

Introduced by: President Scott *Donsey, Bullock, Pinkert, Harry, SUGGT*

Prepared by: Department of Legislative Reference

Date: October 3, 2019

*Middleton  
McCray  
Clarke  
Schleifer  
Stokes*

# RESOLUTION

Referred to: \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

Also referred for recommendation and report to municipal agencies listed on reverse.

CITY COUNCIL 19-0171R

## A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

### Gun Trace Task Force – Getting to the Bottom of the Corruption

FOR the purpose of calling on the Baltimore Police Department to convene an investigation, conducted by a trusted and independent entity outside of the Department, in order to fully delve into how the Gun Trace Task Force was permitted to operate in such a reckless and corrupt manner and inviting the Baltimore Police Department to come before the City Council to discuss that investigation's findings.

*[Handwritten signatures: R. Murray, Paul McCray, Robert Stokes, and others]*

**\*\*The introduction of an Ordinance or Resolution by Councilmembers at the request of any person, firm or organization is a courtesy extended by the Councilmembers and not an indication of their position.**

**Agencies**

_____	Baltimore City Public School System
_____	Baltimore Development Corporation
_____	City Solicitor
_____	Comptroller's Office
_____	Department of Audits
_____	Department of Finance
_____	Department of General Services
_____	Department of Housing and Community Development
_____	Department of Human Resources
_____	Department of Planning
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Department of Public Works
_____	Department of Real Estate
_____	Department of Recreation and Parks
_____	Department of Transportation
_____	Fire Department
_____	Health Department
_____	Mayor's Office of Employment Development
_____	Mayor's Office of Human Services
_____	Mayor's Office of Information Technology
_____	Office of the Mayor
_____	Police Department
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Board of Estimates
_____	Board of Ethics
_____	Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals
_____	Comm. for Historical and Architectural Preservation
_____	Commission on Sustainability
_____	Employees' Retirement System
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Environmental Control Board
_____	Fire & Police Employees' Retirement System
_____	Labor Commissioner
_____	Parking Authority Board
_____	Planning Commission
_____	Wage Commission
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____

**Boards and Commissions**

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 19-0171R  
(Resolution)**

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Introduced by: President Scott, Councilmembers Dorsey, Burnett, Bullock, Cohen, Pinkett,  
Henry, Sneed, Middleton, McCray, Clarke, Stokes, Schleifer  
Introduced and adopted: October 7, 2019

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**A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING**

**Gun Trace Task Force – Getting to the Bottom of the Corruption**

FOR the purpose of calling on the Baltimore Police Department to convene an investigation, conducted by a trusted and independent entity outside of the Department, in order to fully delve into how the Gun Trace Task Force was permitted to operate in such a reckless and corrupt manner and inviting the Baltimore Police Department to come before the City Council to discuss that investigation's findings.

**Recitals**

It is not hyperbole to state that the convictions of the Baltimore City police officers associated with the Gun Trace Task Force have done immeasurable damage to the Department's reputation and have stretched the confidence and trust that our communities have in the Department to its outer limits. Moreover, we recently learned that approximately 800 criminal cases have been tainted by these officers and may have to be thrown out or overturned. Indeed, this corruption was exposed all while the Department is under a federal consent decree to align and reform its policing practices to constitutional norms and standards.

Yet despite the damage that those lawless individuals have wrought on our City and despite the setbacks they have placed in making in-roads of confidence with our communities, the Baltimore City Police Commissioner testified before the State Commission to Restore Trust in Policing several weeks ago that "we have not done a deep dive to make the assessment of what happened with these individuals that was missed." This is a mistake.

It is axiomatic that those who do not learn from their history are doomed to repeat it. By not conducting a full, independent, and transparent investigation, we are missing an opportunity to learn how the Gun Trace Task Force was able to exact its gang-like behavior for so long. More importantly, we are missing an opportunity to ensure that this conduct is never able to occur again in the City of Baltimore and to truly remake our Police Department into one that every Baltimorean can be proud of.

Failing to investigate should not be an option. The Baltimore Police Department needs to do the right thing and convene an internal investigation, conducted by an independent entity outside of the Department, to look into the how the corruption of the Gun Trace Task Force was permitted to fester and how we can restore trust and accountability that our citizens demand of their police department.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the Council calls on the Baltimore Police Department to convene an investigation, conducted by a

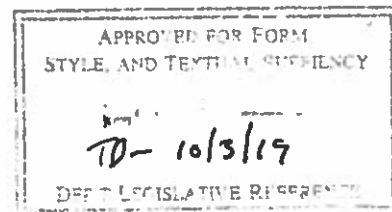
EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment  
~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment

**Council Bill 19-0171R**

1 trusted and independent entity outside of the Department, in order to fully delve into how the  
2 Gun Trace Task Force was permitted to operate in such a reckless and corrupt manner and invites  
3 officials from the Baltimore Police Department to come before the City Council to discuss that  
4 investigation's findings.

5 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the  
6 Baltimore City Police Commissioner, the City Solicitor, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to  
7 the City Council.

**INTRODUCTORY\***  
**CITY OF BALTIMORE**  
**COUNCIL BILL \_\_\_\_\_ R**  
**(Resolution)**



Introduced by: President Scott

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

**Gun Trace Task Force – Getting to the Bottom of the Corruption**

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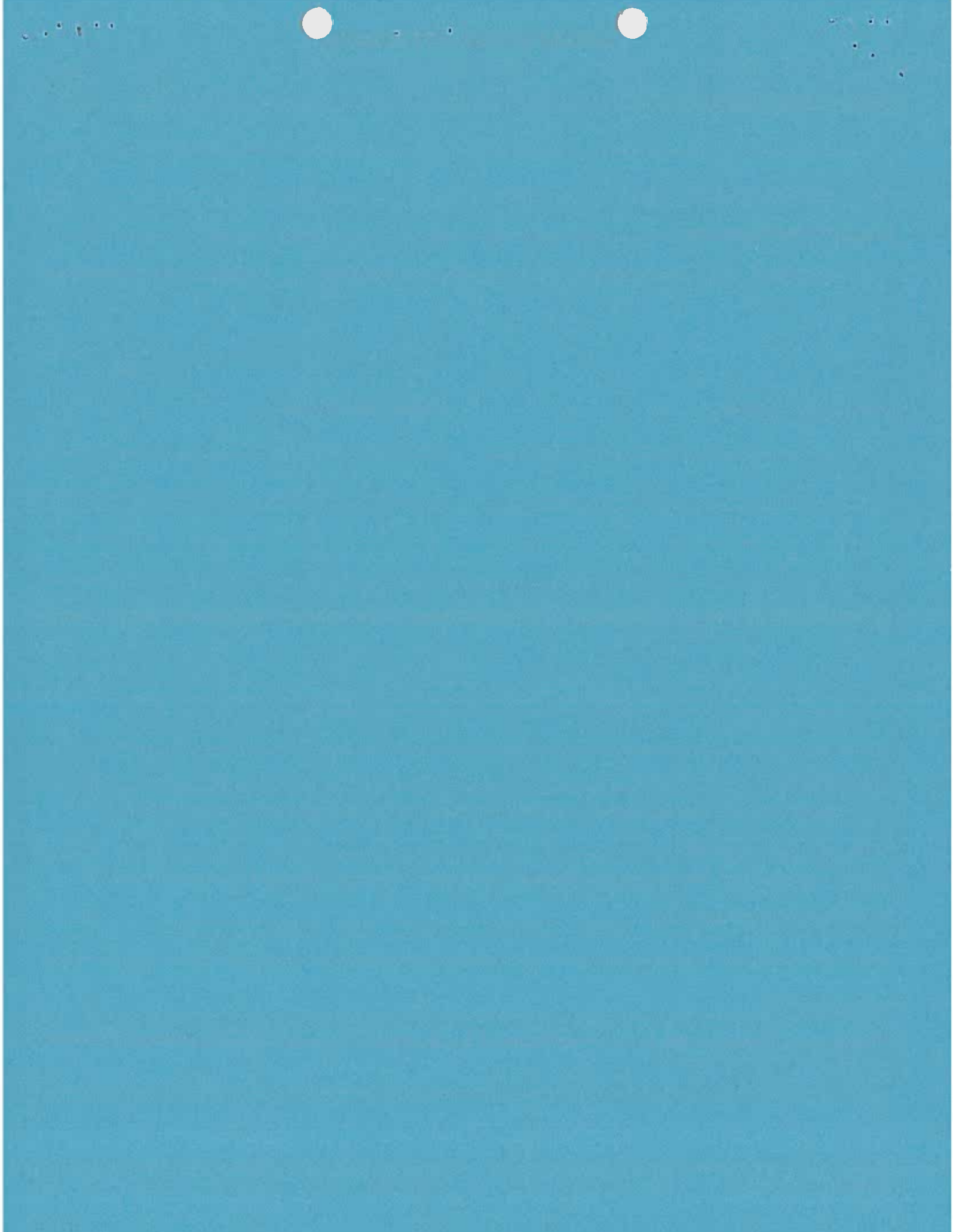
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\* WARNING: THIS IS AN UNOFFICIAL, INTRODUCTORY COPY OF THE BILL.  
THE OFFICIAL COPY CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL IS THE FIRST READER COPY.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the Council calls on the Baltimore Police Department to convene an investigation, conducted by a trusted and independent entity outside of the Department, in order to fully delve into how the Gun Trace Task Force was permitted to operate in such a reckless and corrupt manner and invites officials from the Baltimore Police Department to come before the City Council to discuss that investigation's findings.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the Baltimore City Police Commissioner, the City Solicitor, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.



**ACTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL**

OCT 07 2019  
20

FIRST READING (INTRODUCTION) \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

COMMITTEE REPORT AS OF \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ FAVORABLE \_\_\_\_\_ UNFAVORABLE \_\_\_\_\_ FAVORABLE AS AMENDED \_\_\_\_\_ WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SECOND READING: The Council's action being favorable (unfavorable), this City Council bill was (was not) ordered printed for  
Third Reading on:

\_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Amendments were read and adopted (defeated) as indicated on the copy attached to this blue backing.

THIRD READING \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Amendments were read and adopted (defeated) as indicated on the copy attached to this blue backing.

THIRD READING (ENROLLED) \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Amendments were read and adopted (defeated) as indicated on the copy attached to this blue backing.

THIRD READING (RE-ENROLLED) \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

WITHDRAWAL \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

There being no objections to the request for withdrawal, it was so ordered that this City Council Ordinance be withdrawn  
from the files of the City Council.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk