

November 29, 2023

Samantha Master
320 Woodbourne Ave
Baltimore, MD 21212

Honorable Members of the Baltimore City Council,

My name is Samantha Master and I am a 4th generation Baltimorean, District 4 resident and a member of Organizing Black, a collective of Black organizers ages 18-35 dedicated to building a Baltimore where every single Black person can thrive.

We have been organizing and advocating for local control of the Baltimore Police Department (BPD) for over 8 years as members of the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs which knocked thousands of doors to deliver a massive voter referendum victory in support of local control.

In short, we are more than ready to finally see local control of BPD realized via City Council Resolution 23-0445: Charter Amendment - Baltimore City Police Department For the purpose of establishing the objectives, powers, and duties of the Baltimore City Police Department; defining certain terms; creating the role of the Police Commissioner and establishing the Commissioner as the head of the Department; providing for the appointment and confirmation of the Commissioner; establishing the powers and duties of the Commissioner; establishing the powers and duties of police officers; providing for police officers' enjoyment of certain immunities and defenses; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the City for adoption or rejection..

There have been countless organizers, voters, advocates and legislators who's helped bring us to this critical milestone, but it's up to this City Council to lead by delivering a favorable report on the charter amendment in front of you today.

I urge you to demonstrate that you have heard your constituents loud and clear: Vote favorable for City Council Resolution 23-0445.

Sincerely,

Samantha Master