ORDINANCE No. 20251113-4

Relating to Authority of Law Enforcement Agencies to Access Public Rights-of-Way and Easements for Purposes of Law Enforcement Activities

Purpose: An Ordinance of the City of Hudson, Texas authorizing the Angelina County Sheriff's Department to have the same access to all public and/or private rights-of-way and/or easements within the City of Hudson as necessary during the engagement of law enforcement activities for the City, and repealing all other ordinances and/or parts of ordinances which may in conflict therewith.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUDSON, TEXAS THAT:

- 1. Pursuant to the Interlocal Agreement by and between the City of Hudson, Texas and the County of Angelina, Texas, the Angelina County Sheriff's Department currently provides all law enforcement and related emergency response services to the citizens of the City of Hudson.
- 2. During the provision of law enforcement and/or related emergency responsive services for the City, it may, from time to time, become necessary for the officials, officers, employees, representatives, or agents of the Angelina County Sheriff's Department to have access to, enter, or cross over/through certain public and/or private property within the City limits of Hudson, Texas, as determined necessary by the Sheriff's Department to enforce the criminal and/or municipal laws of the State of Texas and/or City of Hudson.
- 3. This Ordinance authorizes and permits the same or similar access to public and/or private rights-of-way and affirmative easements to the Angelina County Sheriff's Department only as necessary in order to effectuate the Interlocal Agreement and to provide law enforcement and related emergency responsive services to the citizens of Hudson. This Ordinance is not intended to, nor does it impact, the rights of private property owners under the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, nor does it grant unlimited or unrestricted power or access to the Sheriff's Department to enter private property for any reason unrelated to the active engagement in law enforcement activities (e.g., hot pursuit, etc.). To the extent that this Ordinance conflicts with individual private property owner rights under State law or the U.S. Constitution, the applicable statute or Constitutional provision shall control.

Passed on this first and final ready by the City Council of the City of Hudson, Texas at its duly-called and authorized meeting, this 13th day of November, 2025.

Robert Smith, Mayor City of Hudson, Texas

ATTEST:

Cheryl Everett, City Secretary City of Hudson, Texas