

Offered by Councilor Ricardo Arroyo, Bok, Baker, Coletta, Fernandes Anderson, Flaherty, Lara, Louijeune, Mejia, Murphy Worrell and Flynn



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS THE BOSTON REGIONAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER (BRIC) AND BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT (BPD) RESPONSE TO THE ESCALATION OF WHITE SUPREMACIST GROUPS IN BOSTON

- WHEREAS,** On Saturday, July 2, 2022 approximately 100 white supremacists marched through Downtown Boston under the banner of the Patriot Front - a white nationalist hate group that formed in the aftermath of the deadly “Unite the Right” rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, of August 12, 2017 as cited by the Southern Poverty Law Center; *and*
- WHEREAS,** On Sunday, March 20, 2022 members of the Nationalist Socialist Club 131 (NSC-131) displayed the banner “Keep Boston Irish” along the route of the St. Patrick’s Day Parade in Boston; *and*
- WHEREAS,** On Sunday January 22, 2022 two-dozen members of NSC-131 protested in front of Brigham & Womens Hospital in Boston against efforts made by the hospital towards establishing greater equity in health care for communities of color; *and*
- WHEREAS,** A 2021 Anti-Defamation League (ADL) report cites that incidents of white supremacist propoganda has surged across the U.S. in the previous year to "alarming levels," and concluded that NSC-131 is one of three groups responsible for 92% of the activity; *and*
- WHEREAS,** These demonstrations represent an appalling uptick of Neo-Nazi and white supremacist hate groups in Boston and across New England where these groups have traveled multiple jurisdictions without detection by local law enforcement; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The Boston Regional Intelligence Center (BRIC) under the authority of the Boston Police Department (BPD) was established in 2005 with the purported purpose to reduce crime and prevent acts of terrorism throughout the Metropolitan Boston Homeland Security Region (MBHSR); *and*
- WHEREAS** To date, BPD and BRIC have had insufficient intelligence and inadequate responses to recent actions and demonstrations led by white supremacist hate groups, those actions are escalating, raising concerns about their ability to effectively monitor and track these domestic terrorist organizations as they are required; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston should take significant steps towards dismantling the threat of white supremacist hate groups to ensure the safety of our Black and Brown, Jewish and Muslim, and LGBTQ+ communities; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**
- ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss the growing presence of white supremacist hate groups in the City of Boston, and response of the Boston Regional Intelligence Center (BRIC) and BPD; and that representatives from

the Boston Police Department, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Attorney Generals Office, US Attorneys Office and other interested parties be invited.

File on: July 5, 2022