ITEM NO: _____ PREPARED BY: Dottie Jones

APPROVED BY: _____

Resolution approving a proposal for submission to the City of Memphis for the transfer of operations of the Memphis Sexual Assault Resource Center to Shelby County Government without monetary consideration and requesting the City of Memphis adopt said proposal and authorizing the County Mayor to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate same. Sponsored by Commissioner Mike Carpenter.

WHEREAS, Since the mid-1970s, citizens of the Mid-South have had a centralized system where victims of sexual assault could receive care, forensic medical examinations, counseling and support; and

WHEREAS, The Memphis Sexual Assault Resource Center became a national model for providing services to victims in one location, 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, Although MSARC is currently operated by the City of Memphis, its services are regional in nature and clients from across the Mid-South come to the Center for sexual assault forensic medical examinations and other related services; and

WHEREAS, Shelby County Government is responsible for the administration of criminal justice and prosecutorial systems, and the collection of evidence and control of custody of that evidence is crucial to successful prosecution of rapists and sexual assailants; and

WHEREAS, Shelby County Government operates the Crime Victims Center, a comprehensive resource for victims of crime and wishes to co-locate services for all victims of crime with the Crime Victims Center and the Family Safety Center, an initiative of Operation: Safe Community; and

WHEREAS, The City of Memphis has indicated a willingness to entertain a proposal from Shelby County Government to transfer operations of the Memphis Sexual Assault Resource Center to Shelby County Government; and

WHEREAS, The Shelby County Board of Commissioners believes it to be appropriate and expedient to submit such a proposal to the City Council and the Administration of the City of Memphis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE, That a proposal be submitted to the City of Memphis for the transfer of operations of the Memphis Sexual Assault Resource Center to Shelby County Government without monetary consideration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Shelby County Board of Commissioners requests the City of Memphis adopt said proposal and hereby authorizes the County Mayor to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a Victim Services Board be established and appointed by the Shelby County Mayor and confirmed by the Shelby County Board of Commissioners, whose membership be comprised of seven community volunteers with no less than four members being survivors of sexual assault, to advise and support the operation of all victim services, including those for sexual assault, and whose recommendations would be received directly by the elected officials who appointed it.

_____
A C Wharton, Jr., County Mayor

Date: _____

ATTEST:

_____
Clerk of County Commission

ADOPTED: _____