

City Council Resolution

Whereas, within the past several years there have been a number of incidents where individuals have entered public facilities and committed acts of violence against government employees and members of the public; and

Whereas, the tragic shooting in Kirkwood, Missouri where on February 8, 2008, a gunman walked into the council chambers and opened fire killing the Mayor, two council members and the Public Works Director highlights the vulnerability of citizens in public facilities; and

Whereas, in September 2009, the City Administration replaced skilled, experienced Memphis Police Department law enforcement officers with employees of a private security company who are now charged with the protection of city hall employees, visitors and elected officials; and

Whereas, the safety and well-being of city hall employees and visitors is paramount and should be handled by Memphis Police Department officers who have endured many hours of extensive and rigorous training and are properly prepared in making critical judgment calls especially where lives are at stake in order to serve and protect.

Now, Therefore, Be, It Resolved that no appropriation shall be made to the current private security company or any other private security company following the contract expiration on June 30, 2010 for city hall security.

Be It Further Resolved that Memphis Police Officers should be reinstated immediately to handle the responsibilities of city hall security.

ADOPTED: March 23, 2010

JOE BROWN
Council Member