

Cornell University Student Assembly

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Type of Action:	Recommendation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #9

Demanding Cornell Dissolve All Relations With The Ithaca Police Department

ABSTRACT: The purpose of this resolution is to call for Cornell University to dissolve all ties with the Ithaca Police Department

Sponsored by: Uche Chukwukere '21 , Moriah Adeghe '21 , Tomás Reuning '21, Estefania Perez '21, Lucy Contreras '21, Kat Restrepo '21 , Amber Haywood '21, Cat Huang '21, Sherell Farmer '22, Selam Woldai '23

Whereas, Policing in America is rooted in a racism and slavery and has evolved today to embody the same ideals and same oppressive standards against marginalized groups and individuals

Whereas, Policing in America upholds a system that terrorizes, murders, oppresses, and incapacitates individuals whose identities are marginalized.

Whereas, The first primitive versions of policing in America stemmed from “Slave Patrols” which were used “to chase down, apprehend, and return to their owners, runaway slaves; (2) to provide a form of organized terror to deter slave revolts; and, (3) to maintain a form of discipline for slave-workers who were subject to summary justice, outside of the law, if they violated any plantation rules.”

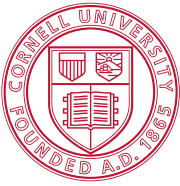
Whereas, The police systems eventually evolved into police departments tasked with controlling and terrorizing freed slaves, as well as denying them equal rights, bureaucratic processes, and equity in America

Whereas, Modern policing in America has reached a point where the system can no longer be reformed nor should it given its sinister history and complicity in the suffering of historically marginalized groups of individuals.

Whereas, America is becoming a police state with a reward system at the expense of individuals who are BIPOC, LGBTQ+, Low SES, Immigrant, and etc. and has made no true efforts at bringing justice and equity

Whereas, Ithaca Police Department is complicit in the suffering of Black, Brown, and Indigenous people of color, especially within the Ithaca Area and have made no true attempts to bring true conflict resolution to the community

Whereas, On October 11th, 2020 the Ithaca Police Department violently arrested two peaceful protesters by dragging them out of the crowd and putting them into custody.



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44 **Whereas,** During the unlawful arrests, Ithaca Police Department refused to read the Miranda rights
45 to the two protesters that were arrested as well as purposefully misgendered one of the
46 protesters that was arrested
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48 **Whereas,** Present at these protests were many Cornell students who firsthand witnessed and
49 experienced the brutality and injustice exhibited by Ithaca Police Department
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51 **Whereas,** Ithaca Police Department is no stranger to committing acts of violence and
52 discrimination against BIPOC, LGBTQ+, Low SES, and Immigrant status individuals.
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54 **Whereas,** Cornell University Police Department and Ithaca Police Department have worked
55 together in the past and have a working relationship
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57 **Whereas,** Cornell University Police Department officers were said to have been deployed to act
58 alongside the Ithaca Police Department during the protests in downtown against students
59 and Ithaca residents
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61 **Whereas,** Cornell University cannot uphold its motto of “Any Person, Any Study” and its other
62 values while also being complicit in the suffering of its marginalized students by partnering
63 with a system that also oppresses many of our marginalized Cornell students.
64

65 **Whereas,** Failure to dissolve relations with the Ithaca Police Department will further validate
66 Cornell University’s complicitness in upholding the violently oppressive police system rooted
67 in America and the suffering of BIPOC, LGBTQ+, Low SES, etc. groups of individuals
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69 **Be it therefore resolved,** Cornell must immediately dissolve all ties and relations with the Ithaca
70 Police Department and all of its subsidiaries and explore alternative community solutions.
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72 **Be it finally resolved,** Cornell must use its position and influence within Tompkins County to urge
73 for greater community oversight over the Ithaca Police Department
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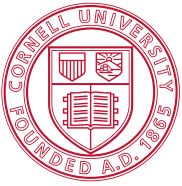
76 **Respectfully Submitted,**
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78 Uche Chukwukere ‘21
79 *Vice President for Finance*
80

81 Cat Huang ‘21
82 *President*
83

84 Tomás Reuning ‘21
85 *LGBTQIA+ Representative At-Large*
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87 Estefania Perez ‘21



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- 88 *Arts and Sciences Representative*
89
90 Lucy Contreras '21
91 *First Generation Students Liaison At-Large*
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93 Selam Woldai '23
94 *Minority Students Liaison At-Large and Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion*
95
96 Kat Restrepo '21
97 *Director of Finance, Office of the Student Advocate*
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99 Amber Haywood '21
100 *Co-Founder, DoBetterCornell*
101
102 Sherell Farmer '22
103 *Co-Founder, CornellStudents4BlackLives (C4BL)*
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105 Moriah Adeghe '21
106 *Co-Director of Elections*
107
108 *(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 6-0-1, 10/29/2020)*