

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE ADMINISTRATION IMPLEMENT A DEKALB COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT LGBTQ+ POLICE LIAISON POSITION, REQUIRE HATE CRIMES IDENTIFICATION TRAINING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, the DeKalb County Governing Authority is committed to equality and safety for all DeKalb County residents and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2023, DeKalb County passed a Non-Discrimination Ordinance that prohibits “the practice of discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, genetic information, familial status, political affiliation, political opinion, sexual orientation, parental status, gender identity, marital status, or protective hairstyle in places of public accommodation...;” and

**WHEREAS**, the FBI’s 2023 Crime in the Nation Statistics report shared that “national violent crime decreased an estimated 3.0% in 2023 compared to 2022 estimates” but data shared hate crimes relating to a victim’s “sexual orientation” increased and hate crimes relating to a victim’s “gender-identity” increased in 2023 compared to 2022 estimates; and

**WHEREAS**, in a 2024 study conducted by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) titled “Policing Progress: Findings from a National Survey of LGBTQ+ People’s Experiences with Law Enforcement,” they found “LGBTQ+ people are less likely to report their victimization to the police, despite higher rates of victimization;” and

**WHEREAS**, Pride Month is celebrated yearly in June to celebrate LGBTQ+ communities, honor the movement for LGBTQ+ rights, and to commemorate the Stonewall Inn uprisings on June 28, 1969. The Stonewall Inn uprisings demonstrates a history of the LGBTQ+ community’s fraught relationship with police as this event was a series of protests and acts of resistance to police raids of the gay bar; and

**WHEREAS**, several municipalities across the country have established a LGBTQ+ Police Department Liaison, including the City of Chamblee and the City of Atlanta, to act as a bridge between the LGBTQ+ community and the police department with the goals of further building trust and encouraging community engagement; and

**WHEREAS**, hate crimes identification training is crucial to ensure police officers are equipped to fully identify and report hate crimes; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2023, Georgia Equality developed an Equality Progress Report for DeKalb County and recommended DeKalb County implement a “LGBTQ Police Liaison Position” and “require hate crimes identification training for law enforcement and ensure compliance with FBI UCR annually” to further ensure equality and build a more welcoming DeKalb County for all citizens and visitors.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners request the Administration to take specific actions, as follows:

1. Implement a DeKalb County Police Department LGBTQ+ Police Liaison Position that will serve as a bridge between the DeKalb County Police Department and the LGBTQ+ Community.
2. Hire or assign an officer to the DeKalb County Police Department LGBTQ+ Police Liaison Position.

3. Coordinate the participation in LGBTQ+ police liaison training and other necessary trainings for this role.
4. Require hate crimes identification training for law enforcement to be able to fully identify hate crimes and ensure compliance with FBI UCR annually.

**ADOPTED** by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

---

**MICHELLE LONG SPEARS**  
Presiding Officer  
Board of Commissioners  
DeKalb County, Georgia

**APPROVED** by the Chief Executive Officer, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

---

**LORRAINE COCHRAN-JOHNSON**  
Chief Executive Officer  
DeKalb County, Georgia

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO SUBSTANCE:

---

**BARBARA SANDERS-NORWOOD**  
County Clerk  
Board of Commissioners and  
Chief Executive Officer

---

**ZACH WILLIAMS**  
Chief Operating Officer  
DeKalb County, Georgia

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

---

**WILLIAM J. LINKOUS III**

County Attorney  
DeKalb County, Georgia