



*a memorandum from the*

# **Glendale Police Department**

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DATE: April 16, 2018  
TO: Kevin Phelps, City Manager  
FROM: Rick St. John, Chief of Police  
SUBJECT: Final Report - Civil Disobedience Ordinance

This memorandum is written to provide information on Vice Mayor Tolmachoff's Council Item of Special Interest (CIOSI) on creating a City of Glendale civil disobedience ordinance.

The Scope of Work (SOW) outlined two deliverables; (1) an analysis of statewide city civil disobedience ordinances; and (2) a first draft of a City of Glendale specific civil disobedience ordinance.

### **Results on Deliverables:**

Utilizing the network of statewide police legal advisors, it was learned that no cities represented in the network have a civil disobedience ordinance to address concerns surrounding protests and potential violence mitigation. Further, it was learned that most cities rely on the operational orders of their police departments to guide their response for mass gatherings and protests. Statewide and nationally, cities have learned that enacting a civil disobedience ordinance has the unintended impact of drawing negative attention from civil rights groups that would have otherwise likely not gotten involved had the city relied on the police department operational orders to govern their response.

A comparison of state and national best practices against the current operational orders of the police department revealed the strength of our operational orders and confirmed our ability to rely on those operational orders to guide our response.

### **Recommendation:**

After extensive research on the topic, it is the joint recommendation of the City of Glendale's City Attorney's Office and Police Department that we not move forward with drafting a city ordinance on civil disobedience, but rather we continue to rely on the police department's operational orders to guide us in our collective response to mass gatherings and protests.