

Chapter 2, Article VI, Division 10
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE POLICE COMMUNITY
RELATIONS COMMISSION

Whereas the City Council of the City of Rock Island has determined that it is in the City's best interest to create a Police Community Relations Commission to promote and nurture a positive relationship between its citizens and members of the police department.

Whereas as a home rule municipality the City of Rock Island is authorized to create a police community relations commission

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ROCK ISLAND, Illinois that The Section of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Rock Island, is hereby amended by adding Division 10 to Chapter 2, Article VI of the City of Rock Island Code of ordinances which shall read as follows:

DIVISION 10. POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION

Sec. 2-271. Generally:

- (a) *Created:* There is hereby created the Rock Island Police Community Relations Commission, referred to in this division as the "Commission," which shall consist of twelve (12) members who are residents of the city. Community leaders will have the opportunity to recommend members to the Mayor, who shall make appointments to the Commission and submit them to the City Council for approval. The membership of the commission shall be broadly representative of the community, including representative of diverse racial, cultural, sexual orientation, and gender groups, and shall include: (1) two current or former members of law enforcement, including the police union representative if they are in agreement, (2) two returning residents or convicted felons, (3) one member of the legal profession, (4) one college/trade school student (18-23 years of age), (5) one high school student, and (6) one member of a trauma-informed profession. Appropriate Commission members will demonstrate integrity, open-mindedness, problem-solving abilities, and a commitment to the main purposes of the Commission.
- (b) *Purpose:* The primary purposes of the Commission are to: (1) build a trusting relationship between law enforcement and communities that have historically lacked trust with law enforcement, (2) provide advice and guidance regarding applicants to the police department who are representative of the community it serves, (3) promote policies and procedures that support just and equitable treatment for all residents regardless of race, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender, sexual orientation, religion, marital status, disability

status, and/or unfavorable discharge from military service, and (4) safeguard the rights of all residents as defined by the Constitution of the United States and state and local laws.

(c) *Objectives:* The objectives of the Commission shall be:

- (1) To receive, review, explore, and gather data through statutory processes on complaints filed by residents against the Rock Island Police Department. Once the Commission's review is complete, the data and recommendations will be presented to the Rock Island Mayor, city council, city manager, Police chief, and Rock Island residents. A mechanism to receive complaints will be established at the police department, city hall, the Martin Luther King Center and online.
- (2) To review the data gathered through statutory processes in all Rock Island Police cases where officer(s) is/are subjected to review from the Rock Island County Integrity Task Force. The Commission's primary responsibility will be to review the incidents and provide feedback on the officers' and residents' actions and provide suggested input on future interactions to prevent future negative outcomes. Once the Commission's review is complete, the Commission will present their completed review to the Rock Island County State's Attorney's Office, Rock Island Mayor, city council, Rock Island Police Chief and Rock Island residents. The Commission will not include case sensitive information to the public that is not already a matter of public record.
- (3) To recommend and implement programs with the Chief of Police that address the diversity of the community and police department.
- (4) To develop procedures to anticipate, prepare for and help ease community discomfort that may arise from police and community tensions.
- (5) To work for greater resident participation in the planning and execution of public policy in all phases of policing within Rock Island
- (6) To host quarterly community meet-and-greets with Rock Island law enforcement and the community as a whole, preferably at different community venues/places.
- (7) To host a community-wide meet-and-greet for all newly hired Rock Island police officers.
- (8) To review data gathered through statutory processes regarding hiring and promotion patterns and decisions and provide recommendations on strategies to attract, recruit, inspire, and prepare the next generation of police officers in Rock Island with a focus on retaining existing resident talent.

(d) *Appointments:* The members of the Commission shall self-nominate or be nominated by community leaders before being appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the city council.

(e) *Term:* Each group of four members shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years, thus always assuring a balance of twelve members. (During the first appointment appointees would serve staggered terms of 1, 2, or 3 years.)

- (f) *Meetings*: The Commission shall meet monthly at city hall or other venues as decided by the chairperson and with increased frequency as decided by the chairperson or majority of the members. A majority of the Commission shall constitute a quorum which shall be required before any business may be conducted. At the _____? meeting of the Commission, Commission members shall elect a chair and vice chair who shall serve for a term of one year. The chair shall not vote except to break ties.

- (g) The chair of the commission, in coordination with the Chief of Police, shall develop written standards for orientation, training, and continuing education for the commission members. All commission members must complete the initial training before participating in any data review.

Sec. 2-272. Duties and Powers:

- (a) *Generally*: The commission shall advise and consult with the Mayor, city manager and city council on all matters involving police community relations.

- (b) *Report*: The Commission shall render an annual report to the Mayor, city council and publicly to Rock Island residents.

- (c) *Community Groups*: The commission shall invite and enlist the cooperation of racial, religious, and ethnic groups, community organizations, fraternal and benevolent societies, veterans' organizations, professional and technical organizations, and other groups in the city in carrying out its work. The Commission may aid in the formation of local community groups in such neighborhoods as it deems necessary or desirable to carry out specific programs designed to lessen tensions or improve understanding in the community.

- (d) *City Departments*: The Commission shall request and receive such cooperation, assistance, and data from city departments through the city manager as is reasonably necessary to carry out its work.

All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed insofar as they do so conflict.

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval, as required by law.

MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ROCK ISLAND

PASSED: _____

APPROVED: _____

ATTEST: _____
CITY CLERK