

RESOLUTION 2025-084

CITY OF LAKE CITY, FLORIDA

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKE CITY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THAT CERTAIN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN'S AFFAIRS FOR COLLABORATION WITH THE CITY OF LAKE CITY, BY AND THROUGH THE LAKE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT IN PROVIDING CERTAIN LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES; MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS OF FACT IN SUPPORT OF ADOPTING SAID MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING; RECOGNIZING THE AUTHORITY OF THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AND BIND THE CITY TO SAID MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING; DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AND BIND THE CITY TO SAID MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING; DIRECTING THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO JOIN THE MAYOR IN EXECUTING AND BINDING THE CITY TO SAID MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING; REPEALING ALL PRIOR RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida (the "City") and the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, North Florida/South Georgia Veteran's Health System (the "VA") entered into that certain Memorandum of Understanding between the VA and the City pursuant to CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2022-130; and

WHEREAS, the City, finds it is in the City's best interests to revise and renew the Memorandum of Understanding with the VA to provide law enforcement services as described in the attached Memorandum of Understanding between the VA and the City (the "MOU"); and

WHEREAS, the VA and the City mutually and individually desire to enter into the MOU for the purposes of updating and clarifying the terms of the MOU;

WHEREAS, adopting the terms of the MOU in furtherance of fostering continued cooperation between the City, by and through the Lake City Police Department, and the VA to provide certain law enforcement services is in the public interest and in the interests of the City; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida:

1. Adopting the terms of the MOU in furtherance of fostering continued cooperation between the City, by and through the Lake City Police Department, and the VA to provide certain law enforcement services is in the public interest and in the interests of the City.
2. In furtherance thereof, the MOU in the form of the Exhibit attached hereto should be and is approved by the City Council of the City of Lake City; and

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3. The Mayor of the City of Lake City is the officer of the City duly designated by the City's Code of Ordinances to enforce such rules and regulations as are adopted by the City Council of the City of Lake City; and
 4. The Mayor of the City of Lake City is authorized to execute on behalf of and bind the City to the terms of the MOU; and
 5. The Mayor of the City of Lake City is directed to execute on behalf of and bind the City to the terms of the MOU; and
 6. The Chief of the Lake City Police Department is directed to join the Mayor in executing and binding the City to the terms of the MOU
 7. All prior resolutions of the City Council of the City of Lake City in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict; and
 8. This resolution shall become effective and enforceable upon final passage by the City Council of the City of Lake City.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by an affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum present of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, at a regular meeting, this ____ day of June, 2025

BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LAKE CITY,
FLORIDA

Noah E. Walker, Mayor

ATTEST, BY THE CLERK OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF LAKE CITY, FLORIDA:

Audrey Sikes, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Clay Martin, City Attorney



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, NORTH
FLORIDA/SOUTH GEORGIA VETERANS HEALTHCARE SYSTEM
AND
LAKE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into between the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Administration Healthcare System (NF/SG VHS) and the Lake City Police Department, hereinafter referred to as "parties."

1. PURPOSE. To establish general working relationships between the North Florida/South Georgia VHS Police Service and Lake City Police Department as a means of reinforcing interagency coordination and responsibility concerning law enforcement, emergency response, requests for assistance, and physical security and access control operations at Lake City VA Medical Center (VAMC) located at 619 S Marion Avenue Lake City, Florida 32025 and the Lake City VA Outpatient Clinic (OPC) located at 484 SW Commerce Boulevard, Suite 140, Lake City, Florida 32025.

2. REFERENCES.

- a) VA Directive 0730, *Security and Law Enforcement*, 12 December 2012
- b) VA Handbook 0730, *Security and Law Enforcement*, 11 August 2000
- c) Current Jurisdictional Proprietary.

3. GENERAL.

a. Lake City VAMC and Lake City OPC are located in the City of Lake City, Florida. Lake City VAMC and Lake City OPC provide primary, specialty, and extended care to Veterans throughout VHS. The mission of the Lake City VAMC is to provide timely, efficient, ethical, safe, compassionate, and quality health care to Veteran patients.

b. The Lake City Police Department has concurrent jurisdiction with the Federal Government over Lake City VAMC and Lake City OPC properties. This jurisdiction grants local police agencies the authority to jointly enforce Federal and state laws with VA Police on Lake City VAMC and Lake City OPC properties.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES.

a. NF/SG VHS Police Service will:

(1) Maintain law and order and enforce Federal and state laws and VA regulations at the Lake City VAMC and Lake City OPC, including the hospital building

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and designated parking lots, for the protection of property owned or occupied by the VA and persons on the property.

(2) Provide primary initial response to any and all incidents or emergency situations at the Lake City VAMC and Lake City OPC.

b. Lake City Police Department will:

(1) Respond to NF/SG VHS Police Service's requests for assistance. Such assistance may include, but not limited to, the following situations:

(A) Armed hostage taking situations that would require an armed response to assist VA Police in containing the situation until appropriate Federal agencies (such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation - FBI) can respond to assume control.

(B) Crimes involving armed robberies of funds, drugs, or properties where the individuals committing the crimes leave VA police jurisdiction.

(C) Vehicle accident investigations, which may result in non-injuries, injuries, or death involving the VA Police patrol vehicles.

(D) Any major incident that would require additional Officers for traffic control to allow emergency vehicles a clear access to the facility.

(2) Provide additional Officers when needed to assist with the physical arrest of a violent/disorderly person(s) who poses a serious threat to VA patients, visitors, medical staff, or themselves.

(3) Provide assistance in the transportation of prisoner(s) who have been arrested at the Lake City VAMC and Lake City OPC on occasions when there are only two VA police officers on duty.

(4) Authorize access to and use of Lake City Police Department central dispatch and patrol units in the field for VA Police. The parties agree that the access and use of such information is solely limited to official law enforcement purposes and that the process of reprogramming VA radios would be at no cost to the City of Lake City.

(5) Should any VA Police Officer be involved in a shooting, the FBI will be notified immediately. If the FBI declines investigation, or if the FBI response is delayed, Lake City Police Department may provide investigative assistance to NF/SG VHS Police. This assistance may range from establishing, preserving, and controlling the crime scene, to performing as the lead investigative agency.

(6) COMPACT ACT Section 205 Police Crisis Intervention Training for VA Police requires that each VA medical center police service develop a plan to enter *into* partnerships with local mental health organizations and experts, Veteran community organizations, as well as local police departments to share training resources on Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT). This assistance may range from collaborated training and sharing law enforcement to coordinated intervention tactics when there is an extreme crisis involving a veteran(s).

5. ACCEPTANCE & RATIFICATION

a. The provisions of this MOU are effective upon signature and date as indicated below and will be reviewed every 3 years, or as required.

b. This agreement may be unilaterally suspended or cancelled by either side upon giving at least 180 days written notice to the other party.

c. This MOU does not create additional jurisdiction or limit or modify existing jurisdiction vested in the parties. This MOU is intended exclusively to provide guidance and documents an agreement for general support between the parties. Nothing contained herein creates or extends any right, privilege, or benefit to any person or *entity*.

d. Other areas of mutual interest may arise where services and support from one party of this MOU is required by the other party of this MOU. This MOU is not meant to limit those instances nor prohibit cooperation outside the above listed situations set forth and agreed upon.

FOR DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS NORTH FLORIDA/SOUTH GEORGIA
HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

James M. Bishop, Chief of Police
U.S. Dept. Veterans Affairs
NF/SG VA Healthcare System

Date

FOR CITY OF LAKE CITY, FLORIDA

Noah E. Walker, Mayor
City of Lake City, Florida

Date

Gerald Butler, Chief of Police
Lake City Police Department
Lake City, Florida

Date

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