

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 OF THE CITY CODE TO PROHIBIT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF POLICE TICKET AND ARREST QUOTAS

#0049

Sponsor:

Council
Member
Spadola

WHEREAS, President Obama's Taskforce on 21st Century Policing recommended that municipalities refrain from practices requiring police officers to issue a pre-determined number of tickets, or to initiate investigative contacts with citizens for reasons other than public safety (*e.g.*, to generate revenue or establish performance metrics); and

WHEREAS, Section 5-200 of the City Charter gives the City of Wilmington Police Department the power to prevent and detect crime, enforce traffic statutes, ordinances and regulations relating thereto; and

WHEREAS, Section 5-201 of the City Charter gives the City of Wilmington Police Department the power to make lawful searches, seizures and arrests for violation of any statutes or ordinances in force in the City; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Wilmington believes police quotas are harmful to police and community relations; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Wilmington believes excessive ticket citations clog the judicial system and waste valuable judicial resources; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Wilmington believes the City of Wilmington Police Department's focus should be on public safety, rather than revenue generation or using quotas as a performance metric; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Wilmington does not believe the City of Wilmington Police Department currently has a quota system, but wants to prevent one from being instituted.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON

HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 2 of the City Code is hereby amended by adding in Section 2-13, to read as follows:

Sec. 2-13. – Arrest and Ticket Quota Requirements; Prohibited.

The City of Wilmington Police Department, by and through any of its employees, shall not have the power or authority to order, mandate, require, or in any other manner, directly or indirectly, suggest that any law enforcement officer shall comply with a “quota” or objective system requiring the issuance of a certain civil citations, tickets, criminal arrests (or any other type of citation), or conduct a certain number of investigative stops within any increment of time (*e.g.*, hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, or yearly).

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its passage by City Council and approval by the Mayor.

First Reading.....April 1, 2021
Second Reading.....April 1, 2021
Third Reading.....

Passed by City Council,

President of City Council

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Approved this ____ day of _____, 2021.

Mayor

SYNOPSIS: This Ordinance amends the City Code to prohibit the City Police Department from establishing ticket and arrest quotas.

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