

INTRODUCED: December 17, 2018

AN ORDINANCE No. 2018-336

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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patron – Mayor Stoney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approved as to form and legality  
by the City Attorney  
\_\_\_\_\_

PUBLIC HEARING: JAN 28 2019 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, the City Council has received a request dated December 5, 2018, 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 “VCU Proposed Expanded Jurisdiction,” and undated;  
NOW, THEREFORE,

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 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

AYES:            7            NOES:            2            ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTED:    JAN 28, 2019    REJECTED: \_\_\_\_\_    STRICKEN: \_\_\_\_\_

the campus police force of Virginia Commonwealth University in the areas designated in the map entitled “VCU Proposed Expanded Jurisdiction,” and undated, 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.



CITY OF RICHMOND
INTRACITY CORRESPONDENCE

O & R REQUEST
4-8411
DEC 06 2018
Office of the
Chief Administrative Officer

O&R REQUEST

DATE: December 5, 2018

EDITION: 2

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

THROUGH: Levar M. Stoney, Mayor

Handwritten signature and date 12/7/18

FROM: Alfred Durham, Chief of Police

Handwritten signature

RE: EXPANSION OF VCU CONCURRENT JURISDICTION

RECEIVED
DEC 07 2018
OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY

ORD. OR RES. No. \_\_\_\_\_

PURPOSE:

To authorize the City Council, on behalf of the Chief of Police, to file a petition with the Circuit Court of the City of Richmond, expanding the concurrent jurisdiction of the Virginia Commonwealth University Police Department ("VCUPD").

REASON:

Section 23.1-815(B) of the Code of Virginia authorizes campus police officers to be deemed police officers of localities who may exercise the powers and duties conferred by law upon such police officers, upon approval by the appropriate circuit court of a petition by the local governing body for concurrent jurisdiction in designated areas with the police officers of the locality in which the institution, its satellite campuses, or other properties are located. The local governing body may only petition the circuit court for concurrent jurisdiction pursuant to a request by the local law-enforcement agency.

Since VCUPD was granted its initial concurrent jurisdiction, the Virginia Commonwealth University ("VCU") has acquired new buildings, moved certain university operations and continues to consider acquisition of other properties in the City.

Based on this information, the Richmond Police Department ("RPD") requests that the Richmond City Council petition the Richmond City Circuit Court to expand the concurrent jurisdiction of VCUPD to the area bounded on the attached map.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The City Administration recommends adoption of this ordinance.

**BACKGROUND:**

The VCU Police Department has shared expanded concurrent law enforcement jurisdiction with the City of Richmond Police Department for over 30 years. Over that duration the jurisdictional geography has been expanded at least three times. The expansion of law enforcement jurisdiction has been driven by the growth of Virginia Commonwealth University. The last law enforcement jurisdictional expansion took place in December 1999. VCU's geography continues to expand outside of the current jurisdictional boundaries mainly due to property acquisitions and expansion of the institution. In October 2016 VCU Police centrally located their police headquarters at Third and Broad Street in the heart of downtown Richmond. This strategic placement centrally located the VCU Police Department equally between both the academic and medical campuses.

VCU has also entered into a transportation agreement with GRTC which affords VCU community members use of the entire GRTC network to include the Pulse rapid transportation which connects both campuses. This request will give VCU Police the authority to take law enforcement action in the newly defined jurisdictional boundary, typically in exigent circumstances or when contacted by members of the VCU community housed or located in the new jurisdictional boundary. VCU owns or controls at least 25 properties within the expanded jurisdictional boundary.

It is important to emphasize that the primary law enforcement responsibility in the new expanded jurisdictional area would remain the primary responsibility of the City of Richmond Police Department. VCU Police enjoy an exceptional working relationship and partnership with the City of Richmond Police Department. VCU assists Richmond Police in many joint enforcement efforts to include joint patrols, major event coverage, routine patrols and assistance on traffic stops. During the period of January 2017 through May 2018 VCU Police assisted Richmond Police over 1900 times in the existing jurisdictional boundary.

**COST TO CITY:** None

**REVENUE TO CITY:** None

**DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:** Upon adoption

**REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE:** December 10, 2018

**CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE:** January 28, 2018

**REQUESTED AGENDA:** Consent Agenda

**RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE:** Public Safety Standing Committee

**CONSIDERATION BY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES:** None

O&R Request

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**AFFECTED AGENCIES:** None

**RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.:** None

**REQUIRED CHANGES TO WORK PROGRAM(S):** None

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Map of area of concurrent jurisdiction

**STAFF:**

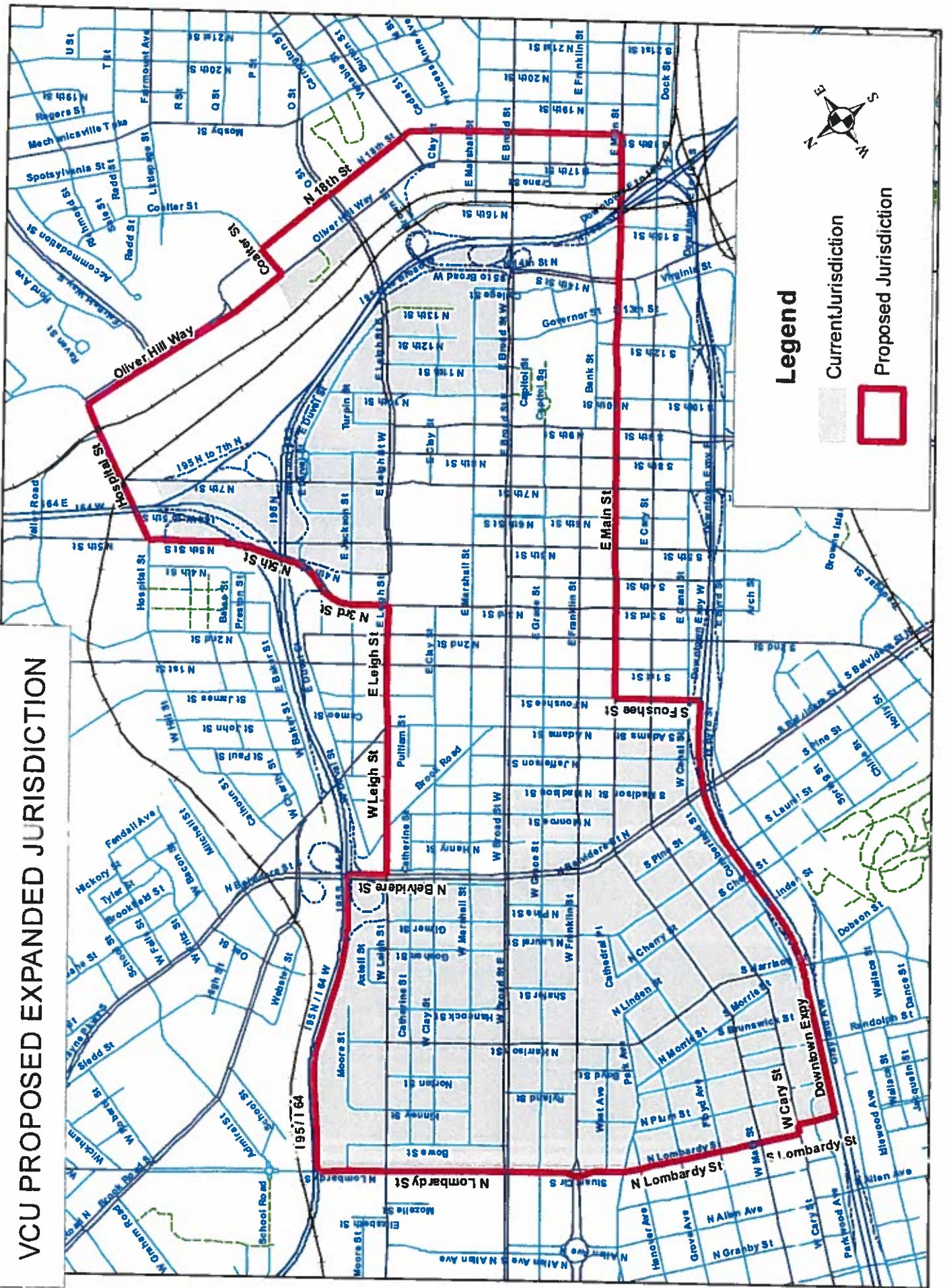
David Mitchell, Esq.

Office of General Counsel

Richmond Police Department

804-646-5528

# VCU PROPOSED EXPANDED JURISDICTION



## Legend

Current Jurisdiction



Proposed Jurisdiction

