

## **SAMPLE LOCAL RESOLUTION TO DEMILITARIZE POLICE FORCES**

WHEREAS, the rapid militarization of police throughout the United States has contributed to continuing abuses of police powers, which pose a serious threat to the constitutional rights of the American people, including the residents of the City of Cleveland; and

WHEREAS, militarized policing has deepened the divide between communities and police, reducing public trust in law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, the federal government and the state of Ohio have thus far failed to provide reasonable restrictions and oversight on the use of military grade weapons by police; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has incentivized the militarization of police through the Department of Defense's 1033 Program and the Department of Homeland Security's Urban Areas Security Initiative Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution and Bill of Rights ensure the rights of law-abiding Americans to be free from arbitrary state scrutiny, surveillance, searches, interrogations, seizures, or arrest.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the City of Cleveland will refuse to apply for, accept, or deploy any equipment acquired under the Department of Defense's 1033 Program, as well as specific training and or funding through the Department of Homeland Security's Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) Grant Program, or by other means, including the following: 1) Automatic weapons, including those that are .50 caliber or greater, 2) tactical vehicles, including highly mobile multi-wheeled vehicles, armored vehicles, and mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicles, 3) drones that are weaponized 4) grenades, including flash-bang grenades, stun grenades, and grenade launchers, 5) silencers, or 6) long-range acoustic devices.

FURTHERMORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that any acquisition of equipment through federal programs or grants (including but not limited to tasers, tear gas, pepper spray) shall require prior notice to the public, a meaningful opportunity for the public to comment, and the affirmative approval of the City Council including an itemized listing of equipment to be acquired.

FURTHERMORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the city of Cleveland will remove from active service all applicable equipment currently in use and, any additional law enforcement equipment acquired for use as a result of the RNC event hosted in Cleveland not specifically outlined above, at the closing of the event, or with prior notice to the public, hold a meaningful opportunity for the public to comment, and the affirmative approval of the City Council including an itemized listing of equipment to be retained.