

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2019-1

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENSUS 2020 COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, as required by the United States Constitution, the United States Census Bureau conducts a count, or Census, of all those living in the United States every 10 years; and

WHEREAS, data from the Census is used in many ways, including but not limited to determining federal funding to state and local governments, redistricting, projecting future transportation needs, determining areas eligible for housing assistance and rehabilitation loans, assisting federal, state and local governments in planning and implementing services, programs and emergency response, and designing facilities for people with disabilities, the elderly and children; and

WHEREAS, a Census will be conducted in 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Census Bureau recommends that state and local governments establish Complete Count Committees which are volunteer committees used to increase awareness and motivate residents to respond to the 2020 Census; and

WHEREAS, Complete Count Committees are usually formed by the highest elected official within a jurisdiction, such as a mayor; and

WHEREAS, the City wants to follow the recommendation of the Census Bureau and establish a Complete Count Committee; and

WHEREAS, this Committee would be charged with collecting efforts and mobilizing resources throughout Wilmington – both internal and external to City government – to ensure that a comprehensive plan is developed and that the City does its part to ensure an accurate count of its residents in the 2020 Census; and

WHEREAS, an accurate count in the 2020 Census will help ensure that Wilmingtonians receive an equitable share of federal funding, as well as federal and state representation, and is critical to the City's efforts to continue to move Wilmington forward; and

WHEREAS, Wilmington City Charter section 4-100 states the Mayor shall be responsible for the conduct of the executive and administrative work of the City; and

WHEREAS, Wilmington City Charter section 4-104 states the Mayor shall exercise the powers of his office to, among other things, promote and develop the prosperity and social well-being of the citizens of the City of Wilmington.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL S. PURZYCKI, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, DELAWARE, DO HEREBY ORDER:

1. *Establishment of a Census 2020 Complete Count Committee*

A Census 2020 Complete Count Committee ("Committee") is hereby established for the purpose of mobilizing and leveraging personnel and resources both internal and external to City government, in order to provide assistance to the representatives of the United States Census Bureau in the conduct of the decennial census, in order to assure an accurate census count – and consequentially, an equitable share of financial assistance and federal representation for Wilmingtonians.

2. *Members*

The Committee shall be led by two co-chairs: the Mayor (or his or her designee) and the President of City Council (or his or her designee). The Mayor and President of City Council shall appoint the members of the Committee. Recognizing the benefit of inclusion of a range of stakeholders, the Committee shall be composed, generally, of the following members:

1. Department representatives from relevant City departments
2. Elected officials
3. Representatives of faith-based organizations
4. Representatives from local institutions of higher education
5. Representatives from area school districts
6. Representatives from the nonprofit and community service sector
7. Representatives from City-based business enterprises
8. State Complete Count Committee representative

It shall be the prerogative of the Committee's chairs to add additional members at any time should, through their determination, such additions be of benefit to the mission of the Committee. A quorum shall consist of two-thirds of the members of the Committee.

3. *Responsibilities*

The Committee shall be responsible for the following activities between the date of establishment and the conclusion of the 2020 Census process when declared by Census officials:

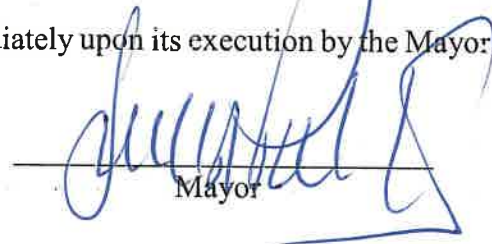
- (a) To establish and maintain an ongoing connection with local representatives and officials with the United States Census Bureau, for the purpose of being updated about developments at the federal level and to be kept apprised of needs with which the Committee could assist;
- (b) To devise a plan for the City of Wilmington – both as a municipal government and as a community – to prepare for the 2020 Census and to assist representatives of the United States Census Bureau with the conduct of this decennial Census;
- (c) To devise a plan for an educational campaign to help inform residents of Wilmington about the importance of this process, leveraging such tools as the City's existing communications channels, including WITN Channel 22 and the City's website; and
- (d) To take appropriate measures to ensure that the elements of the plan created by this Committee are carried out.

4. *Reports*

The Committee shall also be responsible for making written quarterly reports commencing on July 1, 2019 and continuing through the close of the Census process.

This Executive Order shall become effective immediately upon its execution by the Mayor.

Signed this 22 day of January, 2019.



Mayor

Attest: 

City Clerk