



Monroe County Legislature

KARLA F. BOYCE
DISTRICT 5

KARA C. HALSTEAD
DISTRICT 18

October 8, 2019

To the Honorable
Monroe County Legislature
407 County Office Building
Rochester NY, 14614

OFFICIAL FILE COPY
No. 190240
Not to be removed from the Office of the Legislature Of Monroe County
Committee Assignment
URGENT -L

Subject: Enacting Local Law Entitled "Prohibited Harassment of a Police Officer, Peace Officer or First Responder in Monroe County"

Honorable Legislators:

First Responders are vital members in our community. Each day they go to work and serve the residents of our community while risking their lives and keeping us safe. They often miss weekends, holidays and many of the events that we take for granted in order to protect the greater good. Their public service should be commended and respected.

Unfortunately, in Monroe County and across the State we are hearing stories of Police Officers and other First Responders being attacked or otherwise put in danger by members of the public. Just last month, an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) worker responded to a roadside incident and was bitten by two persons that the EMS worker tried to help. And across the State, we have heard reports of civilians throwing water at on-duty police officers.

Here in Monroe County, we have the opportunity to be leaders and to stand with our First Responders who protect residents each and every day. We believe it is imperative for Monroe County to make it clear that we will not stand for any interference in the work of our Police Officers and other First Responders. We must strive to keep our Police Officers and other First Responders safe and free from needless distractions, so that in turn, they can continue to keep us safe.

Therefore, we propose favorable action from the Monroe County Legislature to put in place additional protections for our Police Officers, Peace Officers and First Responders. Under this law, a violation will constitute an unclassified misdemeanor punishable by up to one year of imprisonment and/or a fine of up to \$5,000.00.

The specific legislative action required is

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

This Local Law will have no impact on the revenues or expenditures of the current Monroe County Budget.

We recommend that this matter receive favorable action by Your Honorable Body.

Sincerely,



Karla F. Boyce
Monroe County Legislature
District 5



Kara C. Halstead
Monroe County Legislature
District 18

By Legislators Boyce and Halstead

Intro. No. ____

LOCAL LAW NO. ____ OF 2019

ENACTING LOCAL LAW ENTITLED "PROHIBITED HARASSMENT OF A POLICE OFFICER, PEACE OFFICER OR FIRST RESPONDER IN MONROE COUNTY"

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

Section 1. A person is guilty of harassing a police officer, peace officer or first responder when he or she intentionally engages in conduct against a police officer, peace officer or first responder, that intends to annoy, alarm or threaten the personal safety of the police officer, peace officer or first responder.

Section 2. The action must occur when such police officer, peace officer or first responder is in the course of performing his or her official duties and the person committing such act knows or reasonably should know that such person is a police officer, peace officer or first responder.

Section 3. Violation of this law shall constitute an unclassified misdemeanor punishable by up to one year of imprisonment and/or a fine of up to \$5,000.00.

Section 4. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or part of this law or the application thereof to any person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this law, or in its application to the person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance directly involved in the controversy in which such order or judgment shall be rendered.

Section 5. This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the office of the Secretary of State.

Matter of Urgency
File No. 19-____ LL

ADOPTION: Date: _____ Vote: ____

ACTION BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: _____ VETOED: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LOCAL LAW: _____