

RESOLUTION NO. _____, SERIES 2025

~~A RESOLUTION URGING LOUISVILLE METRO GOVERNMENT TO FORMALLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE DOCUMENTED HARMS OF THE LOUISVILLE METRO POLICE DEPARTMENT AND TO ENCOURAGE THE LOUISVILLE METRO POLICE DEPARTMENT TO BUILD TRUST IN THE COMMUNITY~~ ENDORING RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE REGARDING THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE LOUISVILLE METRO POLICE DEPARTMENT.
AMENDMENT BY SUBSTITUTION.

SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS PARRISH-WRIGHT, LYNINGER, CHAPPELL, AND RUHE

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Justice (“Justice Department”) announced its findings in March 2023, following a thorough investigation into Louisville Metro Government (“Louisville Metro”) and Louisville Metro Police Department (“LMPD”), which began in April 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Civil Rights Division’s Special Litigation Section and the Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Western District of Kentucky conducted the investigation, with the assistance of law enforcement professionals; and

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2024, the Justice Department announced an agreement with Louisville Metro to resolve the Justice Department’s findings that Louisville Metro and LMPD engage in a pattern or practice of violations of the Constitution and federal law; and

WHEREAS, the Louisville Metro Council has the authority to provide local oversight and accountability of Louisville Metro Government and desires to see appropriate remedies on behalf of the citizens of Louisville Metro.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT (“LOUISVILLE METRO COUNCIL”) AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I: The Louisville Metro Council endorses recommendations from the United States Department of Justice to improve the Louisville Metro Police Department (“LMPD”):

1. LMPD officers use appropriate de-escalation techniques and attempt to resolve incidents without force when possible, and use force in a manner that is reasonable, necessary, and proportional to the threat presented;

2. LMPD’s applications for residential search warrants articulate specific, individualized, and accurate facts that establish probable cause for everything to be searched and seized, and LMPD officers execute residential search warrants using safe and lawful tactics;

3. LMPD officers conduct street enforcement activities, including stops, frisks, searches, and arrests, in a manner that protects people’s rights;

4. LMPD enforces the law fairly and impartially, providing equal protection of the law for all people in Louisville and taking steps to reduce unlawful racial disparities in enforcement;

5. LMPD officers respect the First Amendment rights of all persons, including the right to criticize and protest police conduct and to observe and record police officers in the public discharge of their duties;

6. Louisville Metro Government (“Louisville Metro”) and LMPD deploy non-law enforcement deflection teams to situations involving people in behavioral health crisis where police involvement is not necessary, and when it is necessary, LMPD sends specially trained officers to respond;

7. LMPD responds to and investigates sexual assault, domestic violence, and

sexual misconduct in a thorough, timely, trauma-informed, and bias-free manner;

8. Louisville Metro operates a non-police outreach team to respond to situations involving unhoused individuals that do not warrant a law enforcement or behavioral health crisis response;

9. LMPD enhances community engagement and solicits input to ensure its policing practices are responsive to community needs; and

10. LMPD investigates allegations of officer misconduct fully, fairly, and efficiently, and holds all officers who commit misconduct accountable through fair and consistent discipline.

SECTION II: The Louisville Metro Council shall provide local oversight to the implementation of LMPD reform recommendations.

SECTION III: This Resolution shall take effect upon passage and approval or otherwise becoming law.

Sonya Harward
Metro Council Clerk

Brent Ackerson
President of the Council

Craig Greenberg
Mayor

Approval Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Michael J. O'Connell
Jefferson County Attorney

BY: _____

