

Document 33
Papers as President: Official File

January 13, 1934

93-a

My dear Mr. Thomas:

Your letter of December twenty-ninth,
with the enclosed resolution adopted by the
Council of the City of Cleveland, has been
received. The President has asked me to thank
you for your kindness in sending the resolution
to him.

Very sincerely yours,

LOUIS McH. HOWE
Secretary to the President

Fred W. Thomas, Esq.,
City Clerk,
Legislative Department,
Cleveland,
Ohio.

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City of Cleveland

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

FRED W. THOMAS, CLERK OF COUNCIL



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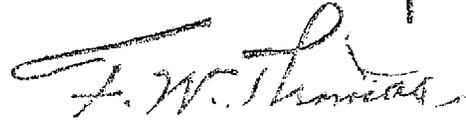
December 29, 1933.

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President of the United States,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith you will find certified copy
of Resolution, File No. 100910, adopted by the Council
of the City of Cleveland December 11, 1933, relative
to the enactment of an anti-lynching law.

Yours very truly,



City Clerk

H. B. Atkins asst

FWT/C

The following Resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of

Cleveland

December 11, 1933

File No. 100910.

Mr. Jackson.

Resolution requesting the president of The United States to recommend the enactment of a federal anti-lynching law and petitioning congress to enact an anti-lynching law.

Whereas, more than twenty-seven (27) citizens of the United States in widely scattered sections of the country have been lynched thus far this year, being a great increase over last year, causing public expression of condemnation, thereof to be made throughout the land, and

Whereas, lynching is an unlawful deprivation of the rights of citizens to the protection of Article VI of the amendments to the constitution of the United States which reads as follows:

"In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the states and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense."

Article XIV of the amendments to the constitution of the U. S. of America which reads in part as follows:

"Nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws" and

Whereas, lynching and mob violence tend to promote a general disregard for law and order and to undermine the very purpose and stability of government, and has a deteriorative effect both upon the people participating therein and the community wherein same occurs, and

Whereas, this resolution constitutes an emergency in that the same provides for the usual daily operation of a municipal department, now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the council of the city of Cleveland, Ohio:

That the president of the United States be and is hereby requested to include a plea and recommendation for enactment of a federal anti-lynching law in his first message to the next session of Congress, and

Be it further resolved, that the congress of the United States be and is hereby petitioned to enact an anti-lynching law at its next session, and

Be it further resolved, that copies of this resolution be sent to the president of the United States, the congress of the United States and the senators and congressmen from the state of Ohio who are hereby respectfully requested to aid in carrying out the purposes of this resolution.

That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and its approval by the mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time allowed by law.

Adopted December 11, 1933.

HERMAN H. FINKLE,
President of Council pro tempore.

THOMAS,
Council.

Dec 19, 1933

Clerk of Council