COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-____

A Resolution concerning

CHARLES COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

FOR the purpose of establishing the Charles County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council as an advisory board to the Board of County Commissioners for Charles County, Maryland.

WHEREAS, multiple agencies of the State, County, and local governments share responsibilities for the effective administration of the criminal and juvenile justice systems within Charles County; and

WHEREAS, other non-governmental entities also play a critical role in the County’s justice system, including, but not limited to: community and victim advocacy groups; service providers; treatment providers; and the public school system; and

WHEREAS, to best leverage resources and expertise, it is necessary that these various entities coordinate their efforts and work collaboratively to evaluate existing practices and services and to identify evidence-based solutions to improve the local justice system, heighten public safety, and increase public trust and confidence; and

WHEREAS, the Charles County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (“CJCC” or “Council”) is comprised of public officials responsible for the administration of various aspects of the criminal and juvenile justice systems in Charles County; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the CJCC is to identify issues and their solutions; promote systemwide accountability; propose meaningful actions; and facilitate cooperation that will improve public safety, align resources, and delivery coordinated justice-related services; and

WHEREAS, the CJCC’s goal is to facilitate systemic changes in the County’s entire justice system through a shared commitment and collaboration amongst agencies; evaluate and promote continuous systemwide improvements; and strengthen communication between justice and service agencies to eliminate redundant services and maximize available resources; and

WHEREAS, public safety and funding of certain aspects of the local justice system are essential functions of County Government and are basic elements for the preservation of the community’s general welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Charles County, Maryland has the overall responsibility for the effective delivery of County services and programs, to include the planning, coordination, and funding of various public safety functions; and

WHEREAS, the effective planning, coordination, and funding of public safety functions that promote the administration of justice requires communication and collaboration among the
various officials, agencies, departments, and units of government to advance the efficient operation of County Government, maintain public safety, and heighten citizen trust and confidence; and

WHEREAS, to effectively address criminal justice matters in the County, the Board of County Commissioners of Charles County, Maryland deems it advisable to formally establish the Charles County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council as a County Government advisory body to support and enhance collaborative efforts between key justice officials, agencies, and departments, and to offer a forum for public participation with respect to improvements to the criminal justice system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, this ___ day of July 2020, by the Board of County Commissioners for Charles County, Maryland, that the Charles County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council shall be, and hereby is, established as an advisory board to the Board of County Commissioners for Charles County, Maryland. As established, the Council shall have the membership and perform the duties and responsibilities of its mission as specified in Attachment “A” of this Resolution.

ADOPTED this _______ day of ________________, 2020.
County Commissioners of Charles County, Maryland

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Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President

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Bobby Rucci, Vice President

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Gilbert O. Bowling, III

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Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.

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Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.

ATTEST:

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Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners