

## *MEMORANDUM*

TO: Mike Hanlon  
FROM: Jim Martin  
DATE: August 24, 2020  
RE: 8/24/20 letter to City Council

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Dear Mike:

Please circulate the enclosed letter among members of Allentown City Council. Thank you

Jim Martin

Enc.

JAMES B. MARTIN  
District Attorney



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August 24, 2020

Allentown City Council  
435 Hamilton Street  
Allentown, PA. 18101

RE: Resolution R-2020 and letter to Council from the ACLU

Dear Council:

At the request of Police Chief Glenn Granitz, I was asked to review some portions of Resolution R-2020 and provide my opinion as to potential legal issues that could arise with certain areas. I prepared a memorandum for the Chief that provided a brief overview of the pertinent issues, and consented to his sharing it with all of you. The ACLU has provided you with a response to my memorandum and after reviewing it, I am compelled to reply so that you may have a complete and accurate picture as to my assessment of Resolution R-2020 as it was presented to me at the time of my memo.

I first wish to note that my memorandum was drafted in response to a distinct inquiry in regard to potential legal issues. I was not asked my opinion as to the propriety of the resolution as a whole or the validity of the concerns of Council. As such, my memorandum should not be construed to express any such opinions on these matters. I certainly do not object to a balanced and open dialogue between Council and the citizens of the City of Allentown and the County of Lehigh regarding criminal justice and law enforcement. Indeed, I, like you am a public servant and as District Attorney, am also the Chief Law Enforcement Officer of Lehigh County. It is my statutory duty to represent the Commonwealth's interests in the enforcement of its criminal laws. In this capacity, I function at times in a quasi-judicial capacity, as an investigator of crime, a prosecutor of crime, as well as a policy maker for