

RESOLUTION NO. 18-050

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
CARSON, CALIFORNIA, CALLING FOR THE STATE
LEGISLATURE TO AUTHORIZE OR ESTABLISH AN
ADVOCATE FOR JUSTICE PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, county District Attorneys hold prosecutorial discretion in determining whether or not to prosecute a peace officer involved in the use of deadly force; and

WHEREAS, the numerous individual District Attorneys in each of California's 58 counties who hold prosecutorial discretion over matters involving peace officers' use of deadly force leads to significant inconsistencies in the investigation and exercise of prosecutorial discretion; and

WHEREAS, in addressing the recent instance of peace officers' use of deadly force resulting in the death of 22-year of Stephan Clark, Sacramento Police Chief Daniel Hahn called for the California Attorney General to investigate the matter to restore trust that his department is not above the law; and

WHEREAS, there is a public perception that peace officers are given too much legal latitude to use deadly force without fear of punishment; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires to call on the California State Legislature to establish an Advocate for Justice Program to facilitate consistency in implementation of the standards for investigating and exercising prosecutorial discretion over matters involving peace officers' use of deadly force; and

WHEREAS, an Advocate for Justice Program that requires each county to have a Public Advocate for Justice to work with the District Attorneys on matters involving peace officers' use of deadly force would provide more independence to the process of investigating law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, a Public Advocate for Justice that works with the District Attorneys on matters involving peace officers' use of deadly force would bring transparency to a process that has been criticized as biased; and

WHEREAS, a Public Advocate for Justice that works with the District Attorneys would provide consistency in balancing the rights of individuals and peace officers in matters involving peace officers' use of deadly force.

**NOW, THEREFORE THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA DOES HEREBY
RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. That the foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated by this reference as findings in support of the actions taken herein.

Section 2. That the City Council hereby calls on the California State Legislature to authorize or establish an Advocates for Justice Program to facilitate consistency in implementation of the standards for investigating and exercising prosecutorial discretion over matters involving peace officers' use of deadly force.

Section 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Resolution and enter it into the book of original Resolutions. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage and adoption.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Carson, California, at a regular meeting held on the 17th day of APRIL 2018.

ATTEST:

Mayor Albert Robles

City Clerk Donesia Gause

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney Sunny K. Soltani