

Resolution No. _____

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Spokane requesting that the Mayor and the City administration bargain with the City of Spokane Police Guild and the Spokane Police Lieutenants and Captains Association during any current, pending or future negotiations to grant explicit independent investigatory authority to the Office of Police Ombudsman ~~prior to agreeing to new, amended or supplemental labor contracts.~~

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane Chief of Police commissioned an expert report on police oversight, which recommended that the City create an office of police oversight that had non-disciplinary independent investigatory authority;

WHEREAS, ~~the City of Spokane's Chief of Police and~~ numerous elected officials have endorsed independent investigatory authority for Spokane's Office of Police Ombudsman;

WHEREAS, no Washington Court has ruled that non-disciplinary independent investigatory police oversight is subject to collective bargaining;

WHEREAS, City of Spokane's current ordinance authorizing police oversight does not explicitly preclude independent investigations;

WHEREAS, the power of independent investigation has been shown to increase the effectiveness of police, including fewer and lower claims paid and improved relations between the police and the citizens that employ them in other cities, including Boise;

WHEREAS, the Mayor of Spokane's office has commenced negotiations with the City of Spokane Police Guild for the purpose of creating a new labor agreement;

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane Police Guild maintains that independent investigatory authority may not be granted to the Office of Police Ombudsman without bargaining for it; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Spokane have clearly expressed their desires to their elected officials to include independent investigatory authority in the Office of Police Ombudsman.

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NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Spokane that the City Council requests that the Mayor and the City Administration bargain with the City of Spokane Police Guild and the Spokane Police Lieutenants and Captains Association during any current, pending or future negotiations to grant explicit independent investigatory authority to the Office of Police Ombudsman ~~prior to agreeing to new collective bargaining contracts.~~

PASSED by the City Council this _____ day of October, 2009.

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Michael J. Pevich
Assistant City Attorney

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