

**Sheree Kansas**

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**Subject:** FW: Police Militarization and Protocols with Citizenry

-----Original Message-----

From: Gonzalo Lopez [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 12:48 PM  
To: Mike Diaz <mdiaz@chulavistaca.gov>  
Subject: Police Militarization and Protocols with Citizenry

Warning: External Email

Dear Councilmember Diaz:

I hope you and your family are keeping safe these dramatic days of crisis.

I want to comment on two matters: I would like to know to what extent is our police a recipient of surplus war equipment from the Pentagon. I do not understand why our police would have military equipment at all as their concern is with the welfare of our citizens and not to treat them as if they were enemies. Military equipment used in our wars of aggression against other countries should not have a place inside the country. Unfortunately, this equipment has been used against our citizens in several cities now and in the past.

I want to also ask about the protocols used by our police when engaging with the citizenry to make sure that no abuse will ever take place as we have seen in other cities around the country, that the police are trained and will be punished if they brake laws and attempt against other people's lives. This should not happen in our city. Related to this I would like for you to consider ways to defund the police department and re-direct those funds to social benefit programs. These programs are many times reduced while expenditures on police are increased with no justification.

I do not know if you or your office are aware of the Poor People's Campaign and the Poor People's March on June 20, 2020. If not, I would advise you to look into it and join the march on June 20th. The Poor People's Campaign is proposing a Moral Budget that could be inspiring for you and other politicians as a model to address the real needs of folks in the country by re-directing funds in present allocations to favor the neediest to restore peace and adress injustice in our land.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and I look forward to your comments.

Gonzalo Lopez

PS: I have already communicated with Councilmember Galvez in the district where I live.

Sheree Kansas

**From:** Freya Medina <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 02, 2020 6:37 PM  
**To:** Kerry Bigelow  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

**Warning:**  
**External**  
**Email**

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Freya Medina and I am a resident of Chula Vista, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

### 1. Redirect Police Funding

Phillip McHarris (doctoral candidate focusing on race) and Thenjiwe McHarris (strategist with the Movement for Black Lives) explain the problem with current police reform efforts:

*"More training or diversity among police officers won't end police brutality, nor will firing and charging individual officers. Look at the Minneapolis Police Department, which is held up as a model of progressive police reform. The department offers procedural justice as well as trainings for implicit bias, mindfulness and de-escalation. It embraces community policing and officer diversity, bans 'warrior style' policing, uses body cameras, implemented an early intervention system to identify problematic officers, receives training around mental health crisis intervention, and practices 'reconciliation' efforts in communities of color."*

Evidently, that was not enough. Instead of heightening the resources that officers have, they advocate redirecting funds to alternative emergency response programs, which can also be fueled by state-level and local-level grants. The McHarris' argument is that we should work towards a reality in which healthcare workers and emergency response teams should handle substance abuse, domestic violence, homelessness, or mental health cases, while rapid response social workers provide individuals with the care they need. Community organizers would be responsible for spearheading responses to the pandemic. "The average police recruit spends 58 hours learning how to shoot and only 8 hours learning how to de-escalate." Police officers are not trained nor necessary in reacting to such crises—specialized responders are.

Most police funding is budgeted and taxed at the local level, with city-level and county-level votes periodically increasing budgets. In 2017, Oakland allocated the highest share of its general fund to policing nationwide, at 41 percent and \$242.5 million. It is crucial to establish state-level and local-level bans on heightening police funds, while simultaneously redirecting budgets to the aforementioned alternatives.

For-profit policing is a large culprit. Even though Governor Brown's 2016 bill helped protect Californians from civil asset forfeitures, this is far from sufficient. As of 2020, 66.25% of forfeiture profits go to police—a C+ rating.

The Black Lives Matter Movement demands "acknowledgment and accountability for the devaluation and dehumanization of Black life at the hands of the police... We call for a national defunding of police. We demand investment in our communities and the resources to ensure Black people not only survive, but thrive."

The McHarris' conclusion states, "We need to reimagine public safety in ways that shrink and eventually abolish police and prisons while prioritizing education, housing, economic security, mental health and alternatives to conflict and violence."

A persistent, genuine, and well-thought-out legislative effort to redirect police funds and end for-profit policing is imperative.

## **2. Abolish Legislative Police Protections**

Murderers who wear a badge have consistently been given a free pass to decimate Black life. BLM "demand[s] accountability [for] those who are victims of police violence."

It is vital to ensure that police officers are met with precisely the same consequences as their badgeless counterparts. Accountability has been denied to Black people for centuries, and it is crucial to impose legislative confirmation that accountability is ensured.

Campaign Zero is an organization dedicated to "limiting police interventions, improving community interactions, and ensuring accountability."

They propose a solution of independent investigations. Because only 1% of all killings by police lead to an officer being charged with a crime, "independent investigations and prosecutions of police officers" must be mandated to eliminate biases. A broken system should not be evaluating itself.

## **3. Demilitarize the Police**

Campaign Zero emphasizes that studies show how "more militarized police departments are significantly more likely to kill civilians." Unfortunately, "the federal 1033 program transfers military weapons to police departments."

Campaign Zero continues that to demilitarize, we must "prohibit cities and counties from using federal funds to purchase military equipment."

California is not void of this indictment. In total, 41 MRAPs are in the possession of law enforcement agencies in California. All in all, California's quantity of purchasing such outlandish and high-level military technology is unmatched: "In terms of cash value, California gets more 1033 gear than other states."

Even though the LAPD has refused to take on more military equipment, they stated that "the department will replenish and replace" existing equipment. Such measures must be barred in an effort to eventually demilitarize the police force entirely in the long run.

Police departments should be restricted from using federal grant money to purchase military equipment, using the SWAT team, or conducting no-knock raids. Over-weaponized departments must reduce their use of weapon stockpiles, as "agencies should seek to return to the federal government the military equipment that has already been received" as places like San Jose already have.

The warranting is simple: "Military equipment naturally increases military-style training for said equipment. That training can increase the other dimensions of militarization," contributing to the war-like mentality implicitly enforced by the police, who have no place fighting wars against the most disenfranchised members of their communities.

I hope that our legislators can take tangible, policy-level initiatives to defend Black lives, something they have failed to do so up until this point. Please listen to the pleas of the Black entities listed above and countless others, and help give rise to a future where Black folks do not have to fear for their lives on a daily basis.

Sincerely but not silently,

Freya Medina

**Sheree Kansas**

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**From:** Madeleine Rivera [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:33 PM  
**To:** Kerry Bigelow  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

**Warning:**  
**External**  
**Email**

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Madeleine Rivera and I am a resident of Chula Vista, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

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The McHarris' conclusion states, "We need to reimagine public safety in ways that shrink and eventually abolish police and prisons while prioritizing education, housing, economic security, mental health and alternatives to conflict and violence."

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## **2. Abolish Legislative Police Protections**

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Sincerely but not silently,

Madeleine Rivera

Sheree Kansas

Subject: FW: WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

From: Natalie Mendoza <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 10:27 AM  
To: Kerry Bigelow <KBigelow@chulavistaca.gov>  
Subject: WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

Warning:  
External  
Email

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Natalie Mendoza and I am a resident of San Diego, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

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Natalie Mendoza

Sheree Kansas

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**Subject:** FW: Non-agenda public comment for Chula Vista City Council meeting, June 02, 2020

**From:** KATHLEEN LIPPITT <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 03, 2020 10:45 AM  
**To:** CityClerk <[CityClerk@chulavistaca.gov](mailto:CityClerk@chulavistaca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Non-agenda public comment for Chula Vista City Council meeting, June 02, 2020

**Warning:**  
**External**  
**Email**

This is the CV comment I said send during our Mon morning planning mtg, which would echo the same sentiments I had expressed in my SD UT LTE.

Kathy

On Tue, Jun 2, 2020 at 1:51 PM <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Regarding comments by Mayor and councilmember Diaz, staff should be commended rather than chastised or threatened for doing their due diligence on doing background checks. Background checks are challenging given the evasive and checkered history of applicants involved in this industry.

City leaders really should know that the marijuana industry is notoriously litigious. They will threaten litigation on regulations whether recommended by them or for them simply to weaken or remove them.

There is a reason why cities like Poway, El Cajon and Carlsbad don't have this problem... they didn't get in bed with the industry in first place.

Kathleen Lippitt, MPH

Email: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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*Kathleen M. Lippitt, MPH*  
*Public Health Practitioner*  
[REDACTED]

**Sheree Kansas**

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**Subject:** FW: WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

-----Original Message-----

From: Skye Patton [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 11:37 AM  
To: Kerry Bigelow <KBigelow@chulavistaca.gov>  
Subject: WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

Warning: External Email

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Skye and I am a resident of Chula Vista, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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Sincerely but not silently,

Skye, a concerned citizen of the city of Chula Vista

Sheree Kansas

Subject: FW: Police Funding

From: Viviana Roustan [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 12:40 PM  
To: Kerry Bigelow <KBigelow@chulavistaca.gov>  
Subject: Police Funding

Warning:  
External  
Email

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My name is Viviana Roustan and I am a resident of Chula Vista, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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Viviana Rouston

Sent from my iPhone

Sheree Kansas

Subject: FW: WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

From: Aiden Bliss [REDACTED]  
 Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 1:59 PM  
 To: Kerry Bigelow <KBigelow@chulavistaca.gov>  
 Subject: WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

<b>Warning:</b> <b>External</b> <b>Email</b>
--

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Evidently, that was not enough. Instead of heightening the resources that officers have, they advocate redirecting funds to alternative emergency response programs, which can also be fueled by state-level and local-level grants. The McHarris' argument is that we should work towards a reality in which healthcare workers and emergency response teams should handle substance abuse, domestic violence, homelessness, or mental health cases, while rapid response social workers provide individuals with the care they need. Community organizers would be spearheading responses to the pandemic. "The average police recruit spends 58 hours learning how to shoot and only 8 hours learning how to de-escalate." Police officers are not trained nor necessary in reacting to such crises—specialized responders are.

Most police funding is budgeted and taxed at the local level, with city-level and county-level votes periodically increasing budgets. In 2017, Oakland allocated the highest share of its general fund to policing nationwide, at 41 percent and \$242.5 million. It is crucial to establish state-level and local-level bans on heightening police funds, while simultaneously redirecting budgets to the aforementioned alternatives.

For-profit policing is a large culprit. Even though Governor Brown's 2016 bill helped protect Californians from civil asset forfeitures, this is far from sufficient. As of 2020, 66.25% of forfeiture profits go to police—a C+ rating.

The Black Lives Matter Movement demands "acknowledgment and accountability for the devaluation and dehumanization of Black life at the hands of the police... We call for a national defunding of police. We demand investment in our communities and the resources to ensure Black people not only survive, but thrive." The McHarris' conclusion states, "We need to reimagine public safety in ways that shrink and eventually abolish police and prisons while prioritizing education, housing, economic security, mental health and alternatives to conflict and violence."

A persistent, genuine, and well-thought-out legislative effort to redirect police funds and end for-profit policing is imperative.



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## 2. Abolish Legislative Police Protections

Murderers who wear a badge have consistently been given a free pass to decimate Black life. BLM "demand[s] accountability [for] those who are victims of police violence."

It is vital to ensure that police officers are met with precisely the same consequences as their badgeless counterparts. Accountability has been denied to Black people for centuries, and it is crucial to impose legislative confirmation that accountability is ensured.

Campaign Zero is an organization dedicated to "limiting police interventions, improving community interactions, and ensuring accountability."

They propose a solution of independent investigations. Because only 1% of all killings by police lead to an officer being charged with a crime, "independent investigations and prosecutions of police officers" must be mandated to eliminate biases. A broken system should not be evaluating itself.

## 3. Demilitarize the Police

Campaign Zero emphasizes that studies show how "more militarized police departments are significantly more likely to kill civilians." Unfortunately, "the federal 1033 program transfers military weapons to police departments."

Campaign Zero continues that to demilitarize, we must "prohibit cities and counties from using federal funds to purchase military equipment."

California is not void of this indictment. In total, 41 MRAPs are in the possession of law enforcement agencies in California. All in all, California's quantity of purchasing such outlandish and high-level military technology is unmatched: "In terms of cash value, California gets more 1033 gear than other states."

Even though the LAPD has refused to take on more military equipment, they stated that "the department will replenish and replace" existing equipment. Such measures must be barred in an effort to eventually demilitarize the police force entirely in the long run.

Police departments should be restricted from using federal grant money to purchase military equipment, using the SWAT team, or conducting no-knock raids. Over-weaponized departments must reduce their use of weapon stockpiles, as "agencies should seek to return to the federal government the military equipment that has already been received" as places like San Jose already have.

The warranting is simple: "Military equipment naturally increases military-style training for said equipment. That training can increase the other dimensions of militarization," contributing to the war-like mentality implicitly enforced by the police, who have no place fighting wars against the most disenfranchised members of their communities.

I hope that our legislators can take tangible, policy-level initiatives to defend Black lives, something they have failed to do so up until this point. Please listen to the pleas of the Black entities listed above and countless others, and help give rise to a future where Black folks do not have to fear for their lives on a daily basis.

Sincerely but not silently,  
Aiden Bliss

Sheree Kansas

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Subject: FW: Reform for Justice

From: olivia gutierrez <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 4:40 PM  
To: Kerry Bigelow <KBigelow@chulavistaca.gov>  
Subject: Reform for Justice

<b>Warning: External Email</b>	To Whom It May Concern,
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My name is Olivia and I am a resident of Chula Vista, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

### 1. Redirect Police Funding

Phillip McHarris (doctoral candidate focusing on race) and Thenjiwe McHarris (strategist with the Movement for Black Lives) explain the problem with current police reform efforts:

*"More training or diversity among police officers won't end police brutality, nor will firing and charging individual officers. Look at the Minneapolis Police Department, which is held up as a model of progressive police reform. The department offers procedural justice as well as trainings for implicit bias, mindfulness and de-escalation. It embraces community policing and officer diversity, bans 'warrior style' policing, uses body cameras, implemented an early intervention system to identify problematic officers, receives training around mental health crisis intervention, and practices 'reconciliation' efforts in communities of color."*

Evidently, that was not enough. Instead of heightening the resources that officers have, they advocate redirecting funds to alternative emergency response programs, which can also be fueled by state-level and local-level grants. The McHarris' argument is that we should work towards a reality in which healthcare workers and emergency response teams should handle substance abuse, domestic violence, homelessness, or mental health cases, while rapid response social workers provide individuals with the care they need. Community organizers would be responsible for spearheading responses to the pandemic. "The average police recruit spends 58 hours learning how to shoot and only 8 hours learning how to de-escalate." Police officers are not trained nor necessary in reacting to such crises—specialized responders are.

Most police funding is budgeted and taxed at the local level, with city-level and county-level votes periodically increasing budgets. In 2017, Oakland allocated the highest share of its general fund to policing nationwide, at 41 percent and \$242.5 million. It is crucial to establish state-level and local-level bans on heightening police funds, while simultaneously redirecting budgets to the aforementioned alternatives.

For-profit policing is a large culprit. Even though Governor Brown's 2016 bill helped protect Californians from civil asset forfeitures, this is far from sufficient. As of 2020, 66.25% of forfeiture profits go to police—a C+ rating.

The Black Lives Matter Movement demands "acknowledgment and accountability for the devaluation and dehumanization of Black life at the hands of the police... We call for a national defunding of police. We demand investment in our communities and the resources to ensure Black people not only survive, but thrive."

The McHarris' conclusion states, "We need to reimagine public safety in ways that shrink and eventually abolish police and prisons while prioritizing education, housing, economic security, mental health and alternatives to conflict and violence."

A persistent, genuine, and well-thought-out legislative effort to redirect police funds and end for-profit policing is imperative.

## **2. Abolish Legislative Police Protections**

Murderers who wear a badge have consistently been given a free pass to decimate Black life. BLM "demand[s] accountability [for] those who are victims of police violence."

It is vital to ensure that police officers are met with precisely the same consequences as their badgeless counterparts. Accountability has been denied to Black people for centuries, and it is crucial to impose legislative confirmation that accountability is ensured.

Campaign Zero is an organization dedicated to "limiting police interventions, improving community interactions, and ensuring accountability."

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Sincerely but not silently,  
Olivia

Sent from my iPhone

Sheree Kansas

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**Subject:** FW: Staff Thanks & Public Comment Difficulty  
**Attachments:** Governor's - 3.17.20-N-29-20-EO.pdf

**From:** Kelly McCormick [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 03, 2020 5:56 PM  
**To:** Mary Salas <[MSalas@chulavistaca.gov](mailto:MSalas@chulavistaca.gov)>; Mike Diaz <[mdiaz@chulavistaca.gov](mailto:mdiaz@chulavistaca.gov)>; Jill Galvez <[jimgalvez@chulavistaca.gov](mailto:jimgalvez@chulavistaca.gov)>; Steve C. Padilla <[spadilla@chulavistaca.gov](mailto:spadilla@chulavistaca.gov)>; John McCann <[jmccann@chulavistaca.gov](mailto:jmccann@chulavistaca.gov)>  
**Cc:** CityClerk <[CityClerk@chulavistaca.gov](mailto:CityClerk@chulavistaca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Staff Thanks & Public Comment Difficulty

**Warning:**  
**External**  
**Email**

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

Below is a Public Comment which I attempted to submit for this week's City Council meeting. The eComment function was not working. It is the second time this has happened over the past couple of months. If this problem is not corrected, the website should provide alternate instructions for submitting comments. Not doing so is a violation of the Governor's Order on conducting remote city council meetings during the pandemic. The order is attached.

**Good evening, I would like to thank City Staff for conducting due diligence on the applicants for marijuana businesses and not rushing through the approval process without thorough vetting of applicants. The pot industry is rife with operators who are less than transparent.**

**As a Public Health Educator, I would like to remind you that marijuana smoke is extremely harmful to the lungs and has been found to contain many of the same harmful components as tobacco smoke. THC, the psychoactive ingredient in pot, has been shown in studies to hurt the immune system and jeopardize overall health.**

**It is foolhardy – during the public health crisis of COVID19 – to do anything that supports and encourages the use of this highly addictive and harmful drug.**

Thank you for your time,  
Kelly McCormick

**Sheree Kansas****Subject:** FW: WE DEMAND JUSTICE

**From:** Zasha Zuniga [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 4, 2020 11:04 AM  
**To:** Kerry Bigelow <[KBigelow@chulavistaca.gov](mailto:KBigelow@chulavistaca.gov)>  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE

**Warning:**  
**External**  
**Email**

To Whom It May Concern,

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