

RESOLUTION NUMBER 5

WHEREAS, in 2007 the American Civil Liberties Union of Eastern Missouri (ACLU-EM) began a preliminary investigation into the two St. Louis City Jails, the City Justice Center and the Medium Security Institute (CJC/MSI); and

WHEREAS, the investigation was initiated after allegations of abuse were brought to the attention of the ACLU-EM and culminated in a report based upon these interviews released in March 2009; and

WHEREAS, six Corrections Officers (COs) were interviewed for the preliminary investigation and nine inmates provided the ACLU-EM with information about abuse and conditions in the CJC/MSI through correspondence and direct interview; and

WHEREAS, according to those interviewed human dignity is often disregarded, civil liberties violated and physical abuse of residents are not adequately addressed by officials at both facilities; and

WHEREAS, the findings alleged in this preliminary investigation point to a number significant issues that merit review and inquiry; and

WHEREAS, the two St. Louis City Jails are under the review of the Mayor's Office through the Department of Public Safety and its director appointed by the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, in its role as the legislative body for the City of St. Louis it is imperative that the St Louis Board of Aldermen have a full understanding and comprehension of the issues related to the ACLU-EM preliminary report and the allegations in the report.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen for the City of St. Louis that we direct the Public Safety Committee to convene hearings, under its authority, for the purpose of examining and reviewing the conditions of the City jails in relation to the report of the ACLU-EM and for developing recommendations, if necessary, and we further direct the committee to include in such discussions the Director of the Department of Public Safety for the City of St. Louis and all other parties deemed appropriate by the Public Safety Committee and we further direct the committee to report its findings and recommendations to the full Board of Aldermen by Friday, May 22, 2009.

Introduced on the 21st day of April, 2009 by:

Honorable Terry Kennedy, Alderman 18th Ward

Adopted this the 21st day of April, 2009 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen