

# DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTION

## FOR CITY COUNCIL'S ADOPTION OF THE VIDEO RELEASE ORDINANCE AS DRAFTED BY THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS** The City of Detroit paved the way for civilian oversight of law enforcement for the United States of America with the establishment of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners in 1974; and must continue to strive to be the benchmark and example of transparency and accountability...  
AND

**WHEREAS** Other cities, such as Detroit's sister City of Chicago, have *progressively* adopted policies and ordinances mandating the timely release videos and supporting documentation related to police use of force incidents... AND

**WHEREAS** The Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, the Detroit City Council, and the public have repeatedly experienced selective, delayed, and redacted fulfillment of video footage from The Detroit Police Department. Currently, video is released "within the Detroit Police Department's Discretion"... AND

**WHEREAS** **PUBLIC SAFETY** is *dependent* upon the establishment and maintenance of transparency with respect to the operations of the Detroit Police Department; and trust and communication between the police department and the community whom it serves... AND

**WHEREAS** The people of the Detroit have an undeniable, and in some cases paramount, interest in being informed, in a timely fashion and based on the most accurate information possible, about how their police department conducts its business, *especially* where the use of force by the police results in the death of, or great bodily harm to, a civilian... AND

**WHEREAS** When police interactions tragically end in the serious injury or death of a civilian and/or a Detroit Police Department member, there is heightened public desire for transparency into what occurred. This transparency is paramount to the public's trust in the police department and the judicial system as a whole.

### NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

The Detroit Board of Police Commissioners urges the Honorable Detroit City Council to approve the Video Release Ordinance for the City of Detroit as drafted and approved by the Board of Police Commissioners on November 30, 2023.

### NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The Detroit Board of Police Commissioners urges the Honorable Detroit City Council to approved future budget requests from the Board of Police Commissioners to secure personnel and technological resources to support the Video Release Ordinance.

VOTED AND APPROVED BY THE DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS ON \_\_\_\_\_