

City of Gainesville

City Hall 200 East University Avenue Gainesville, Florida 32601

Legislation Text

File #: 130168., Version: 3

Gun Safety Classes (B)

At the July 18, 2013 City Commission meeting Commissioner Hinson-Rawls asked that this issue be referred to the Public Safety Committee for assessment of the possibility of creating gun safety classes specifically for women.

Self defense for women is extremely important as, unfortunately, statistics show that all women are good candidates for violent crime at some point in their lives. When a woman's safety is in danger, defending herself through Awareness, Preparation, De-Escalation, Avoidance and Fighting Back is the most ethical decision she can make for herself and her family.

If the City Commission chooses to move forward with these classes, GPD will be responsible for selecting the instructors and developing the curriculum.

At the December 12, 2013 Public Safety Committee meeting, GPD staff made a presentation that included the estimated costs and other issues with the classes. The Public Safety Committee requested staff continue to explore the liability issue of this course and come back to the Committee with a complete course curriculum and information on liability. At the September 22, 2014 Public Safety Committee meeting GPD staff presented a course curriculum and Risk Management discussed the liability issues for the gun instruction portion of the curriculum.

The estimated costs, assuming a maximum of 25 students, is \$5,000. Of this amount, approximately 60% would be personnel costs. If the gun instruction classes are eliminated, staff instruction would be handled through existing resources.

The City Commission 1) recommend that GPD should not offer gun safety classes, as those services are offered by several outside entities; 2) GPD should proceed to train and certify additional police officers to teach adult and child Rape Aggression Defense classes and to teach mindset survival/safety awareness classes; 3) remove this item from the Public Safety Committee referral list.