

City of Providence
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 238

EFFECTIVE July 13, 2020

WHEREAS, On June 23, 2020, the City Council Finance Committee hosted a public hearing regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Budget; and

WHEREAS, Over the course of the nine-hour hearing, the Finance Committee received feedback from well over one hundred Providence residents expressed their concerns around police training, tactics, and funding; and

WHEREAS, The State Senate has also received significant public input regarding policing and has created a task force, led by Senator Harold Metts of Providence, to study police relations with racial and ethnic minority communities; police management and disciplinary procedures; enhanced police training for cultural competency and mental health; and diversity in all law enforcement agencies, in order to generate a report that can be used to guide the General Assembly's decision making in these areas; and

WHEREAS, The City Council has fully supported the efforts of the Senate task force and looks forward to reviewing the task force's report in detail upon its release; and

WHEREAS, During the Finance Committee's process of reviewing the proposed Fiscal Year 2021 budget, which included more than twenty meetings over the course of two months and countless hours spent examining department budgets, the Committee identified that there is no mandated continuing education or training standards for Providence police officers once they graduate from the training academy; and

WHEREAS, In many professional services fields, there are mandated continuing education courses that must be met on an annual basis in order to maintain licensure and to better ensure that the high standards of the profession are upheld; and

WHEREAS, A mandated training and education requirement for the Police Department would similarly require police officers to maintain and uphold the highest standards of the profession so that they are able to better protect and serve the residents of the City.

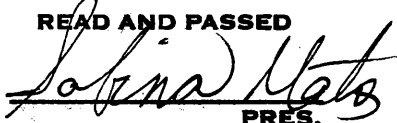
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby requests that the Mayor of Providence and the Commissioner of Public Safety work to implement an annual continuing education and training certification requirement for all members of the Providence Police Department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, upon passage, copies of this resolution be sent to the Mayor of Providence, the Commissioner of Public Safety, the Chief of Police, and the Providence Lodge #3, Fraternal Order of Police.

IN CITY COUNCIL

JUL 02 2020

READ AND PASSED


PRES.


CLERK

Effective without the
Mayor's Signature


Shawn Selleck
City Clerk