM, A BETTER EQUIPPED POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND MORE OPPORUTNITY FOR NEIGHBORHOOD INPUT IN CITY POLICYMAKING:

I AM DETERMINED TO CONTINUE DEVELOPING STRONGER AFFIRMATIVE ACTION POLICIES FOR MINORITIES AND WOMEN:

AND I AM DETERMINED TO CONTINUE THE NEW SPIRIT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AND THE CITY COUNCIL, AS WELL AS BETWEEN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AND THE RESIDENTS OF EVERY CITY NEIGHBORHOOD.

OBVIOUSLY, WE HAVE A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT TASKS FACING US IN THE CITY,

ALTHOUGH THE ELECTION FOR MAYOR IS OVER, THE CHALLENGE OF REBUILDING PROVIDENCE HAS REALLY JUST BEGUN.

TODAY I ACCEPT THIS CHALLENGE WITH A DEEP SENSE OF EXCITEMENT, COMMITMENT, AND OBLIGATION. THE HALLMARK OF MY ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE REFORM.

I WANT EVERYONE IN THIS CITY TO KNOW THAT TODAY WE ARE BEGINNING AN ERA OF GENUINE, NO-NONSENSE, COMPREHENSIVE REFORM!

I WANT EVERYONE IN THIS CITY TO KNOW THAT THE DAYS OF POLITICAL INTIMIDATION ARE OVER!.....

- THE DAYS OF NO-SHOW EMPLOYEES ARE OVER!.....
- THE DAYS OF SLOPPY MANAGEMENT PRACTICES ARE OVER!.....
- AND THE DAYS OF CALLOUS DISREGARD FOR THE SPENDING OF TAXPAYERS' DOLLARS ARE OVER!

IF PEOPLE HAVE ANY DOUBTS ABOUT ALL OF THIS, AND ABOUT THE DEPTH OF MY COMMITMENT TO GOVERNMENTAL AND MANAGEMENT REFORM, THEY SHOULD EXAMINE CAREFULLY WHAT I HAVE ALREADY DONE IN THE LAST THREE MONTHS, AND EXAMINE JUST AS CAREFULLY WHAT I'M GOING TO BE DOING IN THE NEXT 2 1/2 YEARS.

MY ADMINISTRATION IS GOING TO BE VIGILANT AND UNRELENTING IN PURSUING REFORM. ONLY THROUGH EFFECTIVE REFORM OF CITY GOVERNMENT CAN WE RESTORE THE CONFIDENCE OF PEOPLE IN CITY HALL, SAVE THE TAXPAYERS' MONEY, AND PROVIDE FAIR AND EQUAL TREATMENT FOR ALL THE PEOPLE OF PROVIDENCE.

WE ALSO NEED TO CONTINUE REFORMING OUR GOVERNMENT TO SEND A SIGNAL THROUGHOUT OUR CITY, STATE, AND NATION THAT PROVIDENCE IS A PROGRESSIVE CITY, A CITY THAT WANTS TO ATTRACT NEW INDUSTRY AND NEW PEOPLE, WHILE PRESERVING OUR RICH TRADITIONS AND CULTURE.

UNFORTUNATELY, OUR CITY'S IMAGE HAS BEEN TARNISHED IN RECENT YEARS,

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE REBUILD OUR IMAGE. WE NEED AN IMAGE THAT EMPHASIZES ALL THE STRENGTHS OF OUR CITY--OUR HISTORY, OUR CULTURE, OUR DIVERSE POPULATION, OUR LIVABILITY, OUR DISTINGUISHED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND OUR VIBRANT NEIGHBORHOODS.

AND WE NEED A NEW SPIRIT TO ACCOMPANY OUR NEW IMAGE-- A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION AND CONFIDENCE, AND ENTHUSIASTIC SPIRIT BASED ON OUR FUTURE POSSIBILITIES RATHER THAN OUR PAST CONFRONTATIONS.

NOW THAT THE CITY'S PERIOD OF UNCERTAINTY AND INSTABILITY IS OVER, IT'S TIME FOR ALL OF US TO COME TOGETHER IN THE BEST INTEREST OF PROVIDENCE, IT'S TIME TO HARNESS ALL OF THE TALENT, CREATIVITY, AND ENERGY OF OUR PEOPLE TO IMPROVE OUR CITY.

WITH A NEW COMMITMENT TO REFORM, A NEW EMPHASIS ON PROFESSIONALISM, AND A NEW SPIRIT OF COOPERATION, PROVIDENCE CAN BECOME, AND SHOULD BECOME

A MODEL CITY FOR THE ENTIRE NATION.

WE'VE GOT A LOT OF HARD WORK AHEAD OF US, BUT TOGETHER, WE CAN GET THE JOB DONE. TOGETHER WE CAN OVERCOME OUR PROBLEMS, CAPITALIZE ON OUR STRENGTHS, AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF CITY GOVERNMENT.

I WELCOME THIS CHALLENGE, AND I'M READY RIGHT NOW TO BEGIN TACKLING IT.

THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH.

HONORED AND DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, FAMILY
AND FRIENDS

~~INAUGURAL ADDRESS~~

~~FOR MAYOR JOSEPH R. PAOLINO, JR.~~

THIS IS A GREAT DAY FOR EVERY RESIDENT OF PROVIDENCE, REGARDLESS OF
THE CANDIDATE THEY SUPPORTED OR THE NEIGHBORHOOD IN WHICH THEY LIVE.

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