

RESOLUTION NO. _____

DATE: _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL
INITIATING THE APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY CONSTABLES
PURUSANT TO SALT LAKE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER
2.50; PETITIONING THE UTAH LEGISLATURE TO REVISE STATUTES
RELATED TO THE APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY CONSTABLES; AND
PROVIDING FOR RELATED PURPOSES

WHEREAS, Utah Code Ann. § 17-25a-1 et seq. provides that counties and municipalities may appoint certain special function peace officers to serve as constables for the purposes and reasons described by law; and

WHEREAS, Salt Lake County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2.50, entitled “County Constables,” provides more specific procedures for appointing county constables in Salt Lake County; and

WHEREAS, Salt Lake County has previously appointed county constables pursuant to Utah Code and Salt Lake County Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the residual term of office for all remaining constables previously appointed by Salt Lake County is set to expire on June 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the continued appointment of county constables is fundamentally misaligned with the county’s current policy priorities and its statutory role as a regional government in a major metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, county constables are independent contractors for whom the county has limited oversight or responsibility, and that provide few if any direct services to Salt Lake County government; and

WHEREAS, the county and its residents would be best served by having constables appointed, regulated, and supervised by the State of Utah rather than by Salt Lake County; and

WHEREAS, for these policy reasons and many others, Salt Lake County is reluctant to reappoint county constables and desires that the Utah Legislature withdraw the responsibility for appointing constables from the county and other local governments; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding its reluctance to reappoint county constables, Salt Lake County is cognizant of the significant potential costs to county residents, businesses, litigants, and the legal system if the county does not appoint any county constables when the residual terms of office of current county constables expire on June 30, 2025;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Salt Lake County Council, acting as the legislative body for Salt Lake County:

- 1) The County Council will consider the appointment of up to three (3) county constables for a six-year term of office beginning on July 1, 2025, and expiring on June 30, 2031, or upon approval of the Utah Legislature to end the appointment of county constables at an earlier date. The council convenes the nominating commission described by Salt Lake County Ordinance Chapter 2.50, and instructs county staff to publish notice of the county's intent to appoint constables. The nominating commission should provide appointment recommendations to the council no later than June 11, 2025.
- 2) The County Council appoints David M. Delquadro to serve as the private citizen representative on the constable nominating commission.
- 3) The County Council's new appointment of constables is for the limited purpose of avoiding disruption to the prompt and cost-effective service of legal documents for Salt Lake County residents and the legal system. The council is disinclined to appoint constables that have already been appointed under the authority of another county or municipality, or constables that do not maintain their principal place of business within

Salt Lake County. The council does not intend to appoint or reappoint additional constables in the future following the appointments approved and designed herein.

- 4) The Council requests and does now formally petition the Utah Legislature to approve amendments to Utah Code during the 2026 general legislative session that will transition the appointment of and responsibility for constables to the state level, or that will otherwise allow Salt Lake County to withdraw the appointment of its remaining constables as soon as practicable. The council's legislative affairs director and the county's governmental relations contractual representatives shall undertake all activities that are necessary and property to advance such legislation as a priority matter.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this _____ day of _____ 2025.

SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL

By: _____
Dea Theodore, Chair

ATTEST:

Lannie Chapman
Salt Lake County Clerk

REVIEWED AS TO FORM

Deputy District Attorney Date

Council Member Bradshaw voting	_____
Council Member Harrison voting	_____
Council Member Moreno voting	_____
Council Member Pinkney voting	_____
Council Member Romero voting	_____
Council Member Stewart voting	_____
Council Member Stringham voting	_____
Council Member Theodore voting	_____
Council Member Winder Newton voting	_____