



RESOLUTION

ESTABLISHING A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESPONSE TASK FORCE TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT TO IMPROVE ITS TRAINING ON, REPORTING, AND MONITORING OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES.

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a widespread community problem that compromises the safety of thousands of families in the City and can have tragic, destructive, and sometimes fatal consequences; and

WHEREAS, according to statistics provided by the Hawaii Department of the Attorney General, from 2008 to 2012, 38.7 percent of murders committed in the state were domestic violence-related; and

WHEREAS, the City's cooperation in a coordinated community response is needed to support domestic violence victims and hold abusers accountable; and

WHEREAS, HRS Sec. 709-906 sets forth police officers' responsive powers with respect to family or household member abuse, including arrest instructions, reporting requirements, and course of action; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women reports that beginning in May 2013 the commission had received over 30 complaints from victims of domestic violence regarding HPD's handling of domestic violence cases; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Women's Legislative Caucus is considering bills regarding domestic violence, healthcare, and reducing sexual assault on college campuses for its 2015 Legislative Package; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a task force to provide recommendations to improve HPD's policies for domestic violence cases would be a valuable process by which to restore the community's sense of trust in its local law enforcement officers and leaders; now, therefore,



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BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that a domestic violence response task force be established to make recommendations for the Honolulu Police Department to improve training on, reporting, and monitoring of domestic violence cases; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to make recommendations for the HPD to undertake relating to:

- 1) Consistency and transparency in reporting domestic violence cases,
- 2) Reducing the number of uninvestigated domestic violence cases, and
- 3) Other measures to improve HPD's handling of domestic violence cases;

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council Chair invite individuals to serve on the task force who represent the following:

The Hawaii Department of the Attorney General's office;

The Honolulu Police Department;

The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney;

The Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women;

The Honolulu County Committee on the Status of Women;

The Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence;

Survivors of domestic violence;

Victim advocates from Victim/Witness Kokua Services or a similar organization;

The Hawaii Department of Public Safety;

The Hawaii Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Services;



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The Hawaii State Judiciary;

The Hawaii State Crime Victim Compensation Commission; and

The Family Justice Center;

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the domestic violence response task force be requested to submit an interim report on its findings and recommendations to the Council and the Hawaii Women's Legislative Caucus no later than May 1, 2015, and a final report no later than December 31, 2015; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force terminate on December 31, 2015; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Council Chair.

INTRODUCED BY:

Carol Fukumasa
M. Kawasaka
Kimberly Rose

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

JAN 30 2015
Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers