



**CITY COUNCIL  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

**20-R-4178**

**\*\*\*\*A RESOLUTION BY COUNCILMEMBER ANTONIO BROWN URGING THE GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO REVIEW AND REVISE ITS STATUTES RELATED TO SEARCHES WITH WARRANTS, (TITLE 17, CHAPTER 5, ARTICLE 2, SECTIONS 17-5-20 THROUGH 17-5-32 OF THE OFFICIAL CODE OF GEORGIA ANNOTATED) TO SPECIFICALLY BAN THE USE OF NO-KNOCK WARRANTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.(FAVORABLE BY PUBLIC SAFETY AND LEGAL ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE 8/24/20)**

WHEREAS, searches with warrants by Georgia Certified Peace Officers are governed by state law, generally (Title 17, Chapter 5, Article 2, Sections 17-5-20 through 17-5-32); and

WHEREAS, a no-knock warrant allows a law enforcement officer to enter a property without immediate prior notification whether verbal or by knocking or ringing a bell; and

WHEREAS, language in the Georgia statute does not specifically ban the use of no-knock warrants nor clearly defines what is considered “good faith” in attempting to give verbal notice for entry; and

WHEREAS, during the 2015 - 2016 Georgia General Assembly regular session, legislation to specifically regulate no-knock warrants, which included SB 45, SB 159, and HB 56 were stalled; and

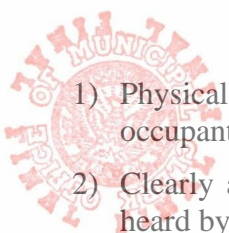
WHEREAS, as the City of Atlanta joins cities around the nation in proposing police reforms, these policy changes must serve to protect all individuals against violent crimes, while also including protections against the use of excessive force often associated with the use of no-knock warrants and other police practices; and

WHEREAS, in the State of Georgia, tragedies associated with the execution of no-knock warrants include the 2006 shooting and death of 92 year old Kathryn Johnson, the 2006 killing of a 36 year old Bibb County deputy sheriff, and the 2014 injury of a 19-month old toddler in Habersham County when a stun grenade was used during a no-knock entry; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 a middle aged Houston couple and their dog was killed and recently, on March 13, 2020 in Louisville, KY 26 year-old Breonna Taylor was killed in her apartment after the execution of a “No-Knock” warrant; and

WHEREAS, according to the Cato Institute in Washington, 40 innocent people have died during the execution of no-knock warrants since the 1980s, with Breonna Taylor being the most recent casualty; and

WHEREAS, banning no-knock warrants should include the adoption of specific statutory protocols requiring Georgia Certified Peace Officers to do the following upon the execution of a warrant:



- 1) Physically knock on an entry door to the premises in a manner and duration that can be heard by the occupants.
- 2) Clearly and verbally announce as law enforcement having a search warrant in a manner than can be heard by the occupants.
- 3) Require that body cameras must be activated during the execution of a search warrant and all officers present in the execution of a warrant shall be equipped with an operating body camera.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA GEORGIA, to urge that the Georgia General Assembly review and revise its statutes related to searches with warrants, (Title 17, Chapter 5, Article 2, Sections 17-5-20 through 17-5-32 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated) to specifically ban the use of “no-knock” warrants.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, banning no-knock warrants should include the adoption of specific statutory protocols requiring Georgia Certified Peace Officers to do the following upon the execution of a warrant:

- 1) Physically knock on an entry door to the premises in a manner and duration that can be heard by the occupants.
- 2) Clearly and verbally announce as law enforcement having a search warrant in a manner than can be heard by the occupants.
- 3) Require that body cameras must be activated during the execution of a search warrant and all officers present in the execution of a warrant shall be equipped with an operating body camera.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, the Municipal Clerk shall provide copies to all the members of the Georgia General Assembly.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that all resolutions and parts of resolutions, in conflict herewith are hereby waived to the extent of the conflict.

A true copy,

Foris Webb III  
Municipal Clerk

**ADOPTED by the Atlanta City Council  
APPROVED per City Charter Section 2-403**

**SEP 08, 2020  
SEP 17, 2020**



**CITY COUNCIL  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

20-R-4178

**SPONSOR SIGNATURES**

  
Antonio Brown, Councilmember, District 3



CITY COUNCIL  
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**Workflow List:**

Atlanta City Council	Completed	08/03/2020 1:00 PM
Public Safety & Legal Administration Committee	Completed	08/10/2020 2:00 PM
Atlanta City Council	Completed	08/17/2020 1:00 PM
Public Safety & Legal Administration Committee	Completed	08/24/2020 2:00 PM
Atlanta City Council	Completed	09/08/2020 1:00 PM
Finance/Executive Committee	Completed	08/12/2020 1:30 PM
Finance/Executive Committee	Completed	08/26/2020 1:30 PM
Atlanta City Council	Completed	09/08/2020 1:00 PM

**HISTORY:**

08/03/20 Atlanta City Council REFERRED WITHOUT OBJECTION

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND LEGAL ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE AND FINANCE/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WITHOUT OBJECTION**

**RESULT:** REFERRED WITHOUT OBJECTION

08/10/20 Public Safety & Legal Administration Committee HELD IN COMMITTEE

**RESULT:** HELD IN COMMITTEE [UNANIMOUS] **Next: 8/17/2020 1:00 PM**  
**MOVER:** Joyce M Sheperd, Chair  
**SECONDER:** Amir R Farokhi, District 2  
**AYES:** Sheperd, Bond, Smith, Farokhi, Winslow, Hillis, Boone

08/12/20 Finance/Executive Committee

08/17/20 Atlanta City Council RETURNED AS HELD

**RETURNED AS HELD TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND LEGAL ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE WITHOUT OBJECTION**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: SHEPERD, BOND, SMITH, FAROKHI, WINSLOW, HILLIS & BOONE**

**RESULT:** RETURNED AS HELD **Next: 8/24/2020 2:00 PM**

08/24/20 Public Safety & Legal Administration Committee FAVORABLE

LEGISLATION HISTORY – BLUE BACK

**RESULT:** FAVORABLE [UNANIMOUS] **Next: 9/8/2020 1:00 PM**  
**MOVER:** Michael Julian Bond, Post 1 At Large  
**SECONDER:** Amir R Farokhi, District 2  
**AYES:** Sheperd, Bond, Smith, Farokhi, Winslow, Hillis, Boone

08/26/20 Finance/Executive Committee FAVORABLE

**RESULT:** FAVORABLE [5 TO 0] **Next: 9/8/2020 1:00 PM**  
**MOVER:** Jennifer N. Ide, Chair  
**SECONDER:** Matt Westmoreland, Post 2 At Large  
**AYES:** Ide, Westmoreland, Dickens, Matzigkeit, Sheperd  
**ABSTAIN:** Howard Shook  
**ABSENT:** Natalyn Mosby Archibong

09/08/2020 Atlanta City Council ADOPTED



**RESULT:** ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Jennifer N. Ide, Councilmember, District 6  
**SECONDER:** Amir R Farokhi, Councilmember, District 2  
**AYES:** Bond, Westmoreland, Dickens, Smith, Farokhi, Brown, Winslow, Archibong, Ide, Shook, Matzigkeit, Hillis, Boone, Overstreet, Sheperd

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VOTE RECORD - RESOLUTION 20-R-4178							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ADOPTED <input type="checkbox"/> ADVERSED <input type="checkbox"/> FAVORABLE <input type="checkbox"/> ACCEPTED AND FILED <input type="checkbox"/> REFERRED TO COMMITTEE <input type="checkbox"/> HELD IN COMMITTEE <input type="checkbox"/> TABLED <input type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> RECONSIDERED <input type="checkbox"/> FILED <input type="checkbox"/> FILED BY COMMITTEE <input type="checkbox"/> FAVORABLE ON SUBSTITUTE <input type="checkbox"/> FAVORABLE AS AMENDED <input type="checkbox"/> QUESTION CALLED <input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTITUTED <input type="checkbox"/> AMENDED <input type="checkbox"/> REFERRED TO ZRB AND ZC <input type="checkbox"/> REFERRED WITHOUT OBJECTION <input type="checkbox"/> ADOPTED AS AMENDED <input type="checkbox"/> ADOPTED SUBSTITUTE <input type="checkbox"/> ADOPTED SUBSTITUTE AS AMENDED <input type="checkbox"/> FORWARDED <input type="checkbox"/> REFERRED TO SC <input type="checkbox"/> FILED WITHOUT OBJECTION <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED <input type="checkbox"/> ADVERSED IN COMMITTEE <input type="checkbox"/> QUADRENNIALLY TERMINATED <input type="checkbox"/> FORWARDED W/NO RECOMMENDATION <input type="checkbox"/> FORWARDED TO FC/NQ <input type="checkbox"/> FAVORABLE/SUB/AMENDED <input type="checkbox"/> FAVORABLE/SUB/AMND/CONDITION <input type="checkbox"/> FAVORABLE/AMND/CONDITION <input type="checkbox"/> RETURNED AS HELD <input type="checkbox"/> FAVORABLE/SUB/CONDITION							
			YES/AYE	NO/NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	
	MICHAEL JULIAN BOND	VOTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	MATT WESTMORELAND	VOTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	ANDRE DICKENS	VOTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	CARLA SMITH	VOTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	AMIR R FAROKHI	SECONDER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	ANTONIO BROWN	VOTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	CLETA WINSLOW	VOTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	NATALYN MOSBY ARCHIBONG	VOTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	JENNIFER N. IDE	MOVER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	HOWARD SHOOK	VOTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	J. P. MATZIGKEIT	VOTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	DUSTIN HILLIS	VOTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	ANDREA L. BOONE	VOTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	MARCI COLLIER OVERSTREET	VOTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	JOYCE M SHEPERD	VOTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

<input type="checkbox"/> FAVORABLE ON CONDITION <input type="checkbox"/> ACCEPTED <input type="checkbox"/> AMENDED SUBSTITUTE <input type="checkbox"/> ROUTED TO COW <input type="checkbox"/> SUSTAINED <input type="checkbox"/> OVERRIDEN <input type="checkbox"/> NOT ACCEPTED BY COMMITTEE <input type="checkbox"/> SUSTAINED WITHOUT OBJECTION <input type="checkbox"/> TABLED W/O OBJECTION <input type="checkbox"/> HELD IN COW <input type="checkbox"/> POSTPONED <input type="checkbox"/> RETAINED AS HELD <input type="checkbox"/> REFER TO ZRB AND ZC W/O OBJECTION	
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[Unanimous]

Certified by Presiding Officer	Certified by Clerk
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CERTIFIED</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">9/8/2020</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CERTIFIED</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">9/8/2020</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MUNICIPAL CLERK</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>
<p>Mayor's Action</p> <p><i>See Authentication Page Attachment</i></p>	

**ADOPTED BY COUNCIL**

**9/08/2020**