

## AN ORDINANCE

NO. \_\_\_\_\_

An ordinance amending Sections 2-234 and 2-234.1 of the Columbus Code so as to provide that the Public Safety Advisory Commission will participate in certain training; to provide for Commission review of certain closed investigations of the Columbus Police Department based on use of force reports provided to them; and for other purposes.

THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

### SECTION 1.

Section 2-234 of the Columbus Code is hereby deleted in its entirety and a new Section 2-234 is substituted to read as follows:

“Sec. 2-234 - Duties.

- (a) The Commission shall strive to create a climate of mutual respect and partnership between the community and public safety departments which helps achieve safety, order and justice for all citizens of Columbus.
- (b) The Commission shall attempt to increase communication between public safety departments and the community, leading to a greater understanding of law enforcement operations in Columbus.
- (c) The Commission shall identify public safety policy and resource issues related to law enforcement operations and methods of alternative policing.
- (d) The Commission shall strive to decrease misunderstandings regarding the application of adopted public safety policies and procedures.
- (e) The Commission shall provide recommendations and input related to public safety policies and procedures in an effort to reflect community values.
- (f) The Commission shall assist the Mayor and the Columbus Council in balancing community priorities and resources by advising it on public safety resource issues.
- (g) The Commission shall strive to ensure that the policies and procedures of public safety departments protect the civil rights and liberties of everyone in Columbus.
- (h) The Commission shall promote public safety operations which respect and reflect Columbus' rich culture and diversity.

(i) The Commission shall work to increase communications, understanding and trust between public safety personnel and citizens of Columbus.

(j) The Commission shall encourage problem solving and partnerships between citizens, neighborhoods and public safety departments.

(k) The Commission shall work to provide fair opportunities for citizens and criminal justice professionals to comment and participate with respect to the commission's operations and recommendations to Columbus Council.

(l) The Commission shall make and present an annual written report to the Mayor and Columbus Council regarding its activities.

(m) Commission members shall complete the Columbus Police Department Citizens Law Enforcement Academy (CLEA) training program within 12 months of adoption of this ordinance or within 12 months of taking a seat on the Commission, whichever is later.”

## SECTION 2.

A new Section 2-234.1 is hereby added to the Columbus Code to read as follows:

“Sec. 2-234.1 - Review of Certain Closed Investigations

(a) The Commission shall have authority to review closed investigations where a use of force by any member of the Columbus Police Department is reported. For purposes of this ordinance, an investigation is closed when it is complete and all direct litigation involving such investigation or prosecution has become final or otherwise terminated.

(b) The Commission may present written recommendations to the Mayor of Columbus, Georgia as to any matter relevant to such closed investigation, including recommendations as to further disciplinary action or termination of sworn personnel. Such recommendations shall not be binding upon the Mayor of Columbus, Georgia, but the Mayor may adopt such recommendations or refer such recommendations to the Columbus Police Department for further action.

(c) To facilitate the investigative review provided by this code section, the Police Chief will provide the Commission with a monthly report on all closed cases involving uses of force by any member of the Columbus Police Department.”

## SECTION 3.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

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Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held on the 11th day of August, 2020; introduced a second time at a regular meeting of said council held on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmation vote of \_\_\_\_ members of Council.

Councilor Allen voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Barnes voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Crabb voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Davis voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Garrett voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor House voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Huff voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Thomas voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Thompson voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Woodson voting \_\_\_\_\_.

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Sandra T. Davis  
Clerk of Council

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B.H. "Skip" Henderson, III  
Mayor