



DEMOCRATIC WOMEN OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY

Resolution Honoring Olma Echeverri

Whereas, the Democratic Women of Mecklenburg County (DWMC) and the larger Democratic community of Charlotte and North Carolina lost a passionate activist, natural-born leader, and wise and generous mentor on October 9, 2021, with the death of longtime member Olma Echeverri;

Whereas, Olma was a DWMC member for over 25 years and served two terms as President with distinction – a hallmark of her tenure was a determination to shake up the status quo and lift up voices of diversity and inclusion; she had also previously served as State Chair of the Hispanic American Democrats of North Carolina, co-founder of the Hispanic Voters' Coalition, an elected member of both the Democratic National Committee and the State Executive Committee, and an officer on the Board of the Mecklenburg County Democratic Party; and, in recognition of her years of guidance and counsel, she was granted a lifetime Honorary membership in the Teen Democrats of North Carolina;

Whereas for decades, Olma was a tireless advocate for women and women's issues, especially healthcare, and as DWMC President she rallied the troops with her boundless energy and vigor to support our first Democratic woman Presidential candidate, and - in the face of that loss - showed us by example how to grieve, pick ourselves up, and keep fighting for representation, *no matter what*. Over many years and until her last days, Olma encouraged, challenged, and mentored countless women to serve in leadership positions, and she championed and supported many local, state, and federal Democratic candidates and elected officials;

Whereas, Olma's sharp intellect, unshakeable determination, and wise counsel have benefitted countless Democratic women across the State of North Carolina and beyond, and her legacy will lie in the thousands of voters she registered, the hundreds of women she promoted, advised, and mentored, and the high bar of fearless leadership that she set – all in service to her adopted country and the principle "We are Stronger Together."

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the **DEMOCRATIC WOMEN OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY**:

1. Honors the lifetime achievements and contributions of Olma Echeverri to the Democratic Party over the course of her distinguished life; and
2. Offers our deepest condolences to her husband, German De Castro, her four children and five grandchildren, and to her extended family, friends, and all those whose lives she has touched and empowered.

Democratic Women of Mecklenburg County
This 13th Day of October, 2021