FILE NO. 987-2025-A

CITY OF CLEVELAND
Mayor Justin M. Bibb

PUBLIC SAFETY

August 13, 2025

The Honorable Blaine A. Griffin
President, Cleveland City Council
601 Lakeside Avenue, Room 216
Cleveland, OH 44114

Subject: Legislation to be Passed Under Suspension on August 13, 2025

Dear Council President Griffin:

We are requesting legislation For Passage Under Suspension at the August 13, 2025, City Council Meeting to amend Section 670.14 of the Codified Ordinances of Cleveland, Ohio, 1976, as amended by Ordinance No. 171-04, passed February 2, 2004, relating to limitation of authority.

CO Section 670.14 Limitation of Authority authorizes commissioned armed security guards to exercise their authority consistent with all applicable federal, state, and local laws on property designated by the Director of Public Safety or the geographical area of the City within which an armed security guard commissioned by the City may exercise his or her authority.

This amendment would authorize DPU Protective Security Officers employed by the City of Cleveland to carry firearms while on duty at designated City-owned or City-operated utility and infrastructure facilities located outside the municipal boundaries of the City of Cleveland, contingent upon formal agreement with the host jurisdiction(s). This legislation would also authorize the Director of Public Safety to enter into formal agreements with the host jurisdictions authorizing such activity within that jurisdiction.

This legislation is important because the City operates and maintains critical infrastructure facilities, including public utility sites, located in municipalities outside of the City' boundaries. The Department of Public Utilities (DPU) employs Protective Services Officers who are not sworn police officers, but who meet prescribed training and qualification standards pursuant to CO Chapter 670, for the security of such DPU sites. Previously, these individuals were issued Special Police Commissions pursuant to the Charter provision and they were renewed every six months; however, this practice has been discontinued. Passage of this legislation will enable the City to initiate the process of drafting the agreements and working with the other jurisdictions to resolve this critical issue to ensure the security of all City-owned or operated facilities.

Sincerely,

Dornat A. Drummond, Interim Director
Department of Public Safety

Approved:

Blaine A. Griffin, President
Cleveland City Council

cc: Patricia Britt, Clerk of Council
All Members of Council
Bradford J. Davy, Chief of Staff
Ryan Puente, Deputy Chief of Staff & Chief of Government Affairs Officer