S.A. Resolution #28
Campus Policing Reform

ABSTRACT: The Student Assembly calls for Cornell University to adopt the following changes to university’s policing system.


Whereas, the student body has expressed concerns regarding our campus police system, and the effects police presence has on students, specifically students of color, in realms of mental health, ability to focus on academics, and overall safety.

Whereas, in recent months police brutality towards minorities and people of color has once again invoked national attention following repeated incidents of fatal police encounters.

Whereas, the history of prisons and police have disproportionately affected members of the African American community, in addition to mental and psychological trauma resulting from constant news and media coverage

Whereas, for the reasons stated and unstated above, certain students feel less than safe around police officers, a sentiment which is often extended to campus police

Whereas, Cornell prides itself in being a campus for “any person and any study” and must make sure that goes to ensure any student feels safe on campus

Whereas, Cornell has already recognized the need to update its police system's policies and procedures and looks to establish a new system to respond to students' calls.

Whereas, the Cornell Student Assembly recognizes the work of the CUPD and their efforts pertaining to diversity and de-escalation training.

Whereas, there are shortfalls in the communication between CUPD and the student body in regards to department policy, training program, and internal complaints about police officers.
Be it therefore resolved, that the Student Assembly calls for the CUPD to annually publish information on the CUPD website regarding relevant procedures and policies: namely, diversity and de-escalation training, the use of force policy, and complaints by members of the Cornell community.

Be it further resolved, that Cornell establish an unarmed support unit including social workers, mental health professionals, and others deemed fit, with the set purpose of helping students in non-violent situations such as mental health issues and drug or alcohol use.

Be it further resolved, that Cornell administration prioritizes pre-emptive funding and support for CAPS and other university mental health and social services.

Be it finally resolved, that the Cornell administration re-evaluate when it is deemed necessary for campus police to carry firearms and create a system to limit the number of police or frequency the police carry them when on duty.

Respectfully Submitted,

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