

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 GEORGIA CITIZENS,
5 ESPECIALLY AFRICAN AMERICANS AND OTHER PERSONS OF COLOR; AND
6 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

7
8 **WHEREAS**, police officers fulfill important roles in our society, including to serve
9 and protect all Americans; and

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

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

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

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

23 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners believes that all persons
24 should receive equal treatment under our laws and that steps must be taken, and
25 programs must be developed and adopted to reduce and eliminate police brutality and

excessive use of force by police officers, especially when they encounter African-Americans or other persons of color; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

72
73
74 FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF
75 COMMISSIONERS

76
77 SPONSORED BY:

78 *Marvin S. Arrington, Jr.*
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80 Marvin S. Arrington, Jr., District 5
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82 ATTEST:

83 *Tonya R. Grier*
84
85 Tonya R. Grier, Clerk to the Commission
86



88 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

89 *Y. Soo Jo*
90 Y. Soo Jo, County Attorney