From: Voices For LAPD <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, August 14, 2023 3:09 PM
To: Police Commission
Subject: BOPC meeting 08/15/23

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Mayor Bass, City Council, LAPD Board of Police Commissioners, and All Concerned Citizens of Los Angeles,

It is imperative that Police Commission President Briggs step down as BOPC president voluntarily or be removed by Mayor Karen Bass for the following reasons:

1. Week after week, meeting after meeting LAPD BOPC Briggs reads the public advisory warning on commentary and behavior guidelines which admonishes those present not to disrupt the meeting lest there be one warning and then subsequent removal from the meeting for disruption of the meeting. Yet, we have all witnessed his inability or unwillingness to address repeated disruptions from repeat offenders without consequence or enforcement action. Willful disruption of a public meeting is a misdemeanor California Penal Code Section 403.
Yet, in the presence of the LAPD Chief of Police, with a Sgt at Arms present and additional LAPD officers present, Briggs refuses to enforce the law in view of the entire world. Briggs allows the same usual suspects to disrupt the meeting with vocalizations and profanity that make a mockery of the meeting and wastes the time of all. The public in attendance is attempting to have a constructive meeting that communicates concerns of the citizens to its representatives in a public forum.
It is clear that Briggs has no interest in enforcing the meeting advisement on disruptive behavior and is derelict in his duty. For this reason Briggs should resign or be replaced forthwith.

2. During the three minutes of time allotted for two speakers that were present in person at the 7/11/23 meeting, Briggs threatened to terminate their time for the use of a racial invective and in one case did so. Briggs does not seem to understand that he cannot determine what terms are used by speakers even if those terms are reprehensible. As long as the speaker is on topic and not attacking other speakers that speaker can use the language that speaker chooses to use, as vile and objectionable as it might be to us. The First Amendment guarantees us the right to free speech and expression as it relates to government regulation. Briggs opens up the city to liability when he arbitrarily decides what terms might be used and which terms are impermissible during public comment as he is appointed by the Mayor and acting in an official capacity as BOPC president. One of the public commenters had to cite his own case law on this very issue to Briggs who knew or should have known that case as it involved the LAPD BOPC. For this reason Briggs should resign or be replaced forthwith.

3. Briggs arbitrarily decides what is permissible or not at BOPC meetings. For example, forbidding attendees to stand in the room in the back without reason or rationale provided. Is that a rule written somewhere? If so it should be cited.
Additionally, Briggs has a tendency to let some speakers have more time than the allotted three minutes and terminates others when they are trying to make a point using unconventional metaphors but that are still on topic. All speakers, regardless of viewpoint, should receive the same equal and fair treatment and to do otherwise is a violation of law.
For these reasons Briggs should resign or be replaced forthwith.

In summary, how can the citizens of Los Angeles have confidence in the LAPD, when the LAPD BOPC president, Chief, and Sgt At Arms cannot enforce the law when it is repeatedly being broken right in front of all of us? The answer is that it cannot.
The LAPD deserves better and so do ALL the residents of Los Angeles!