

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-008

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ARLINGTON, WASHINGTON  
ADDING A NEW ARLINGTON MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2.32.070 RELATING TO  
SPECIAL POLICE COMMISSIONS

WHEREAS, the City of Arlington has the authority to operate a police department within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to clarify the police chief's authority to commission special police officers under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to make said provisions consistent with one another;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Arlington do hereby ordain as follows:

Section 1. A new Arlington Municipal Code subsection 2.32.070 shall be and hereby is amended to read as follows:

**2.32.070 Commissions.** The police chief is authorized to issue the following commissions of law enforcement authority:

(1) Full commissions shall be issued to all general authority police officers in the police department who are employed on a full-time, fully compensated basis.

(2) Special commissions may be issued to police services officers who are employed on a full-time, fully compensated basis. Such special commissions will be limited to enforcing animal control laws of the city and non-criminal infractions relating to violations of City code.

(3) Special commissions may be issued by the chief of police to civilian personnel employed by the police department. With authorization from the city administrator, the chief of police may issue a special commission to a city employee not employed by the police department. Such special commissions shall not authorize such persons to carry firearms or to effectuate an arrest. The commission authorized under this section shall not vest any person with any police civil service or police pension rights under federal or Washington State law or under any ordinance or regulation.

(4) Special commissions may be issued to reserve officers as defined in Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 43.101.010(11). Said commissions shall be equivalent to full commissions whenever a reserve officer is called into active service. Said commissions shall be effective only during the hours that a reserve officer is on duty for the city.

(5) Special commissions may be issued to law enforcement officers of other jurisdictions pursuant to Chapter 10.93 RCW.

Section 2. Severability. If any provision, section, or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 3. Effective Date. The title of this ordinance which summarizes the contents shall be published in the official newspaper of the City. The ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after the date of publication.

PASSED BY the City Council and APPROVED by the Mayor this 17th day of June, 2024.

CITY OF ARLINGTON

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Don E. Vanney, Mayor

Attest:

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Wendy Van Der Meersche, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

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Steven J. Peiffle  
City Attorney