

RESOLUTION NUMBER 19

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen passed Board Bill 208 on April 20, 2015, creating a Civilian Oversight Board for the City of St. Louis to review and investigate reports of abuse and potentially unlawful acts by officers of the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the mayor signed Board Bill 208 into law on May 6, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Board Bill 208 outlines procedures for members of the Civilian Oversight Board to be nominated by members of the Board of Aldermen, appointed by the mayor, and confirmed by the Board of Aldermen after public confirmation hearings by the Public Safety Committee; and

WHEREAS, it is likely that all members of the Civilian Oversight Board will not be confirmed, in place, and able to review and investigate reports of abuse and potentially unlawful acts by officers of the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department until sometime after April or May of 2016; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis, the City of Ferguson, the City of Dellwood, and other municipalities in the region and around the country have seen citizen protests and unrest related to the deaths of numerous unarmed citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis has incurred many millions of dollars in expenses related to policing the large protests in and around St. Louis City and Ferguson; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis has incurred many millions of dollars in expenses over the years from lawsuits related to abuse by police officers and corrections officers; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the citizens and taxpayers of the City of St. Louis for the Board of Aldermen to be proactive in seeking to better the policies and practices of the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department and restore any trust that has been damaged between our police department and our citizens; and

WHEREAS, under the Board of Aldermen Rules, Rule 17(1) states “(a) Special Committee shall be appointed by the President only when requested by a Resolution adopted by the Board. Any Resolution addressed to the establishment of a Special Committee must state the time period in which it shall conclude its assigned task, provided that no such time period shall extend past the end of the current annual session of the Board”; and

WHEREAS, this Board is clearly empowered to enact a special committee related to a specific public safety issue; and

WHEREAS, this special committee shall be formed to examine police-involved shootings occurring in the City of St. Louis from January 2014 to December 2015; and

WHEREAS, this special committee shall have the power to subpoena witnesses and order the production of books and papers and shall conclude its assigned task by the end of the 2015-2016 session of the Board of Aldermen.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen for the City of St. Louis that we direct the President of the Board of Aldermen to appoint a special committee to convene hearings for the purpose of examining police-involved shootings from January 2014 to December 2015 in the City of St. Louis and we further direct the committee to include in such discussion the Director of Public Safety for the City of St. Louis, the Chief of Police of the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, the Circuit Attorney, and all other parties and documents deemed

appropriate and necessary by the special committee.

Introduced on the 21st day of May, 2015 by:

Honorable Antonio D. French Alderman 21st Ward

Adopted this the 21st day of May, 2015 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen