

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-2

**AN ORDINANCE DISSOLVING THE HANCEVILLE
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, The City of Hanceville (City) is a municipal corporation of the State of Alabama within Cullman County; and

WHEREAS, The City has determined it is in the best interest of the City and the citizens thereof to abolish the Hanceville Police Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HANCEVILLE, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY

This ordinance is enacted under Ala. Code §§ 11-43-1, 11-43-5, and 11-43-55. The City hereby abolishes the Hanceville Police Department.

SECTION 2. ABOLISHMENT

The Hanceville Police Department is formally abolished. All positions within the department are eliminated.

SECTION 3. REPEAL OF PRIOR ACTIONS

Any and all ordinances, resolutions, or actions establishing or authorizing the department, whether recorded or unrecorded, are repealed.

SECTION 4. TRANSITION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Law enforcement for the City shall hereafter be provided by the Cullman County Sheriff's Office. The Mayor is authorized to negotiate necessary agreements.

SECTION 5. DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

5.1. All equipment, including, but not limited to vehicles, radios, firearms, computers, records systems, evidence storage units, and any other property assigned to or used by the Hanceville Police Department shall be inventoried and transferred, stored, sold, or disposed of as directed by the Mayor in accordance with Alabama law. The Mayor shall ensure that no evidence, weapons, or sensitive materials are released or disposed of except in compliance with statutory requirements.

5.2. All Evidence items and Held Property should be efficiently removed from the custody of the Police Department and/or City Court.

5.3. DEFINITIONS

5.3.1. EVIDENCE – Items seized in furtherance of a criminal investigation. This term includes items seized under a warrant or as an exception to the warrant requirement.

5.3.2. HELD PROPERTY – property that is found, recovered, stored, or otherwise retained for safe keeping, and is not evidence related to or seized as part of a criminal investigation.

5.4. DELIVERY TO SHERIFF

All Evidence items and Held Property shall be transferred to the Cullman County Sheriff's Office (Sheriff) after the same is inventoried by the Sheriff. The City will reasonably assist the Sheriff in the transfer. The Sheriff shall dispose of the Evidence Items and Held Property as provided by law.

SECTION 6. RECORDS MANAGEMENT

All police records, incident reports, evidence logs, citations, administrative files, and related documents shall be secured and maintained in compliance with Alabama records retention laws. The Mayor may designate an appropriate agency, contractor, or the Cullman County Sheriff's Office to assume custody, storage, or archiving of such records.

SECTION 7. CONTINUITY OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Emergency dispatch and law enforcement response shall continue without interruption through the Cullman County Sheriff's Office and Cullman County 911. Nothing in this ordinance shall impair the delivery of emergency services to the residents of Hanceville.

SECTION 8. LAW ENFORCEMENT JURISDICTION

The Cullman County Sheriff's Office shall have full law enforcement authority within the corporate limits and police jurisdiction of the City of Hanceville, including but not limited to patrol, investigation, arrest authority, and response to calls for service.

SECTION 9. SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is found to be invalid or unconstitutional, such finding shall not affect the remaining provisions, which shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption and publication as required by law.

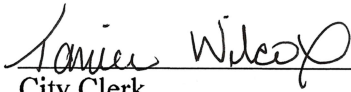
ADOPTED AND APPROVED THE 12TH DAY OF February, 2026.

[SIGNATURES ARE ON FOLLOWING PAGE]



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk