

## **Resolution to Establish Mandatory Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) Continuing Education for DeKalb County Police Officers**

WHEREAS, the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of effective crisis intervention when dealing with individuals experiencing mental health crises or emotional distress; and

WHEREAS, Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) equips law enforcement officers with the necessary skills and knowledge to respond safely and appropriately to mental health-related incidents; and

WHEREAS, ongoing training and education are crucial to ensuring officers maintain and enhance their crisis intervention capabilities; and

WHEREAS, the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners aims to promote the highest standards of public safety and community well-being;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

### Section 1: Adoption of Policy

The DeKalb County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts a policy that mandates continuing education on Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for all DeKalb County police officers every three years.

### Section 2: Training Requirements

2.1 The continuing education program on CIT shall be developed in collaboration with mental health professionals, law enforcement agencies, and relevant stakeholders.

2.2 The training curriculum shall encompass the following core components:

- a) Mental health awareness, including recognizing signs and symptoms of mental illness.
- b) Effective de-escalation techniques and communication strategies.
- c) Understanding the legal rights of individuals in crisis and appropriate referral procedures.
- d) Collaborative approaches between law enforcement and mental health professionals.

2.3 The continuing education program shall incorporate both theoretical knowledge and practical exercises to reinforce crisis intervention skills.

### Section 3: Implementation

3.1 The DeKalb County Police Department shall be responsible for administering and overseeing the implementation of the CIT continuing education program.

3.2 Adequate resources shall be allocated to ensure the availability of qualified instructors, necessary materials, and training facilities.

3.3 The program shall be designed to accommodate the scheduling and operational needs of the police department while ensuring the timely completion of required training.

Section 4: Reporting and Compliance

4.1 The DeKalb County Police Department shall maintain records of officers' completion of CIT continuing education and report on compliance annually to the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners.

4.2 Non-compliance with the mandated CIT continuing education requirements may result in appropriate disciplinary actions, as determined by the DeKalb County Police Department.

Section 5: Evaluation and Improvement

5.1 The DeKalb County Police Department shall regularly evaluate the effectiveness of the CIT continuing education program, seeking feedback from officers and mental health professionals.

5.2 Based on evaluation outcomes, necessary adjustments, and enhancements shall be made to the training curriculum to ensure its ongoing relevance and efficacy.

Section 6: Effective Date

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners.

**ADOPTED** by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

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**ROBERT PATRICK**  
Presiding Officer  
Board of Commissioners  
DeKalb County, Georgia

**APPROVED** by the Chief Executive Officer, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

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**MICHAEL L. THURMOND**  
Chief Executive Officer  
DeKalb County, Georgia

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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**BARBARA H. SANDERS-NORWOOD, CCC**  
County Clerk  
Board of Commissioners and  
Chief Executive Officer

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**VIVIANE H. ERNSTES**  
County Attorney  
DeKalb County, Georgia