

CITY OF VINELAND

ORDINANCE NO. 2022- 36

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF POLICE OFFICERS WITHOUT THE REQUIREMENT FOR SAID OFFICER TO TAKE AN EXAMINATION FOR AN ENTRY-LEVEL LAW ENFORCEMENT POSITION AS REQUIRED BY CIVIL SERVICE PROVIDED THEY SHALL HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED A FULL BASIC COURSE FOR POLICE OFFICERS TRAINING COURSE AT A SCHOOL APPROVED AND AUTHORIZED BY THE NEW JERSEY POLICE TRAINING COMMISSION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 11A:4-1.3.

WHEREAS, the Civil Service Commission has promulgated rules requiring a Law Enforcement Examination in an effort to create a neutral, objective, and equitable means by which those who wish to serve the City of Vineland in upholding the laws and protecting the citizens; and

WHEREAS, due to many factors including a candidate's inability to afford a privately run preparatory course that gives certain candidates an edge, the Civil Service tests can sometimes yield eligibility lists that disproportionately reflect non-minority candidates at the top of the list; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police and Director of Public Safety have opined that candidates completing a qualified course that teaches and tests an array of qualities and skills necessary to become a successful law enforcement officer have the same capability to adequately perform their duties despite the ability to score high upon the Civil Service test and will allow the City to consider a more diverse group of qualified candidates; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 11A:4-1.3 allows the Civil Service Commission to exempt from the requirements of taking an examination for an entry-level law enforcement position a person who has successfully completed a full Basic Course for Police Officers Training Course at a school approved and authorized by the New Jersey Police Training Commission upon the adoption of an Ordinance authorizing such hiring.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Vineland that the Appointing Authority is hereby authorized, but shall not be obligated, to hire entry-level law enforcement officers without taking a Civil Service examination provided said individual has successfully completed a full Basic Course for Police Officers Training Course at a school approved and authorized by the New Jersey Police Training Commission.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that should any portion of this Ordinance be deemed unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, that portion so determined to be unenforceable, shall be void and the balance hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that should any Ordinance or portion thereof be inconsistent herewith, such Ordinance or portion thereof shall be void to the extent of such inconsistencies.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication according to law.

Passed first reading:

Passed final reading:

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President of Council

Approved by the Mayor:

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk