

Georgetown University Student Association

In the school year 2019-2020

An ACT to ESTABLISH A STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OVERSEEING GUPD

WHEREAS, GUPD has a history of racial profiling and police brutality¹;

WHEREAS, federal lawsuits have been filed against Georgetown University, citing discriminatory practices utilized by GUPD²;

WHEREAS, students may be unwilling to file bias reports against GUPD officers for fear of retribution, or concerns that their complaints may not be handled properly;

WHEREAS, this body's previous support for the ongoing Black Lives Matter movement and protests engaged in advocating against institutionalized racism in this country's policing systems³ constitutes a need to address oppressive, racist, and discriminatory policing on campus⁴;

WHEREAS, University policies⁵ requiring specific security costs relating to the hiring of GUPD officers for certain large or "controversial" events impose a clear burden on student organizations⁶;

WHEREAS, despite these burdensome costs, there is not yet sufficient transparency regarding GUPD protocols and practices, as it pertains to their policing of students of color on campus, and efforts to combat discrimination within the Department⁷;

¹Crawford, Daria. "Allegations of Poor Policing at GU Persist; Few Reports Follow," November 22, 2019, <https://thehoya.com/allegations-of-poor-policing-at-gu-persist-few-reports-follow/>.

² "ROSS v. GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY Et Al, No. 1:2018cv00671 - Document 21 (D.D.C. 2019)," Justia Law, accessed June 4, 2020, <https://law.justia.com/cases/federal/district-courts/district-of-columbia/dcdce/1:2018cv00671/194700/21/>.

³ Sen. Teixeira. "A RESOLUTION in SOLIDARITY with the Black Lives Matter Movement and Protesters in the United States," June 1, 2020, <https://docs.google.com/document/d/17hOu-S1wFDa4snTd0UWsEj0r2nP1-tdYAwLUKjbU72c/edit#>.

⁴ Varsha Menon et al., "VIEWPOINT: Reform GUPD Practices," The Hoya, September 28, 2019, <https://thehoya.com/viewpoint-reform-gupd-practices/>.

⁵ "Event Security Requests," Georgetown University Police Department, July 1, 2019, <https://police.georgetown.edu/campus/event-security-requests/>.

⁶ Editorial Board, "EDITORIAL: Reduce GUPD Security Costs," The Hoya, February 22, 2019, <https://thehoya.com/editorial-reduce-gupd-security-costs/?fbclid=IwAR0x4VPYx2Jb5jw6ToNyNM25Duha6HXCoEtYci0Vcz-6D3CCIXH0in0tgD4>.

⁷ Crawford, Daria. "Allegations of Poor Policing at GU Persist; Few Reports Follow," November 22, 2019, <https://thehoya.com/allegations-of-poor-policing-at-gu-persist-few-reports-follow/>.

WHEREAS, more stringent student oversight is necessary over the officers tasked with carrying out their security on the campus which they reside on;

WHEREAS, the work of student groups, such as GUAPA, deserves institutionalized support in carrying out their goals and advocacy work;

WHEREAS, there exists a need for an independent body committed to tracking instances of GUPD misconduct, publicizing reports detailing the state of GUPD practices, and issuing recommendations to the University on how to best reform GUPD;

THEREFORE, be it ENACTED by the Georgetown University Student Association Senate as follows:

The 14th Senate ESTABLISHES a Student Advisory Committee overseeing the Georgetown University Police Department, “the GUPD Oversight Student Advisory Committee”. This Committee shall be governed in the following manner:

1. The Committee shall consist of 8 members.
 - a. One member shall be a representative of Georgetown United Against Police Aggression (GUAPA).
 - i. This member shall serve as Chair of the Committee, ex-officio.
 - b. One member shall be a Senator.
 - i. This member shall serve as Vice-Chair of the Committee, ex-officio.
 - ii. This member is responsible for providing an update to the Full Senate on the work of the Committee on a monthly basis.
 - c. Two members shall be from the executive, one of which is from the Sexual Assault and Student Safety Policy Coalition, the other appointed by the executive.
 - d. Four members shall be general representatives of the student body. Student body representatives shall be selected in the following manner:
 - i. Three members shall be representatives from the Black Leadership Forum, the Latinx Leadership Forum, and the Asian-Pacific Islander Leadership Forum.
 - ii. The fourth member shall be an appointee from the student body, to be agreed upon by a consensus of the other seven members.
2. The mission of the Committee shall be to serve as a permanent watchdog body, committed to overseeing and holding Georgetown University Police Department accountable.
3. The Committee shall carry out its mission in the following manner:

- a. Maintaining and publicizing an **anonymous** reporting form, to be filled out when an individual wishes to make a bias or misconduct complaint against a GUPD officer or officers, or when an individual has already filled out a bias or misconduct report;
- b. Creating and publishing reports — on a semesterly basis — that speak to the current climate of GUPD on campus and highlight any complaints that were made or incidents that occurred that semester;
- c. Creating and publishing recommendations to GUPD trainings, policies, and protocols to be sent to administration officials;
- d. Any other tasks, publicity efforts, initiatives, or events, that the Committee deems necessary.

Certification

We hereby certify that the foregoing legislation was duly considered by the Senate at a meeting at which a quorum was present and that the same was approved by a vote of 17 in favor and 2 opposed and 1 abstaining, this 7th day of June, 2020. Should this bill not see a signature nor a veto from the President, it shall automatically go into effect the 19th of June, 2020.

Daniella Sanchez
Speaker

Eric Lipka
Vice Speaker

I hereby sign this legislation into law.

President of the Student Association

Petitioners