

Resolution No. 2020-13 of the Board of Commissioners of La Porte County, Indiana to circulate Final Report of the President's 2015 Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing

WHEREAS, in light of recent events, calls have understandably increased for creation of task forces, study committees and evaluation of police procedures and adherence to best practices throughout the country, and

WHEREAS, this body has conducted extensive review and determined that a bi-partisan national task force was charged in December 2014 with identifying best practices and offering recommendations on how policing practices can promote effective crime reduction while building public trust, and

WHEREAS, the eleven members of this task force came together with more than 100 individuals from diverse stakeholder groups including law enforcement officers and executives, community members, civic leaders, advocates, researchers, academics and others and submitted testimony and heard from individuals from around the nation in seven different listening sessions, and

WHEREAS, the Final Report, released in 2015, makes recommendations to police departments to ensure fair, safe and effective community policing and provides an exceptional working document to assist law enforcement with how suggested policies and procedures to increase trust, fairness, justice and mutual respect, and

WHEREAS, we know that most police officers report for duty every day with a mission to keep us safe and protect us from harm and we are grateful to the majority of these officers who carry out their mission with dignity and honor and especially to those who give their lives to the cause and who respond unflinchingly to violent crime, mental health crises, people with substance abuse disorders, interpersonal conflicts and intimate partner violence, mass shootings and other tragedies that afflict our nation, and

WHEREAS, there is no panacea to problematic police practices and that each department faces its own challenges and must create its own solutions to meet individual community needs and interests, and

WHEREAS, even as there are exceptional leaders in 'community policing' techniques such as that demonstrated by our own Sheriff and his leadership team, it is helpful to share best practices with others around the state so that all law enforcement leaders and rank-and-file can develop and enforce practices that

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restore confidence in police and ultimately heal wounds and build community trust, and

WHEREAS, we believe the most constructive role we can play is helping disseminate this Final Report to elected officials and law enforcement throughout Indiana who can use the tools and best practices referenced in every department.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LA PORTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT WE:

1. Strongly support the initiatives laid out in the Final Report of the President's Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing and pledge along with our Sheriff to communicate this report to our fellow elected officials and law enforcement leadership throughout Indiana in the hope that the best practices laid out in the report can be adapted in every department, in every community across Indiana: the ultimate goal is fair, safe and effective community policing that respects and protects human life and dignity and ensures safety for all.
2. Will provide this report to the Association of Indiana County Commissioners and we thank the Sheriff for agreeing to supply this to his colleagues at a law enforcement summit to be held Thursday and Friday of this week in Bloomington, Indiana.

ALL OF WHICH IS RESOLVED THIS 3<sup>RD</sup> day of June, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Julie Mettes  
Vedya  
Paul J. M...

Attest: Kristie Duckard  
Chief Deputy Auditor

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