

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 244

Approved July 22, 2020

BE IT RESOLVED, That pursuant to Section 402 of the Providence Home Rule Charter, and at the request of the Executive Director of the Providence External Review Authority as required by Section 18 ½ - 2 §(h)(2) and (s) of the Providence Code of Ordinances, the Providence City Council hereby issues a subpoena compelling the Commissioner of Public Safety make available all body camera footage in the investigation of Sgt. Joseph Hanley to the Providence External Review Authority within one week of the date of issuance of this subpoena.

IN CITY COUNCIL

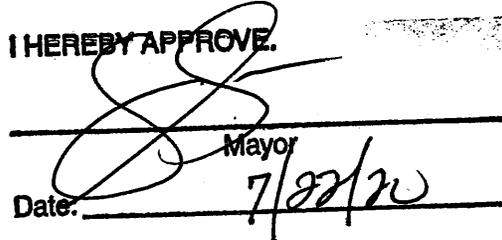
JUL 16 2020

READ AND PASSED


PRES.


CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.


Mayor
Date: 7/22/20



Providence External Review Authority

July 10, 2020

Honorable Council President Sabina Matos
Providence City Hall
25 Dorrance Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Re: Subpoena Request for Body Camera Footage in Sgt. Hanley Investigation

Dear Honorable City Council President and members of the City Council:

On June 1, 2020, the PERA board invoked Chapter 18 ½ - 2 §(h)(2) of the Providence Code of Ordinances for the first time. This specific subsection of the PERA ordinance states that PERA “shall also have the discretion to monitor any internal investigation by the police department as to which the executive director believes it is in the city’s best interest for PERA to be involved.”

PERA officially began that independent review shortly after June 1, 2020 via its sole investigator, Mr. Eugene Monteiro.

Mr. Monteiro presented the findings of that review in the executive session of the monthly PERA board meeting on June 17, 2020 and discussed the same on our most recent board meeting on July 8, 2020. As a result of Mr. Monteiro’s findings, the PERA board has very serious concerns and has reached out to the Commissioner of Public Safety to request a further briefing for the PERA board regarding the allegations against Sergeant Joseph Hanley.

Unfortunately, PERA has been denied this request for a briefing by the Commissioner.

As such, PERA is hereby respectfully requesting the members of the City Council issue a subpoena for all body camera footage, and related evidence, available in the investigation of Sergeant Joseph Hanley.

It is imperative, now more than ever, that the Providence community be engaged in this meaningful conversation about policing and reform in Providence.

PERA thanks the members of the City Council in advance for their support and attention to this very important matter.

/s/ Nick Figueroa
Nick Figueroa
PERA, Board Chair

/s/ Jose F. Batista
Jose F. Batista
PERA, Executive Director