

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS ANDREA J. CAMPBELL AND RICARDO ARROYO

Essaibi-George, Breadon, Wu, Bok, O'Malley, Mejia, Flynn, Flaherty, Janey and Edwards



**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

**ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING
THE BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT'S GANG
DATABASE**

WHEREAS: The Boston Regional Intelligence Center (BRIC) of the Boston Police Department (BPD) maintains a database of suspected gang involved persons in the City of Boston; *and*

WHEREAS: According to reports from 2019, the database contained 5,300 individuals, including 2,800 individuals classified as "active" members and 2,500 classified as "inactive"; *and*

WHEREAS: BPD and BRIC use an arbitrary point system to determine a person's suspected gang involvement and affiliation; *and*

WHEREAS: BPD Field Investigation and Observation (FIO) data released earlier this year demonstrates that Black and Brown Bostonians are disproportionately stopped by police, which, in turn, adds more points to an individual's gang database record; *and*

WHEREAS: 2019 data from the gang database shows that Black and Brown Bostonians are dramatically and disproportionately represented in the gang database, with over 90% of all individuals in the database classified Black or Latinx; *and*

WHEREAS: Since 2019, the gang database has stopped collecting information regarding the race of individuals; *and*

WHEREAS: There is a lack of transparency and accountability with regards to publicly available data, the ability to request personal information from BRIC, information sharing with other law enforcement agencies, and the separation of federal, state, and local law enforcement; *NOW THEREFORE BE IT*

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss the structure of the Boston Police Department's gang database, its rubric, its effectiveness, and how it impacts the lives of those named within. Representatives from BPD, advocacy groups, legal assistance organizations, as well as other relevant and interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed on: January 8, 2021