

Adopting The Project Plan For The Arson Task Force And The Arson Task Force Board

The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairman Hayes and Legislators Belfiglio, Ronk, Sweeney, Briggs, Hochberg and Rodriguez) offers the following:

WHEREAS, Section 204-c of the General Municipal Law requires that each county develop a plan for arson investigation within the county and submit it to the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control for approval, and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this enactment is to ensure that local governments throughout New York State take steps to coordinate the activities of existing agencies involved in the investigation and prosecution of arson, and

WHEREAS, the objective of the Ulster County Arson Task Force since its creation has been to implement a plan which would effectively combat the activities of arsonists, and

WHEREAS, for such a plan to be successful, all interested entities from the public and private sectors should be actively involved in this effort, and

WHEREAS, in light of this objective, the County has developed a Project Plan for the Arson Task Force and the Arson Task Force Board which represents a realistic, effective and efficient approach to the problem of arson in Ulster County, and

WHEREAS, this Project Plan will replace the prior project plan drafted in March 1998, and

WHEREAS, according to the Project Plan, the Ulster County Arson Task Force is the “Designated Agency” in Ulster County for the purpose of determining the origin and cause of fires in this County, and

WHEREAS, whenever necessary, the chief officers of all fire departments in the County shall request that the Arson Task Force assist with major fires of suspicious or undetermined origin as set forth in this Project Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Project Plan requires that the Arson Task Force Board consist of 5 to 7 members who are Ulster County residents and who shall be appointed by the Ulster County Executive for a term of three years, subject to the confirmation of the Legislature, and

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WHEREAS, membership on the Board shall include at least one police representative, one fire representative, one community representative, one representative from the insurance industry or their designee, and the District Attorney, or a designee, who shall be an ex officio member, and

WHEREAS, the Chairperson of the Arson Task Force Board shall be designated by the County Executive, and

WHEREAS, emphasis in selecting members of the Arson Task Force Board will be placed upon those residing within Ulster County who possess a special expertise in the area of firematics and those persons in the private sector who have a special interest in combating the problem of arson as it affects Ulster County, and

WHEREAS, the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of the members voting approval, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature hereby approves and adopts the Project Plan for the Arson Task Force and the Arson Task Force Board, subject to the approval of the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, in the form as filed with the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature or as modified with the approval of the County Attorney,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 32 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislator Felicello)
(Legislator Rodriguez arrived at 7:17 PM)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

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STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution now on file in the office of said clerk, and which was adopted by said Legislature on the 19th day of October, 2010, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said resolution and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 21st Day of October in the year Two Thousand and Ten.

/s/ Karen L. Binder
Karen L. Binder, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Submitted to the County Executive this

21st Day of October, 2010.

/s/ Karen L. Binder
Karen L. Binder, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Approved by the County Executive this

27th Day of October, 2010.

/s/ Michael P. Hein
Michael P. Hein, County Executive