

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING RECOGNITION OF THE MATRICULA CONSULAR AS A
VALID FORM OF IDENTIFICATION FOR THE DURHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Whereas, the City of Durham respects and promotes the right of all of its residents to equal treatment under the law; and

Whereas, many immigrants who could have obtained a driver's license by using a tax ID number prior to 2005 are no longer able to do so now that current law requires a social security number; and

Whereas, if a Durham city law enforcement official discovers that a driver is not carrying a license when making a traffic stop for a minor violation such as speeding or not fully stopping for a stop sign, the officer would typically issue a citation rather than making an arrest, provided a) there are no indications of criminal activity or driving under the influence, and b) the driver has a valid ID card; and

Whereas, the Mexican Matricula Consular has been shown to be a highly secure form of identification, issued to Mexican citizens living in other countries and containing several levels of machine-readable verification; and

Whereas, it is expected that The Durham Police Department's acceptance of the Matricula Consular as a valid form of ID would assist the Durham Police Department in minimizing unnecessary and potentially life-changing arrests of hard-working residents guilty of no more than a minor traffic infraction;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Durham hereby formally supports recognition of a properly issued and obtained Mexican Matricula Consular as a valid form of identification, not substituting for a driver's license, but authenticating a person's identity, and, with regard to activities of the Durham Police Department, supports issuance of a citation to persons showing such identification in situations where a citation would be issued to any driver lacking a license but with another valid form of identification, while leaving discretion to the officer as to whether to arrest.

This Resolution is effective upon adoption.

APPROVED BY
CITY COUNCIL

NOV 15 2010

CITY CLERK

J. Ann Gray