

1 Introduced July 9, 2019, by Councilman
2 Borchert, seconded by Councilman Tamborella,
3 (by request of Administration)
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5 **RESOLUTION R19-13**

6 A resolution supporting the appointment of a paid Faith-Based Liaison to the
7 St. Tammany Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness
8 organization and the funding of this position.
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10 WHEREAS, the charge of the St. Tammany Parish Office of Homeland
11 Security and Emergency Preparedness organization is to develop, manage, coordinate
12 and maintain a comprehensive and effective response to any natural or technological
13 emergency that may occur and which poses a threat to lives and property in St Tammany
14 Parish. This department is responsible for advising the Parish President, Administration
15 Officers, Parish Council and Municipalities regarding emergency preparedness activities
16 and operations; and
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18 WHEREAS, the City of Slidell and St. Tammany Parish have experienced
19 devastation from hurricanes and other natural disasters in the past; and
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21 WHEREAS, the City of Slidell, as well as other local communities, and the
22 Parish as a whole, have experienced the kindness, generosity and unwavering
23 commitment from local Faith-Based communities at the time of disasters; and
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25 WHEREAS, during Hurricane Katrina, the Faith-Based community responded
26 with churches, organizations and businesses sending personnel, supplies, financial
27 support and other resources, however, initially without coordination; and
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29 WHEREAS, Northshore Disaster Recovery, a local non-profit, Faith-Based
30 Organization, took the lead in attempting to manage, coordinate and disburse resources in
31 the area as the need warranted; and
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4 WHEREAS, Northshore Disaster Recovery has continued to coordinate and
5 maintain contact with the Faith-Based community in preparation for future disasters and
6 needs; and
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9 WHEREAS, the effort to continue and maintain communications, and the
10 ability to marshal personnel and equipment when needed, requires a great deal of time
11 and coordination; and
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14 WHEREAS, in addition to government assistance to local citizens, the Faith-
15 Based community has provided millions of dollars of relief and resources from within the
16 City of Slidell and St. Tammany Parish; and
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19 WHEREAS, it has been and will continue to be the contributions from
20 charitable agencies inside and outside the Parish and the on-the-ground organizations that
21 make these efforts possible; and
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24 WHEREAS, at present the St. Tammany Parish Office of Homeland Security
25 and Emergency Preparedness does not have a fully funded Faith-Based Liaison to
26 coordinate the connection between over two hundred and twenty-eight (228) churches
27 throughout St. Tammany Parish in the event of a disaster; and
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30 WHEREAS, the appointment of a Faith-Based Liaison to the St. Tammany
31 Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness organization will
32 provide organizational structure, coordination and efficiency in the deployment of the
33 resources commended by churches and extra-church volunteer groups; and
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37 WHEREAS, at present other Liaison positions in the St. Tammany Parish
38 Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness organization are funded by
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4 their respective sponsoring organizations, the Faith-Based appointment does not fit that
5 scenario and therefore, requires funding; and
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7 WHEREAS, the City of Slidell desires to support the appointment of a paid
8 Faith-Based Liaison to the St. Tammany Parish Office of Homeland Security and
9 Emergency Preparedness organization.
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12 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council, acting as
13 governing authority of the City of Slidell, State of Louisiana, that it does hereby support the
14 appointment of a Faith-Based Liaison to the St. Tammany Parish Office of Homeland
15 Security and Emergency Preparedness organization.
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the City Council, acting as governing
19 authority of the City of Slidell, State of Louisiana, that it does hereby further support that
20 funding sources be identified to fund said appointment.
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23 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this Resolution will become effective
24 immediately.
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27 **ADOPTED** this 9th day of July, 2019.
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30 
31 Bill Borchert
32 President of the Council
33 Councilman-at-Large
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37 Thomas P. Reeves
38 Council Administrator
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