

**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

Order for a Hearing Relative to the Impact of Eliminating
Civilian Community Liaisons

Offered by Councilor Ayanna Pressley

WHEREAS: Community liaisons are a critical link between city residents and the Boston Police Department; and

WHEREAS: Community liaisons are typically proficient in the languages of the communities they serve and understanding of the culture and customs of those neighborhoods, they are trusted by the community and local organizations, as well as the police, to act as mediators for immigrants and others who are afraid to approach police; facilitate gang truces, and aid victims of family violence; and

WHEREAS: The current economic downturn can further destabilize already strained communities, leading to increased street and family violence; Therefore be it

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to assess the scope of services Civilian Community Liaisons provide and the impact of eliminating 9 of the 10 positions will have on street and family violence in our city, and that representatives from the Mayor's office, Boston Police Department, the Office of New Bostonians, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety, Boston Ten Point Coalition, Black Ministerial Alliance, relevant neighborhood organizations, and other interested parties be invited to testify.

Filed in City Council:

February 10, 2010