

**A RESOLUTION URGING THE MASSACHUSETTS TRIAL COURT,
GOVERNOR, AND STATE LEGISLATURE TO IMMEDIATELY ADDRESS
HEALTH AND SAFETY CONCERNS AT THE RODERICK I. IRELAND
COURTHOUSE**

**(Sponsored by Councilors Rosemary Sandlin, Paul C. Cavallo, Robert E. Rossi and
Gerald F. Smith)**

WHEREAS, the Roderick L. Ireland Hampden County Hall of Justice in Hampden County has had health and safety concerns for over a decade; and

WHEREAS, these concerns stem from the visible presence of mold on books, carpets, seats, flags, and air vents in addition to two judges who shared the same chambers and both developed similar forms of ALS; and

WHEREAS, the Trial Court, Governor and Massachusetts Legislature have a duty to protect the people who are appointed, hired, and elected to serve; and

WHEREAS a former Trial Court Administrator admitted in 2013 that the Roderick L. Ireland Hampden County Hall of Justice was the, “most severe ailing courthouses in the state”; and

WHEREAS the Roderick L. Ireland Hampden County Hall of Justice is one of the busiest courthouses in the State and was earmarked to study these concerns in 2016 but never made the Trial Court’s 2017 Master Plan list to address the safety concerns and hasn’t been discussed since.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Agawam City Council demands the Massachusetts Trial Court and State Legislature immediately address the health and safety concerns at the Roderick L. Ireland Hampden County Hall of Justice; and provided further that the Agawam City Council demands the razing and rebuilding of the Roderick L. Ireland Hampden County Hall of Justice to fully protect the staff, judges, trial court officers, and those seeking protection and working under the legal system and those being tried under the same; and provided further that this Resolution be forwarded to the Massachusetts Trial Court, Governor Charles Baker, and both branches of the state legislature.

DATED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2021.

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

Christopher C. Johnson, President

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY



Stephen J. Buoniconti, Solicitor