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ORDER OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS OF THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN APPROVING  
THE REQUEST FOR AN EXCEPTION TO THE CITY CHARTER REQUIREMENT  
CONCERNING RESIDENT ELECTOR STATUS FOR CHIEF OF POLICE DAVID  
ZANNELLI.

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WHEREAS, under the revised City Charter, passed on November 7, 2023, Article II, Section 12 of the Charter (“Charter”) of the City of New Haven (“City”) there is set forth an Elector and residency requirement for certain appointed Public Officials, Department Heads and Deputies, unless otherwise provided by Law or waived in accordance with the provisions of § 12.D of the Charter; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2026 the New Haven Board of Alders, via Chapter 2, Art. IV, Division 1, Sec. 2-221 of the New Haven Code of Ordinances (OR-2026-0016), established an exception process to the Charter’s elector and city residency requirements for individuals in roles subject to resident elector requirements under the Charter; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zannelli has been serving in the capacity as the Chief of the New Haven Police Department since May of 2026; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zannelli was originally hired in 2008 by the New Haven Police Department, rising through the ranks of the department over 20 years of distinguished law enforcement service and having held all supervisory ranks; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zannelli possesses a master’s degree in public administration, a Masters Certificate, and a bachelor’s in administration of justice, in addition to having graduated from the FBI National Academy and the Senior Management Institute for Police through the Police Executive Research Forum; and

WHEREAS, prior to the submission and approval of Mr. Zannelli to serve as Police Chief of the New Haven Police Department, he had been serving as Assistant Chief since 2022 with exemplary assignments at Patrol and Head of the Investigative Services Unit; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zannelli owns a home in Mystic, Connecticut, where his three school-aged children have grown up and established themselves at their current schools; and

WHEREAS, without an exception, Mr. Zannelli and his family would experience personal and financial disruption associated with changing schools and locating a home; and

WHEREAS, based on the information provided, the Personnel Director of the City of New Haven has reviewed relevant criteria pursuant to Sec. 2-221 of the New Haven Code of Ordinances and has certified that this exception request from Mr. Zannelli does indeed satisfy criteria for consideration; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zannelli's established Mystic address fulfills the condition as established by Sec. 2-221 for an individual granted an exception to continue to reside within the State of Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zannelli has demonstrated exemplary dedication in serving the City of New Haven; and

WHEREAS, as such, an exception of residency/elector status will not be of detriment to our municipality nor diminish his effectiveness or dedication to his role.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the Board of Alders of the City of New Haven that the Chief of Police, Mr. David Zannelli, be granted an exception of the New Haven Charter's elector & residency requirement so that he may remain in his position and continue his hard work serving the people of the City of New Haven.