

CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2020-123

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKE CITY, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE CITY, BY AND THROUGH ITS LAKE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO PROVIDE BACKUP LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES AS NEEDED.

WHEREAS, the City of Lake City, Florida (hereinafter the "City"), by and through its Lake City Police Department (hereinafter the "LCPD"), has determined it is in its interest and the interest of its citizens to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Department of Veterans Affairs (hereinafter the "VA") to provide backup law enforcement services as described in the attached memorandum of understanding, incorporated and made a part of this resolution (hereinafter the "MOU").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKE CITY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The above recital is true and accurate and is hereby incorporated herein and made a part of this resolution.

Section 2. The City, by and through the LCPD, is hereby authorized to execute and enter the attached memorandum of understanding with the VA.

(Remainder of page intentionally left blank.)

Section 3. The Mayor and Chief of Police are authorized to execute the attached memorandum of understanding for and on behalf of the City.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a meeting of the City Council this ____ day of November 2020.

CITY OF LAKE CITY, FLORIDA

By: _____
Stephen M. Witt, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGALITY:

By: _____
Audrey Sikes, City Clerk

By: _____
Frederick L. Koberlein, Jr.,
City Attorney



**U. S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
NORTH FLORIDA/SOUTH GEORGIA
VETERANS HEALTH SYSTEM
1601 SW Archer Road
Gainesville, Florida 32608**

October 1, 2020

Chief Argatha Gilmore
Lake City Police Department
225 N.W. Main Boulevard
Lake City, Florida 32055

Dear Chief Gilmore,

1. The Department of Veterans Affairs requires (VA) Police to maintain current written support agreements with all local law enforcement agencies. I am writing to update the Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Veteran Affairs Medical Center (VAMC), located at 619 S. Marion Avenue, Lake City, Florida 32025, which encompasses the Lake City VA Primary Clinic located at 484 SW Commerce Drive, Lake City, FL 32025 and the Lake City Police Department.
2. All properties under the control or ownership of the VA are under concurrent jurisdiction. This jurisdiction grants local civil police agencies full rights to exercise law enforcement functions on VA medical center grounds.
3. For clarity it is imperative that we enter into a memorandum of understanding outlining agency responsibilities and expectations.
4. Although our VA Police Officers are highly trained and experienced in meeting most disturbances and other related police functions without the need for civil intervention or assistance, we may still encounter certain situations that would require your department's assistance.
5. These needs would include, but may not be limited to the following situations where your department's assistance would be required:
 - 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 vehicle.

d. Any major incident that would require additional officers for traffic control to allow emergency vehicles a clear access to the facility.

e. To assist confirming the identification of wanted subjects, arrest and/or detain individuals who have outstanding warrants issued for their arrest by civil law enforcement agencies. VA Police would execute the detention and physical arrest of subjects under Federal warrants.

f. To provide additional officers when needed to assist with the physical arrest of a violent/disorderly person(s) who poses a serious threat to patients, visitors, medical staff, or themselves.

g. Provide assistance in the transportation of prisoner's who have been arrested at the VA Medical Center on occasions when there are only two VA Police officers on-duty.

h. 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, this agreement establishes inter-agency support for the VA Police to receive investigative assistance from the Lake City Police Department. This assistance may range from establishing, preserving and/or controlling the scene, to performing as the lead investigative agency.

Chief Gilmore, if you concur with this support agreement, please sign two copies, retaining a copy for your files and returning a copy to us.

If you should have any questions or concerns regarding this matter or any other issue, please feel free to contact me at 352-548-6000 extension 7033.

We look forward to maintaining a close and professional working relationship with your department.

Sincerely Yours,

Wayne E. NeSmith
Chief, VA Police
North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System

I concur with this agreement: _____

Argatha Gilmore, Chief

Date: _____