

**TOWNSHIP OF MONTVILLE
RESOLUTION 2022 - 393**

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTVILLE, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY SUPPORTING FEDERAL LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH A GRANT PROGRAM TO FUND STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS TO COMBAT AUTO THEFTS

WHEREAS, nearly 500,000 vehicles worth an estimated \$4.5 billion were stolen nationwide in the first half of 2022, representing a 25% increase in thefts compared to the first half of 2019; and

WHEREAS, the numbers here in New Jersey have increased faster than the national average, with auto thefts in the state on pace to rise by over 30% from 2020 to 2022; and

WHEREAS, car thieves and their organizations have become more emboldened and dangerous, including burglarizing homes, carrying firearms and using stolen vehicles in the commission of violent crimes; and

WHEREAS, proposed legislation, the bipartisan Auto Theft Prevention Act, introduced by Representatives Mikie Sherrill and Don Bacon, would provide a dedicated source of funding for state and local law enforcement agencies for resources to combat auto thefts under the U.S. Department of Justice's Community Oriented Policing Services; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Justice will be permitted to award funds for equipment such as automated license plate readers, hiring additional law enforcement officers and support staff, additional compensation, resources for joint task forces, data collection, and research activities; and

WHEREAS, these are resources that have been identified by local police departments, sheriffs, prosecutors and the Office of the Attorney General of New Jersey as necessary to addressing the rise in auto thefts.

WHEREAS, the Montville Township Mayor and Township Committee, Township Administrator and Chief of Police are very concerned about the recent rash of auto thefts and other related crimes that have put our residents at risk, and

WHEREAS, Township officials met with Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill and Governor Murphy's staff in August 2022 to alert them of the increased criminal activity in our community as well as request additional public safety assistance to enhance the Township's investments in security technology for deterring and apprehending car thieves; and

WHEREAS, Montville Township fully supports State leaders deploying every tool possible to prevent crime and serve as an important tool in solving crimes.

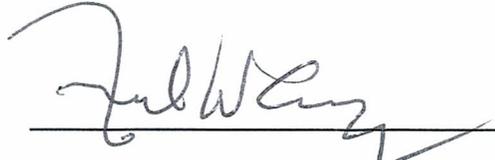
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Montville in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, that it strongly supports legislation in regards to funding to address the auto theft epidemic in New Jersey and protect the welfare of our community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to Representative Mikie Sherrill and to the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

Adopted: 12/06/2022



Stacy Sullivan-Gruca, Township Clerk



Frank W. Cooney, Mayor

I, Stacy Sullivan-Gruca, Township Clerk of the Township of Montville in the County of Morris in the State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct and true copy of Resolution 2022-393 adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Montville in the County of Morris in the State of New Jersey, on December 6, 2022.



Stacy Sullivan-Gruca, Township Clerk

