

INTRODUCED: October 10, 2023

AN ORDINANCE No. 2023-314

To authorize the City Attorney to file an appropriate petition pursuant to Va. Code § 23.1-815(B)(iv) for concurrent jurisdiction by the City's Department of Police and the campus police force of Virginia Commonwealth University in certain designated areas.

Patrons – Ms. Lynch, Ms. Robertson, Ms. Lambert, Ms. Trammell and Vice President Nye

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: NOV 13 2023 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, the City Council has received a request dated October 2, 2023, from the Chief of Police, representing the City's Department of Police, for concurrent jurisdiction by the City's Department of Police and the campus police force of Virginia Commonwealth University in the areas designated in the map entitled "Proposed Expansion of VCU PD jurisdiction into Randolph & Oregon Hill," dated September 11, 2023, a copy of which is attached to and made a part of this ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE,

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

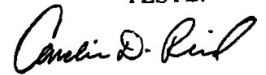
AYES: 9 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN:

ADOPTED: NOV 13 2023 REJECTED: STRICKEN:

§ 1. That the City Attorney, on behalf of the City Council of the City of Richmond, is authorized to file an appropriate petition pursuant to section 23.1-815(B)(iv) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, for concurrent jurisdiction by the City's Department of Police and the campus police force of Virginia Commonwealth University in the areas designated in the map entitled "Proposed Expansion of VCU PD jurisdiction into Randolph & Oregon Hill," dated September 11, 2023, a copy of which is attached to and made a part of this ordinance, and to take such steps as may be necessary to secure approval by the Circuit Court of the City of Richmond of such petition.

§ 2. This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.

**A TRUE COPY:
TESTE:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caroleen D. Reed".

City Clerk



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

Ordinance/Resolution Request

TO Laura Drewry, City Attorney

THROUGH LaTasha Holmes, Council Chief of Staff

FROM Steven Taylor, Council Policy Analyst

COPY Stephanie Lynch, 5th District Council Member
Amy Robins, 5th District Liaison
Tabrica Rentz, Deputy City Attorney

DATE August 24, 2023

PAGE/s 1 of 2

TITLE Directing the City Attorney to Petition Courts for Expanded
Concurrent Jurisdiction the VCU Police Department pursuant to Va.
Code Section 23.1-815(B)(vi).

This is a request for the drafting of an **Ordinance** ☒ **Resolution** ☐

REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON

SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE

Stephanie Lynch

Public Safety Committee

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY

The patron requests that legislation be drafted authorizing the City Attorney to file an appropriate petition for concurrent jurisdiction by the City's Police Department and the Virginia Commonwealth University's Police Department in the areas of the City as shown on the attached map, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 23.1-815(B)(iv).

BACKGROUND

The City's Police Department and VCU's Police Department have shared concurrent jurisdiction in the city in certain areas of the city for some 35 years. Over that period the concurrent jurisdiction has grown as the University has grown and expanded. The attached map includes the neighborhoods of Randolph and Oregon Hill. Many VCU students, faculty, and staffers are known to live in these areas. The last expansion of the concurrent jurisdiction was done in 2018. See, Ord. 2018-336.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Fiscal Impact Yes ☐ No ☒

Budget Amendment Required Yes ☐ No ☒

Estimated Cost or Revenue Impact \$ N/A

Note: N/A

Attachment/s Yes ☒ No ☐ **Map and Letter from Council Member Lynch**



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

RICHMOND CENTRAL 5TH VOTER DISTRICT **The Honorable Stephanie A. Lynch** Councilmember, Richmond Central 5th Voter District

November 1, 2022

Interim Chief Richard Edwards
Richmond Police Department
200 West Grace Street
Richmond, Virginia 23220

Dear Interim Chief Edwards:

Thank you for your willingness to step up to lead the Richmond Police Department during this transition.

My office has been in discussion with Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) regarding the expansion of their police department's (PD) juridical footprint. Currently, the Oregon Hill and Randolph communities house many VCU students. They are the only neighborhoods surrounding VCU that are not within VCU PD's jurisdiction.

Both communities enjoy the life that VCU students bring to the neighborhood, however, at times they can be a bit too lively. Over the years, neighbors have watched numerous fraternities and sororities as well as general student population host parties, concerts, and fireworks shows that have led to fights, fires and guns being fired.

VCU PD has been great in partner to the civic associations of both communities in helping remind students that they are held to the same Code of Conduct on and off campus. The lack of immediate feedback from VCU PD to the students is felt by all. We wish to see the City of Richmond grant VCU PD further jurisdiction over Oregon Hill and Randolph neighborhoods to help combat the party complaints students are generating for the Richmond Police Department.

Once again, thank you for your service to the City of Richmond. I truly look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Stephanie A. Lynch
Councilmember



CITY OF RICHMOND
POLICE DEPARTMENT
RICHARD G. EDWARDS
CHIEF OF POLICE

October 2, 2023

John Marshall Courts Building
400 North 9th Street
Richmond, VA 23219

To the Honorable Judge of the Circuit Court,

The Richmond Police Department was approached by residents and the Richmond City Council to request expansion of the Virginia Commonwealth University Police Department's concurrent jurisdiction in the areas designated in the map entitled "VCU Proposed Expanded Jurisdiction". This expansion will better help serve the Virginia Commonwealth University students and Richmond residents in the Oregon Hill and Randolph neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Chief Richard Edwards
Richmond Police Department
City of Richmond, Virginia

Proposed Expansion of VCU PD jurisdiction into Randolph & Oregon Hill—September 11, 2023

