

1 **A RESOLUTION BY THE FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO**
2 **SUPPORT THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO**
3 **CREATE TRANSPARENCY IN POLICING AND TO ADDRESS POLICE BRUTALITY**
4 **AND EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE PERPETRATED AGAINST AFRICAN**
5 **AMERICANS AND OTHER PERSONS OF COLOR; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**
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7 **WHEREAS**, police officers fulfill important roles in our society, including to serve
8 and protect all Americans; and

9 **WHEREAS**, although the vast majority of police officers perform exceptionally,
10 transparency and accountability are valuable both to promote greater public confidence
11 in policing and to ensure the actions of certain police officers do not overshadow the
12 indispensable work done by the overwhelming majority of members of this profession;
13 and

14 **WHEREAS**, excessive force in a police-citizen encounter is among the leading
15 causes of death for young men of color; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Black people, including Black women and girls are killed during
17 police-citizen encounters at disproportionately higher rates than their White peers; and

18 **WHEREAS**, incidents of police brutality and the use of excessive force resulting
19 in the death of young men of color each year, and the demonstrations that followed have
20 brought sustained national attention to the tragic outcomes that can result from
21 encounters between police officers and African-Americans or other people of color; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners believes that all persons
23 should receive equal treatment under our laws and that steps must be taken, and
24 programs must be developed and adopted to reduce and eliminate police brutality and
25 excessive use of force by police officers, especially when they encounter African-
26 Americans or other persons of color; and

27 **WHEREAS**, in 2019, the FBI established the National Use of Force Data
28 Collection, in partnership with law enforcement agencies, to provide nationwide statistics
29 on law enforcement use-of-force incidents, but the program is strictly voluntary, and to
30 date just twenty-seven percent (27%) of agencies have contributed data; and

31 **WHEREAS**, state-based decertification registries can enable law enforcement
32 hiring managers to discern whether law enforcement job candidates have been
33 terminated for misconduct; and

34 **WHEREAS**, Arizona and Nevada have recently established or enhanced their
35 use-of-force reporting requirements to state authorities or the FBI Use-of-Force Data
36 Collection program, with Nevada's law requiring agencies to submit use-of-force incident
37 data to a central state repository and publicly release it monthly; and

38 **WHEREAS**, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, and California have recently
39 enacted laws to establish decertification registries and practices or to enhance existing
40 ones; and

41 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners, to promote better and
42 more transparent policing, and to eliminate incidents of police brutality and excessive
43 use of force, supports legislation providing a legal framework and the necessary capacity
44 for collecting and making publicly available aggregate data on police officers' use of force
45 in accordance with FBI standards; and

46 **WHEREAS**, to eliminate the hiring and retention of bad actors in law enforcement
47 agencies, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners supports legislation in the General
48 Assembly to establish decertification registries and practices.

49 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fulton County Board of
50 Commissioners supports enactment of legislation by the General assembly to eliminate
51 instances of excessive use of force, acts of brutality, and racial profiling, and to also
52 require stringent oversight, reporting, and independent investigations into instances of
53 police brutality, racial profiling, and excessive use of force against African-Americans,
54 other people of color, and other historically marginalized communities.

55 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners
56 calls on State legislators to adopt sound and unbiased law enforcement policies that
57 reduce the disparate impact of police brutality and use of force on African-Americans,
58 other people of color, and other historically marginalized communities, to include but not
59 be limited to, requiring law enforcement agencies in Georgia to participate in the FBI's
60 Use-of-Force Data Collection program, and enacting laws to establish decertification
61 registries and practices or enhance existing ones.

62 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon passage of this Resolution, the Clerk to
63 the Commission is directed to provide a copy of this Resolution to the Fulton County
64 Legislative Delegation.

65 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall become effective upon its
66 adoption and that all resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict with this Resolution
67 are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

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69 **SO PASSED AND ADOPTED**, this 1st day of March, 2023.

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**FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS**

SPONSORED BY:

Marvin S. Arrington, Jr., District 5

ATTEST:

Tonya R. Grier, Clerk to the Commission

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Y. Soo Jo, County Attorney