

1 **A RESOLUTION BY THE FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS URGING**  
2 **THE MUNICIPALITIES LOCATED WITHIN FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA TO**  
3 **ENHANCE SAFETY AT CONVENIENCE STORES BY ADOPTING ORDINANCES AND**  
4 **LAWS MANDATING THE USE OF VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS AT THESE**  
5 **ESTABLISHMENTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

6  
7 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners is tasked with protecting  
8 the health, welfare, and safety of its residents and visitors by ensuring the continued  
9 availability of crime free and safe convenience stores within the County; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners declares and finds that a  
11 significant number of violent crimes occur at convenience stores, and recognizes the  
12 importance of video surveillance systems to ensure the safety and security of  
13 convenience stores and their patrons, and assist in law enforcement investigations; and

14 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to O.C.G.A.§ 36-35-3, municipalities have the power to  
15 adopt clearly reasonable ordinances, resolutions or regulations relating to their property,  
16 affairs, and local government for which no provision has been made by general law and  
17 which are not inconsistent with the state constitution or any applicable charter provision;  
18 and

19 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners fully supports and  
20 encourages all municipalities located within Fulton County, Georgia to adopt ordinances  
21 and laws mandating the use of video surveillance systems (VSS) at convenience stores  
22 within their respective jurisdictions to the extent that such ordinances and laws promote  
23 the public good and general welfare of Fulton County and the municipalities.

24 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fulton County Board of  
25 Commissioners hereby urges all municipalities located within Fulton County to adopt  
26 ordinances and laws mandating the use of video surveillance systems (VSS) at

27 convenience stores within their respective jurisdictions for the benefit and protection of  
28 their residents and visitors consistent with the powers granted to the municipalities by  
29 state and local laws.

30 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners  
31 hereby urges all municipalities located within Fulton County to adopt an ordinance or law  
32 mandating the use of video surveillance systems (VSS) at convenience stores within their  
33 respective jurisdictions that includes the following key provisions:

34 (1) Video Surveillance Requirements:

- 35 • All convenience stores shall maintain a VSS in proper working order twenty-  
36 four (24) hours and seven (7) days per week. Continuous operation of the  
37 VSS is required, including outside of business hours.

38 (2) Minimum Standards for the Placement of Video Cameras:

- 39 • All convenience stores shall maintain video cameras at each register,  
40 entrance and exit, pump, loading dock, and parking lot.

41 (3) Technological Standards for Video Cameras:

- 42 • All convenience store video cameras shall be high-resolution color cameras  
43 capable of providing clear facial features, shall have infrared/night vision  
44 capabilities, shall be 300 PPI or more resolution, and shall be maintained in  
45 the file format preferred by the municipal police department.

46 (4) Video Surveillance Footage Maintenance and Accessibility:

- 47 • All video surveillance footage shall be recorded and maintained for at least  
48 sixty (60) days.

49                   • All video surveillance footage shall be accessible to law enforcement and  
50                   shall be provided to law enforcement within seventy-two (72) hours of a law  
51                   enforcement request.

52           (5) Notice of Presence of a Video Surveillance System:

53                   • Convenience stores shall to prominently display notices informing the public  
54                   of the presence of the video surveillance system, including notices at  
55                   registers and/or counters.

56           (6) Grandfathering:

57                   • There shall be a grace period for existing stores to comply with updated  
58                   standards.  
59                   • If a store currently has a VSS that becomes non-compliant due solely to the  
60                   changes in standards outline in the ordinance, that convenience store shall  
61                   have one-hundred eighty (180) days to bring its system into compliance.

62           (7) Change in Location:

63                   • Convenience stores shall obtain an initial inspection for compliance in the  
64                   new location.

65           (8) Video Surveillance Standards:

66                   • VSS standards shall be updated and published every three (3) years.  
67                   • The updated standards shall be published on the municipality's website,  
68                   and the County's website.  
69                   • The updated standards shall also be communicated to the Board of  
70                   Commissioners by filing with the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners.

71           (9) Monitored Business:

72           • The municipal chief of police may designate certain businesses as  
73           "Monitored Businesses," subject to specific procedures and requirements,  
74           such as installing a VSS and requesting an initial inspection.

75       (10)   Inspections and Noncompliance:

76           • The municipal governing authority shall designate an agency or department  
77           to conduct regular inspections to ensure compliance with the VSS  
78           ordinance or law.

79           • Non-compliant convenience stores must take immediate steps to bring their  
80           video surveillance systems into compliance within sixty (60) days of  
81           notification of a violation.

82           • Failure to bring the VSS into compliance within sixty (60) days of notification  
83           of a violation may result in an enforcement action.

84       (11)   Enforcement Actions and Penalties:

85           • Municipal employees, including code compliance officers and inspectors,  
86           are authorized to issue citations for violations of the ordinance.

87           • Upon citation and conviction of the violation in a court of competent  
88           jurisdiction, which includes the Magistrate Court of Fulton County, the  
89           violator may be subject to fines and/or imprisonment as outlined in the  
90           municipal code. The specific penalties would depend on the nature and  
91           severity of the violation.

92       (12)   Revocation of Monitored Business Designation:

93           • For monitored businesses, failure to comply with VSS requirements may  
94           result in the revocation of their monitored business designation.

