

1 **RESOLUTION URGING FULTON COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERS TO**
2 **REINFORCE AND ENACT ADDITIONAL POLICIES LIMITING ALL PERSONNEL**
3 **FROM EMPLOYING DEADLY FORCE TO ONLY THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES**
4 **WHERE A THREAT OF DEATH OR SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY TO THE**
5 **OFFICER OR OTHERS IS IMMINENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**
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7 **WHEREAS**, minorities, not only in history, but in our current time, have
8 consistently been devalued and dehumanized by authorities in the criminal justice
9 system; and
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11 **WHEREAS**, African-Americans are disproportionately represented among the
12 victims of police shootings; and
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14 **WHEREAS**, although African-Americans represent approximately 13 percent of
15 the population in the United States, in parts of the country they constitute 60 to 85
16 percent of the victims of police shootings; and
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18 **WHEREAS**, on average, African-Americans are more than six times as likely as
19 Whites to be shot by police, and in large cities are killed by police at least three times
20 more often than Whites; and
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22 **WHEREAS**, Latinos (or Hispanics) are about twice as likely as Whites to be shot
23 and killed by police;
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25 **WHEREAS**, the theory of unconscious racism suggests that racial stereotypes
26 operate at a subconscious level to influence a police officer's decision to use deadly
27 force; and
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29 **WHEREAS**, on June 12, 2020, the murder of another unarmed black man,
30 Rayshard Brooks, while fleeing from the police with a non-lethal weapon in his hand,
31 immediately upon the heels of the death of George Floyd, also at the hands of law
32 enforcement, has caused protestors in metro Atlanta and across the country to protest

1 their deaths and the ongoing systemic racism that appears to be woven into the fabric
2 of the criminal justice system in the United States; and

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4 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners supports policies that
5 reduce the unnecessary use of force by police, enhance implicit-bias and de-escalation
6 training, expand civilian oversight of Fulton County Law Enforcement agencies and
7 improve relations between police and those they serve; and

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9 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners of
10 Fulton County urges the Fulton County Sheriff, the Fulton County Police Chief and the
11 Fulton County Marshal to affirm their commitment to the community and reinforce or
12 create policies, training, practices and a culture which support the de-escalation of the
13 use of force such that all personnel shall modify their level of force in relation to the
14 amount of resistance offered by a suspect, to include lowering the amount or type of
15 force used as a suspect offers less resistance.

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17 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County
18 urges that the use of deadly force be limited to only those situations where a suspect
19 has committed or is in the process of committing a felony involving the infliction or
20 threatened infliction of serious physical injury or death; and the escape of the suspect
21 would pose an imminent danger of death or serious physical injury to the officer or to
22 another person unless the suspect is apprehended without delay; and the officer has
23 given a verbal warning to the suspect, if time, safety, and circumstances permit.

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25 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County
26 urges that each incident involving the use of deadly force by a Fulton County Deputy
27 Sheriff, Police Officer or Deputy Marshal be reported and thoroughly investigated and
28 that all such incidents being found to violate either the letter and/or spirit of the law
29 result in appropriate punishment up to and including termination of employment,
30 recommended loss of law enforcement certification, and appropriate reporting of
31 potential criminal activity to the Fulton County District Attorney.

