

6.

By Legislators Felder and Boyce

Intro. No. \_\_\_\_\_

LOCAL LAW NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF 2020

**ENACTING A LOCAL LAW TO REPEAL LOCAL LAW NO. 9 OF 2019 (INTRO. NO. 297 OF 2019), ENTITLED "PROHIBITED HARASSMENT OF A POLICE OFFICER, PEACE OFFICER OR FIRST RESPONDER IN MONROE COUNTY"**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF MONROE, as follows:

Section 1. Local Law 9 of 2019 (Intro. No. 297 of 2019), "Prohibited Harassment of a Police Officer, Peace Officer or First Responder in Monroe County," is hereby repealed.

Section 2. This local law shall take effect upon filing in the office of the Secretary of State as provided by Section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Agenda/Charter Committee; February 24, 2020 - CV: 5-0  
File No. 20-0088.LL

ADOPTION: Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

ACTION BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ VETOED: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

EFFECTIVE DATE OF RESOLUTION: \_\_\_\_\_

*Monroe County*  
*Clerk of the Legislature*

**Jack Moffitt**  
Clerk



**David Grant**  
Deputy Clerk

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Legislators, Directors, Staff and Media  
**FROM:** Jack Moffitt, Clerk of the Legislature *JM*  
**DATE:** February 13, 2020  
**RE:** Matter of Importance – File No. 20-0088

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**20-0088 -** Enact a Local Law to Repeal Local Law No. 9 of 2019 (Intro. No. 297 of 2019), Entitled “Prohibited Harassment of a Police Officer, Peace Officer or First Responder in Monroe County” – As a Matter of Importance – Democratic Minority Leader Vincent R. Felder and Legislator Karla F. Boyce

This referral was not made to committee at the preceding meeting of the Legislature on February 11, 2020, but has been determined by President Dr. Joe Carbone to be of sufficient importance to warrant referral between Legislative meetings, pursuant to Section 545-24 (C) of the Rules of the Monroe County Legislature.

Attachments



# Monroe County Legislature

VINCENT R. FELDER  
MINORITY LEADER

KARLA F. BOYCE  
LEGISLATOR – DISTRICT 5

February 13, 2020

To The Honorable  
Monroe County Legislature  
39 West Main Street  
Rochester, New York 14614

<b>OFFICIAL FILE COPY</b>
No. <b>200088</b>
Not to be removed from the Office of the Legislature Of Monroe County
Committee Assignment
<b>AGENDA/CHARTER -L</b>

**RE: Enact a Local Law to Repeal Local Law No. 9 of 2019 (Intro. No. 297 of 2019),  
Entitled “Prohibited Harassment of a Police Officer, Peace Officer or First  
Responder in Monroe County”**

Honorable Legislators:

Last year, this Honorable Body adopted a Republican sponsored local law on a party-line vote, aimed at further deterring harassment towards first-responders. The intent of the sponsors was to improve the safety of first-responders. They recognized that first-responders answer the call each day – often putting themselves in harm’s way. They sought to provide additional protections to ensure they return to home safely at the end of each day.

While the intentions behind the local law were genuine, there were valid, unforeseen concerns and consequences. Never was the intention to undermine police-community relations nor disparage minorities and persons of color. These negative impacts undermine the true intent of the law, which was to improve the overall safety of the community and first-responders.

Public feedback holds a significant weight on the matters considered by this Honorable Body. In the month that lapsed between when this local law was first introduced (October 8, 2019) and its adoption (November 12, 2019), there was limited feedback with only two individuals speaking at the Public Hearing held prior to adoption. It was not until after adoption of the local law that this Honorable Body received much of the negative feedback. Of additional concern, the perceived vagueness of the local law by the public and law enforcement could potentially criminalize constitutionally protected conduct.

Therefore, in light of additional legal research and further community conversations, we are recommending that this Honorable Body repeal Local Law No. 9 of 2019 (Intro. No. 297 of 2019), entitled “Prohibited Harassment of a Police Officer, Peace Officer or First Responder in Monroe County.”

**The specific legislative actions required are:**

1. Schedule and hold a Public Hearing on the proposed Local Law.
2. Enact a Local Law to Repeal Local Law entitled “Prohibited Harassment of a Police Officer, Peace Officer or First Responder in Monroe County.”

This action is a Type II Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.5 and is not subject to review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

This proposal will have no associated cost and no impact upon the expenditures and revenues of the Monroe County Budget.

Respectfully Submitted,



Vincent R. Felder  
Minority Leader  
District 22



Karla F. Boyce  
Monroe County Legislator  
District 5

By Legislators \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Intro. No. \_\_\_\_\_

LOCAL LAW NO. \_\_\_\_ OF 2020

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Agenda/Charter Committee; February 24, 2020 – CV: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_  
File No. 20-\_\_\_\_\_.LL

ADOPTION: Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

ACTION BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ VETOED: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LOCAL LAW: \_\_\_\_\_