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RELEASE**
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Fisher Phillips Presents Final Report to Council’s Investigative Committee

INDIANAPOLIS – On May 29, Fisher Phillips, the law firm retained in October 2024 by the Indianapolis City-County Council’s Investigative Committee, formally presented its final report following an independent investigation into Mayor Joe Hogsett’s handling of sexual harassment allegations involving his former Chief of Staff.

The firm was selected after the Council unanimously passed Proposal No. 287, 2024 (General Resolution No. 41) in September 2024, which established the Investigative Committee. The General Resolution directed the committee to contract with an out-of-state, independent law firm to conduct a thorough investigation into the allegations and to recommend potential policy changes related to sexual harassment training, workplace relationships, and employee protections. Per the ordinance, the selected firm was required to have no business, political, or financial ties to the City of Indianapolis, the Hogsett Administration and campaign, or members of the City-County Council.

Fisher Phillips—recognized as one of the top employment law firms in the country—was chosen unanimously by the committee.

“I want to express my appreciation to the Fisher Phillips team for their professionalism and thoroughness throughout this investigation,” said Councilor Crista Carlino, Chair of the Investigative Committee. “I also want to thank those who participated in the process—your cooperation was essential. We recognize the difficulty and sensitivity of this matter. It is my hope that the findings and recommendations in this report will guide meaningful reforms and help foster a safer, more accountable work environment for all City employees.”

The final report includes an overview of the investigation, a factual summary, a review of the City-County Human Resources Office and its relevant policies, and a set of findings and recommendations.

With today’s presentation, the committee’s work with Fisher Phillips has concluded, and the primary role of this investigative committee is now complete. As for next steps, the committee members will individually review the report in greater detail and recommend further action to be taken by the Council. Any policy recommendations or proposed ordinance changes stemming from the report will be considered through the Council’s standard legislative process.

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