

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR EDWARD M. FLYNN



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ALLOWING RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK PAID DETAILS

- WHEREAS,** In July of 1980, the Boston municipal code mandate established that the Boston Police Department maintain a minimum of 2,500 sworn officers. In May, the Boston Police Department reported 2,102 sworn officers. In July, the Boston Police Patrolmen's Association recently noted that the Department is down roughly 600 officers; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The Boston Police Department has longstanding issues of understaffing, overstretched resources, mandatory overtime and looming retirements. Boston Police Officers have worked more than 16 hour days for years, disregarding officers' personal physical and emotional well-being, as well as that of their families. Utilizing the Commissioner's ability to appoint retired Boston Police Officers as Special Police Officers relieves the pressure on the already strained Boston Police Department; *and*
- WHEREAS,** In 2015, the Massachusetts State Legislature enacted Chapter 124 of the Acts of 2015, "An Act Authorizing the Appointment of Retired Police Officers as Special Police Officers in the City of Boston." This act authorizes the Police Commissioner to appoint retired Boston Police officers as special police officers, for the purpose of police details and duties arising from police detail work; *and*
- WHEREAS,** This act grants the Police Commissioner sole discretion to appoint qualified retired police officers for one year terms, subject to annual renewal, and authorizes the Police Commissioner to establish qualifications, training requirements, medical standards, and departmental policies governing such appointments; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Utilizing the authority granted under Chapter 124 makes use of experienced officers that are already familiar with Boston neighborhoods, traffic patterns, and departmental procedures. Increasing the available pool of officers for detail work helps ensure that assignments are filled and do not affect patrol operations; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**
- RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council go on record in support of allowing retired Boston Police Officers the opportunity to work paid details and urge the Police Commissioner to utilize the authority already granted under state law.

Filed on: August 5, 2026