

February 10, 2021

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Paula Boggs Muething, City Manager

SM for PBM

202100598

Subject: Emergency Ordinance – Acceptance of Donation from Blue Line Foundation

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

AUTHORIZING the City Manager to accept a donation from the Blue Line Foundation of an Apex Officer virtual reality system valued at \$62,500 and a Force Science De-escalation instructor course valued at \$24,650 for use in the Cincinnati Police Department to allow the department to operate more efficiently and safely.

This Emergency Ordinance would authorize the City Manager to accept a donation from the Blue Line Foundation for the Apex Officer virtual reality (VR) system in the amount of \$62,500.00 as well as the Force Science De-escalation instructor course in the amount of \$24,650.00 at no cost to the City.

This VR system allows for scenario-based role-player training in an immersive environment. It emphasizes de-escalation skills through live dialog with the trainer, therefore permitting immediate training and remediation with minimum staffing levels. The Force Science De-escalation Instructor course will permit Police Academy staff certification leading to better de-escalation instruction throughout the Department and region.

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to accept the donated equipment to allow for this training of police officers to occur.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

cc: Christopher A. Bigham, Assistant City Manager
Karen Alder, Finance Director

Attachment