

CITY OF GARY, INDIANA
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2020-03
ESTABLISHING A COMMISSION ON
THE REVIEW OF POLICE USE-OF-FORCE
June 11, 2020

WHEREAS, in an effort to Re-Imagine Gary as promised to the residents of Gary, Mayor Jerome Prince is focused on ensuring that Gary is a safe, welcoming, and inclusive City with thriving neighborhoods, communities, businesses, and residents who are equipped for success and proud of their City; and

WHEREAS, in order to achieve these goals, our public agencies, residents, businesses, schools and institutions, non-profits, religious and faith-based organizations, and all other organizations must be able to participate in their City government as we Re-Imagine Gary; and

WHEREAS, public safety is a core foundation of ensuring a safe, welcoming, and inclusive City and trust and accountability of the police department are an absolute requirement of that foundation; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Jerome Prince is aware of the trend in police-involved shootings and excessive force issues leading to 1,003 people being killed nationwide and 17 being killed in Indiana in 2019 alone; and

WHEREAS, nationwide, black Americans are shot at a disproportionate rate, accounting for less than 13 percent of the U.S. population while being killed by police at more than twice the rate of white Americans; and

WHEREAS, in light of these systemic problems most recently highlighted by the killing of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, there remains an urgent need to address issues of police violence and systematic racism in order to transform our justice system in our country; and

WHEREAS, now is the time for our City to re-imagine our use-of-force policies and procedures to be a leader in addressing these issues; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with our promise to Re-Imagine Gary, Mayor Jerome Prince will convene an advisory commission consisting of community members and partners, both existing and potential, to make recommendations for any operational or legislative changes to the City of Gary's use-of-force policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, this advisory commission shall convene to develop recommended strategies and shall report their recommendation to Mayor's Office no later than sixty (60) days from the date of the entry of this Order.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jerome A. Prince, as Mayor and chief executive officer of the City of Gary, hereby call for the assembly of an advisory commission to review the use-of-force policies and procedures by the Gary Police Department as follows:

SECTION 1. The Mayor of the City of Gary shall convene an advisory commission comprised of community members and partners, both existing and potential, which shall make recommendations for any operational or legislative changes to the City of Gary's use-of-force policies and procedures.

SECTION 2. This advisory commission shall convene and provide immediate recommendations to the Mayor within thirty (30) days from the date of the entry of this Order.

SECTION 3. This advisory commission shall additionally prepare present a more comprehensive report of recommendations, following the receipt of community input, by no later than sixty (60) days from the date of the entry of this Order.

SO ORDERED this 11th day June 2020.

THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA

Jerome A. Prince, Mayor

Approved as to form and legality by:

Trent A. McCain
Corporation Counsel