INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

November 13, 2020

1.0

TO: The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

FROM: Inspector General, Police Commission

SUBJECT: PUBLIC FEEDBACK ON THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL’S REVIEW OF STOPS CONDUCTED BY THE LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT IN 2019

DISCUSSION

On October 27, 2020, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) presented its “Review of Stops Conducted by the Los Angeles Police Department in 2019” to the Board of Police Commissioners (BOPC). As mentioned during that meeting, from October 27 to November 10 the public was invited to submit comments and questions about the report via email. The OIG has compiled the responses received from the public, and the breakdown is as follows:

The OIG received a total of 48 emails.

- Of the 48 emails received:
  - 9 (18%) contained unique written content.
  - 6 (13%) contained the same written content.
  - 33 (69%) contained the same written content, along with additional comments.

- All of the emails received are provided as addenda, for review by the BOPC and the public.

I am available to provide any further information the Board may require.

MARK P. SMITH
Inspector General
Police Commission

Attachment
Stop racist LAPD stops

becca vb
Mon 11/9/2020 4:58 PM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: Mayor Garcetti <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; Mayor Garcetti <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Sboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lapcfails@gmail.com <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@legacyla.org <lou@legacyla.org>; Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>

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LAPD stops are racist, plain and simple, and this must change. Time is up.

Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception, not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions,” and its massive share of the city budget.

Data is constantly and disproportionately gathered by police on Black community members. Every stop generates “crime,” data points for LAPD databases and becomes “evidence,” of a person’s “previous interactions with police.” LAPD exposes people to personal danger and trauma not only in the moment, but in the future as police compilation of an individual’s personal data can lead to future targeting and criminalization.

Becca

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stop data

Jessie Medofer

Mon 11/9/2020 5:06 PM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lapcfails@gmail.com <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@legacyla.org <lou@legacyla.org>; Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>

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Jessie Medofer

she/her/hers
Stop Data and next steps--

Thea Rodgers [REDACTED]
Mon 11/9/2020 5:26 PM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lacpz@lapd.com <lapcz@lapd.com>; lou@legacyla.org <lou@legacyla.org>; Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>

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Commission members,

At what point do you start holding the LAPD accountable for blatant and violent racism? This new report has given you numbers that makes it more clear than ever that the LAPD is deeply corrupted and provides the stats on how it disproportionately targets black and brown members of our community.

Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception” not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions” and its massive share of the city budget.

A basic knowledge of statistics will tell you that this is at best, a wildly biased system, and at worst, a system that exponentially increases the targeting of community members simply for the color of their skin.

Data is constantly and disproportionately gathered by police on Black community members. Every stop generates “crime” data points for LAPD databases and becomes “evidence” of a person’s “previous interactions with police.” LAPD exposes people to personal danger and trauma not only in the moment, but in the future as police compilation of an individual’s personal data can lead to future targeting and criminalization.

As a resident of LA I’m horrified and embarrassed by the behavior of our police department. My friends cross the street when they see members of the LAPD. This data shows that it's not a matter of
perception that the residents of Los Angeles see the police as a violent and fear-based organization; it's a matter of fact.

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Thea Rodgers
Dear OIG:

You must reject this report and demand one that actually provides data. What this report does is provide cover for the racist, bias practices of the LAPD. Metro must be disbanded at once, per demands made by Black Lives Matter LA and Stop LAPD Spying. These organizations have brought to light the racist nature of the metro division.

Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception” not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear. The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions” and its massive share of the city budget.

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Sincerely,
Gina Viola
Corporate Address:

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and thus protected from disclosure. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer. Thank you, Trade Show Temps.
Public Comment on Data

Kelsey Vidic
Mon 11/9/2020 5:48 PM
To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>
mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker
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To whom it may concern,

I wanted to take a few moments to submit a public comment based on the report released. What I have noticed is
that Black people continue to be the community affected by these stops through the data collected. It is not new
information that this community continues to take the brunt of these stops and clearly points to bias and racism.
Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception, not based in reality.
But the reality could not be more clear.

The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected
by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang
membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional
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budget.

Data is constantly and disproportionately gathered by police on Black community members. Every stop generates
“crime, data points for LAPD databases and becomes “evidence, of a person’s “previous interactions with police.”
LAPD exposes people to personal danger and trauma not only in the moment, but in the future as police
compilation of an individual’s personal data can lead to future targeting and criminalization
Thank you for your time in reading this email, sending my best to you in hopes change continues,

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Kelsey Vidic
Hello,

Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. And yet every time I look at the news I see the LAPD doing another horrific thing to the people they are supposed to protect. The LAPD is an embarrassment to Los Angeles, with racism and power rotting it from the inside out. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception, not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions,” and its massive share of the city budget.

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Regards,

Terra Ashe
Report on Stop Data

Kenny Stevenson

Mon 11/9/2020 6:00 PM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lapcfails@gmail.com <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@legacyla.org <lou@legacyla.org>; Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>

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Hello,

I would like to comment on the recent report on Stop Data. Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples' experiences of racism as “perception” not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

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Thanks for the time,

Kenny Stevenson

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Check out:
Public Comment 11/10

Rebecca Veith

Mon 11/9/2020 6:03 PM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: Mayor Garcetti <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; Mayor Helpdesk <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>
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Hello,

There is a shift in the consciousness of Angelenos, a realization that perhaps those we trusted to keep us safe are actually the origin of violence and suffering in this town. This is clear to many who live in LA, and by no means should be clear to this commission. The LAPD will continue to act as if nothing is wrong, and you are allowing them to do so.

Police have been engaging in gaslighting, dismissing people’s experiences of racism as “perception” not based in reality. But the reality is clear.

The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIC writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making stop may also be affected by there underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIC fails to acknowledge institutional and systemic racism and how it contributes to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstances of each category. This is compounded by the LAPD “missions” and its massive share of the city budget.

Data is constantly and disproportionately gathered by police on Black community members. Generating “crime” data points that become “evidence” of “previous interactions with police” The LAPD exposes people to personal danger and trauma, not just in the moment but in the future as police’s compilation of an individual’s personal data can lead to future targeting and criminalization.

This is thought policing, this is predictive policing, this is systemic racism, this has to stop.

Community members have invited you to join the movement to create a more equitable and peaceful Los Angeles. Will you join the call? Or will you be remembered as someone who not only knew about this violence, but allowed it, perpetuated it, and funded it.

Defund the LAPD, stop the madness.

Best,
Rebecca Veith
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Allen Martsch
STOP LAPD from their continued harassing of Black people

Laura Adery
Mon 11/9/2020 7:27 PM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: Mayor Garcetti <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; Mayor Helpdesk <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Sboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lapcfails@gmail.com <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@legacyla.org <lou@legacyla.org>; Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>

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Dear Commissioners,

Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception,” not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions,” and its massive share of the city budget.

Data is constantly and disproportionately gathered by police on Black community members. Every stop generates “crime,” data points for LAPD databases and becomes “evidence,” of a person’s “previous interactions with police.” LAPD exposes people to personal danger and trauma not only in the moment, but in the future as police compilation of an individual’s personal data can lead to future targeting and criminalization.

We must do a better job to hold the LAPD accountable for their blatant misuse of power and abuse of our communities.

Thank you Laura Adery, Ph D.
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This report clearly shows through their own data that LAPD surveills, stops and harasses Black people at an incredibly disparate rate.

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Erin Byrne Siskind

Mon 11/9/2020 7:34 PM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lapcfails@gmail.com <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@legacyla.org <lou@legacyla.org>; Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>
Hello Inspector General Smith,

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This is unacceptable. LAPD must announce a detailed plan on how it is going to stop being so biased against people of color.

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Clint Blakely (he/him/his)
LAPD Stop Data Concerns

Samantha Spaccasi
Mon 11/9/2020 8:54 PM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <en6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lapcfails@gmail.com <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@legacyla.org <lou@legacyla.org>; Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>

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Dear Police Commission,

I am writing to express concern about the Stop Data report that was recently released. I am even more concerned that the data stipulates a concern that many have echoed that LAPD, through your own data, disproportionately stops and surveils Black and Brown people. I wish I could say I was appalled at this data, but it is not surprising. I am deeply disappointed to see that a group that is supposed to protect and serve everyone is doing the opposite of that.

The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions” and its massive share of the city budget.

Data is constantly and disproportionately gathered by police on Black community members. Every stop generates “crime” data points for LAPD databases and becomes “evidence” of a person’s “previous interactions with police.” LAPD exposes people to personal danger and trauma not only in the moment, but in the future as police compilation of an individual’s personal data can lead to future targeting and criminalization.

With anger and frustration,

Samantha Spaccasi
LA Police Commission

Kimberlee Isaacs

Mon 11/9/2020 8:57 PM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lacpfails@gmail.com <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@LegacyLA.org <lou@LegacyLA.org>; Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>

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The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD’s “missions,” and its massive share of the city budget.

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I am shocked that a city/county that is supposed to be liberal is so racist and not even trying to fix the issues the Black and brown communities are having with the police. The stops, in many cases have resulted in police murdering citizens, most of whom are Black and brown. This MUST be acknowledged and fixed immediately. My Black son is going to drive soon and I am terrified. This should not be the case.

Kim Isaacs
Written Public Comment 11.10.2020 LAPD COC

Michele Wetteland
Mon 11/9/2020 9:01 PM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapdonline>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; Mayor Helpdesk <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; LAPCFails <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@LegacyLA.org <lou@LegacyLA.org>; Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>

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LA Police Oversight Commission,

Do you not have any private embarrassment and public humiliation when watching the LA Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission provide authentic and actual oversight with the information they acquire in order to eradicate crime within law enforcement—while you continue to enable crime in law enforcement with your chronic rubber-stamping of donations, destruction of original documents, and "in policy" ruling on Officer-Involved Shootings and Critical Incident Reports?

If truth in speech were the standard, could it not be truly said that your body is "oversight" in name only? If you were true oversight, would you limit public comment? We live in a city of four million American citizens. Should the ability to speak to the five appointed members of this commission, who are supposed to be the public voice in police affairs, hinge on how fast we can “raise our hands,” in a zoom meeting? Does such a devious practice not go straight to the heart of accessibility and is such a practice not discriminatory at its root?

Additionally, you have heard for months now the public's desire to FIRE Chief MICHAEL SANCHOTENA MOORE, but you continue now to permit, to qualify, and to aid the police chief of this nation's #1 department in OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTINGS to go about business as usual—a term originated as an announcement that a commercial establishment was continuing to operate in spite of fire, construction, or some similar interruption. And it is fitting, for in spite of his obvious blunders and corruption, you all continue on this same path, which cannot be but the demise, in the long run, of so much that is beneficial in and of this city and region. When will it be time to recommend to the Mayor to Fire Chief Moore? When will Los Angeles receive true oversight and accountability of its Law Enforcement Officers? When the cops run dry from the pay outs to citizens who have been unfairly injured, or killed?

In regard to agenda item 3B, those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD continues to pretend nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception,” not based in reality. But the reality could not be clearer. The reports perpetuate the criminalization of black people simply for being black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions,” and its massive share of the city budget.
Data is constantly and disproportionately gathered by police on Black community members. LAPD aggressively targets Black and Brown youth, with 3,818 stops of Black youth under 18 compared to 963 stops of white youth in 2019. For children under age fourteen, 35% of stops were Black children, 53% were of Latino children, and 9% were of white children.

Last week, LAPD reported that out of 734 biased policing complaints in 2019, zero are substantiated. On the face of it, that is simply false. It just could not be so. One must the fair question: Who is the arbiter of what constitutes unfair bias?

This week the OIG LA BOPC report says Black people are stopped 3x their population rate, 5x the rate of white people.

Angelenos filed 4,882 reports of biased policing between 2010-2019, with reports reaching a high of 734 in 2019, a year in which 68% of biased policing reports were filed by Black people. LAPD has tossed out all of these complaints. EVERY. SINGLE. ONE. Were these among the records you have allowed to be destroyed?

How long will you all decide to be complicit with your silence? Every stop generates “crime,” data points for LAPD databases and becomes “evidence,” of a person’s “previous interactions with police,”. LAPD exposes people to personal danger and trauma not only in the moment-but-also-the-future as police compilation of an individual’s personal data can lead to future targeting and criminalization.

Are you fine with your names forever being associated with such a visibly corrupt record, as well a system not so much set up to control a criminal element/class, but an inherently and openly unfair system designed not to stop crime, but to create it?

Additionally, the closed session item OIS # 056-19 is available on your website for public review, but TUD # 057-19 involving two LAPD officers is not available in your use of force OIS and Critical Incidents landing page. What is there to hide? No OIS should be reviewed in closed session. These closed-door sessions should be eradicated for transparency and to build public trust. Maybe there is no trust to be found within LAPD or your Oversight Commission? Your closed-door sessions make this seem to be the case. Maybe this entire body is simply an attempt to placate? If so, it is failing.

Finally, next week you likely will be going into closed session to discuss the execution of Victor Valencia last January by Sgt. Colin Langsdale, who had been recently demoted from Detective. Why is this person still working after murdering Victor? Why are tax dollars being spent to payroll murders? Have you reached out to the family of Victor Valencia yet to make sure they know when you place his killing on the agenda? Are you going to give them time to address the board? Do you value the lives of the loved ones left behind?

Are you okay to disassociate with the disastrous effects of the LAPD while you approve their party plans? I and many others are not okay with the corrupt actions and the incompetent inactions of so many. We are about ready now to see the end of senselessness and power and profit mongering in L.A. County by those entrusted, and sworn, to protect and defend, but show so often they are merely in it to serve and protect only themselves.

Will you continue to be just another twist and kink in the corrupt chain-link fence that has become the notorious power structure that is Los Angeles? Or will you stand up for what is right and decide, once and for all, to be the beginning of the end of this horrific and perpetual cycle of mis-and-malfeasance by those who swear sacred oaths?

Measure J is going to usher in systems of care for LA County. You can add to that care, by eradicating killer cops. Be true civilian oversight. Do your duty.

Frankly and sincerely, Michele
Dear Commission,

I’m writing you today to make a comment on the most recent OIG report on stops by the LAPD. Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception” not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions” and its massive share of the city budget.

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It is far past time for the LAPD to reckon with not only its past as a perpetrator of racial injustice in our city, but also its present as a menacing force wielded against the black and brown communities of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,
Emily Gibson
Stop data: stop it

Zach Sherwin
Mon 11/9/2020 9:06 PM
To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; LAPC Fails <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@legacyla.org <lou@legacyla.org>; Richard Tatank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>

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This Review of Stops report is super troubling. Your own data shows that the LAPD stops Black people at a seriously disproportionate rate. If it weren’t for the fact that the LAPD has never had a sustained complaint of biased policing, I’d be worried racism was to blame!

Sarcasm aside: your criminalization of Black people is traumatic and dangerous. The fact that you compile data on them with every stop compounds the possibility of future harm.

I don’t customarily employ profanity in these e-mails, but I’ll close this one by paraphrasing a close friend and valued teacher: fuck all you lying ass cheatin motherfuckers. Tefank, really put some “oomph” into that when you read it aloud tomorrow morning.

-Zach Sherwin
Surprise, surprise. LAPD data shows what Black citizens have been saying for decades

Betty J White
Mon 11/9/2020 9:16 PM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; Mayor Helpdesk <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lapcfails@gmail.com <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@legacyla.org <lou@legacyla.org>; Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>

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LAPD investigates itself, finds no wrongdoing

Jewell Karinen

Mon 11/9/2020 9:37 PM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>

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Last week LAPD said that out of 734 biased policing complaints in 2019, 0 are substantiated.

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It is not 'perception'

Diana May [REDACTED]
Mon 11/9/2020 9:46 PM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lapcfails@gmail.com <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@legacyla.org <lou@legacyla.org>; Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com

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#LAPCFails

**Jule Gamache**

Mon 11/9/2020 10:55 PM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org> <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org <eid@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lapcfails@gmail.com <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@legacyla.org <lou@legacyla.org>; Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>

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To whom it may concern,

**Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong.** Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception” not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

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Thanks,

**Jule Gamache**

she/her/hers
Black people have been protesting for decades, we have the data now. LAPD and policing in this country is inherently Anti-Black racism in practice and policy. This department has permanently destroyed Black families for generations we are calling for an end to this terrorist organization now. Defund The Police - Fund Black Futures! We should not be afraid we won’t survive a traffic stop.

Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception,” not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

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Jan Williams
Los Angeles
Public Comment of the report on stop data

Rebecca Wilkinson

Mon 11/9/2020 11:06 PM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lapcfails@gmail.com <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@legacyla.org <lou@legacyla.org>; Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>

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Good Afternoon,

I hope that you take the data in your own report seriously and to heart.

Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception,” not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear. The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system...” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions,” and its massive share of the city budget.

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I am a near life-long resident of LA. Even in the 80s, as a white child from West LA, I knew this was true. It is implausible to me that the reason you have still not acted to address these glaring disparities is ignorance. It is willful and it needs to stop now. Please take this moment in history to make the changes necessary to make this a safe city for Black people.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Wilkinson
The LAPD continues to deny that who they target in our community is implicitly biased, with racism alive within it all. And when they have been called out on this issue, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception” not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions” and its massive share of the city budget.

Without considering the history of oppression towards the Black community in this nation and city, police are shrugging off their complicity in perpetuating this oppression!

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Its never been ok to ignore the voices of this city calling out harms done to it by LAPD. But especially now, there are no excuses left.

Stop:
- limiting public comment.
- fire Chief Moore.
  ensure that the family of Victor Valencia has all the information they need to demand justice for their loved one, and hold Sgt. Colin Langsdale appropriately responsible for the murder he commited.

Sincerely,
Sophia Lianna Kandell
To Whom All It May Concern,

Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception,” not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

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Stop limiting public comment. We live in a city of 4 million people, and the ability to speak to the 5 appointed members of this Commission who are supposed to be my voice in police affairs shouldn’t hinge on how fast I can raise my virtual hand.

Michel Moore needs to be fired.

Where are the $600,000 dollars coming from to fix an LAPD memorial that was built for $725,000 dollars in 2009? The public should know from where and from who any donations accepted by this Commission are coming from.

Next week you most likely will be going into closed session to discuss the execution of Victor Valencia last January by Sgt. Colin Langsdale, who had been recently demoted from Detective. Why is this person still working after murdering Victor?

Have you reached out to the family of Victor Valencia yet to make sure they know when you place his killing on the agenda? Are you going to give them time to address the board?

T.K.
Hello,

I'm writing to uplift the demands of Black Lives Matter. Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception,” not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions,” and its massive share of the city budget.

Data is constantly and disproportionately gathered by police on Black community members. Every stop generates “crime,” data points for LAPD databases and becomes “evidence” of a person’s “previous interactions with police.” LAPD exposes people to personal danger and trauma not only in the moment, but in the future as police compilation of an individual’s personal data can lead to future targeting and criminalization. This leads to a vicious racist cycle, and we can and must do better.

Thank you for your consideration,

Danielle Carne
LAPD Stops of Community Residents

Tiff Guerra

Tue 11/10/2020 12:44 AM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>;
major.helpdesk@lacity.org <major.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker
<n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org
<ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve
Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lapcfails@gmail.com <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@legacyla.org <lou@legacyla.org>; Richard
Tetank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>
cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>

ATTENTION: This email originated outside of LAPD. Do not click on links or open attachments unless
you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon,

I am writing regarding the OIG stop report that came out this year, October 2020.

There is so much wrong with this report, but perhaps the most obvious is that it is yet another report
in a string of analyses, audits, research papers, and presentations over the years by either LAPD, OIG,
or a research lab hired for the project that tells us the same thing - at the cost of the people of Los
Angeles - and yet again we know nothing will be done.

I was present at the LAPD report "On the Prevention and Elimination of Biased Policing", a special
Commission meeting that was held exactly 4 years ago, on November 10th, 2016. In that meeting the
Commission heard from research experts, community members, and community organizers, all of
whom gave information about racial bias, community experiences, and LAPD’s racist policing. We also
heard from LAPD’s then-Chief Beck, who informed the folks at the meeting that the Black community
may believe they are being treated unfairly based on race, but that was their perception, not reality.

Four years and thousands of acts of racist policing, police stops, and police acts of violence later, we
hear Moore saying the same thing in last week’s Commissioner meeting, denying that folks are
experiencing racist policing and calling it perception.

How much more evidence do you need? How easily does the “leadership” in the City of LA decide to
continue to gaslight an entire community; the Black community of the city of LA? What does it mean
when this happens year after year, decade after decade?

If the OIG and Commission cannot act in the interest of the people of Los Angeles who are
disproportionately stopped, searched, handcuffed, have their information taken, assaulted, and more
by police for years.. you do not have the right to claim your position. You are not acting in the interest
of the people.

We demand that LAPD STOP making stops of Black community members. This does not result in a
drop in crime and does not make the community more safe. We demand that there is no more
funding of "research and analysis" to understand the problem. You have been doing this for years
while the community screams at you what the problem actually is, and you know this. We demand to know what the LAPD is doing with all the information gathered from people whom they stop. How is the information from Field Interview cards used? The Commission cannot answer this. If that doesn’t concern you on an extreme level then again, you should not be in the position you hold.

Please act on behalf of the Black folks in LA who are most impacted by police. These are the folks we want to hear from. Stop turning to white researchers, academics, and other police departments for “analysis” and insight. They are far removed from the community and do not hold the answers.

#DefundThePolice

--
T Guerra
they/them/their
Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception, not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system...” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions, and its massive share of the city budget.

Data is constantly and disproportionately gathered by police on Black community members. Every stop generates “crime,” data points for LAPD databases and becomes “evidence,” of a person’s “previous interactions with police...” LAPD exposes people to personal danger and trauma not only in the moment, but in the future as police compilation of an individual’s personal data can lead to future targeting and criminalization. If LAPD’s practices were not racist then Black people would not be disproportionately affected. Biased results are the product of biased practices. You can’t fool us. Racism is not a matter of opinion or feelings, it is a matter of Black people and people of color being disproportionately harmed and targeted by systems and institutions. LAPD is the embodiment of racism. -Catherine Safley
I’m emailing today to comment on the report on Stop Data collected by the LAPD police commission. The commission’s own data confirms what Angelenos have known for decades: the police disproportionately target black and brown people. Being a black Angeleno I grew up amidst a plethora of anecdotes detailing how police have harassed and victimized those closest to me. It’s no surprise that these stories come from black and brown people. One need only exchange anecdotes with a white person to find that:

1. I as a black man am stopped more frequently than my fellow white citizens.
2. During these stops I’m treated with a greater degree of suspicion. I have not heard of a white person being asked if they were on probation. This is a question reserved for my black and brown kin.
3. The level of anxiety I feel during these stops far surpasses that of my fellow white citizens. While some worry about talking their way out of their ticket, black and brown folks are navigating their way out of a life or death situation.

Again, these are things we’ve known for years. However YOU now have data that supports these lived experiences. Will you acknowledge the inherent racism within your police force? Or will you continue to gaslight the black and brown people of this city, and allow your officers to inflict further pain, trauma, and death upon the public they’re meant to protect. Do the right thing.

Sincerely,
Matyos Kidane
Hello,

Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Denying racism in the face of such facts is not a good look, ever. Police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception,” not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions,” and its massive share of the city budget.

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This is unacceptable and LAPD will not continue to get away with ignoring or trying to sweep these practices under the rug.

Sincerely,
Amanda Devine
OIG Report on Stop Data Public Comment

Margaret Starbuck
Tue 11/10/2020 1:26 AM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstps@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>;
mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker
<n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org
<ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve
Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lapcfail@gmail.com <lapcfail@gmail.com>; lou@LegacyLA.org <lou@LegacyLA.org>;
Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>;
cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>

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recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear LAPC,

There were over 700 complaints of racially biased policing in the past year, which the LAPD has
dismissed as "unsubstantiated." However the OIG report clearly shows through their own data that LAPD
surveils, stops and harasses Black people at an incredibly disparate rate.

Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for
decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples' experiences of racism as "perception" not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that
"activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other
underlying disparities," including "disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang
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interactions with police." LAPD exposes people to personal danger and trauma not only in the moment,
but in the future as police compilation of an individual's personal data can lead to future targeting and
criminalization.

Please read my comment aloud during the LAPC meeting tomorrow, 10/10/2020.

sincerely,
Margaret Starbuck
Lausd teacher-Public comment

J Dominguez [REDACTED]

Tue 11/10/2020 2:20 AM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lapcfails@gmail.com <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@legacyla.org <lou@legacyla.org>; Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>

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I am a LA resident & middle school teacher for LAUSD.

Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception,” not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions,” and its massive share of the city budget.

Data is constantly and disproportionately gathered by police on Black community members. Every stop generates “crime, data points for LAPD databases and becomes “evidence,” of a person’s “previous interactions with police.” LAPD exposes people to personal danger and trauma not only in the moment, but in the future as police compilation of an individual’s personal data can lead to future targeting and criminalization.

-LAPD MUST BE STOPPED!!!!
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Regards,

Ashraf (she/her)
bias in police stops

Sophie Neff

Tue 11/10/2020 3:13 AM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstoppers@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lapcfails@gmail.com <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@legacyla.org <lou@legacyla.org>; Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rect@latimes.com <kevin.rect@latimes.com>

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LAPD: stop harassing and surveilling the black members of our community. you are further traumatizing an already traumatized people and deepening divides within our community.

--

Sophie Neff
she/her/hers
11/9/2020 Public Comment

Sarah Bowers

Tue 11/10/2020 5:30 AM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; Mayor Helpdesk <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lacpfauls@gmail.com <lapcfauls@gmail.com>; Richard Tetz <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>

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Dear LA Police Commission,

A few points that I’d like to offer comment on. Please do as your ED is supposed to do, and read my written comment and the written comment of others in the meetings.

- **One of the most disconcerting things about LAPD is them not taking seriously accusations of their racism.** The earlier report that shows that out 734 accusations of racism, 0 were found by LAPD to be legitimate proves this. I feel really sad and concerned that all of you, with the exception of Mr. Bonner, accepted that without question and calls for external investigations. In an earlier report LAPD continues to pretend that nothing is wrong. They gaslight and dismiss peoples' experiences of racism as perception not based in reality. And you are further allowing them to continue to dismiss these accusations.

- **The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black.** The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions” and its massive share of the city budget.

- **Data is constantly and disproportionately gathered by police on Black community members.** Every stop generates “crime” data points for LAPD databases and becomes “evidence” of a person’s “previous interactions with police.” LAPD exposes people to personal danger and trauma not only in the moment, but in the future as police compilation of an individual’s personal data can lead to future targeting and criminalization.

- **Your commission is not doing nearly enough to implement changes that earlier this year you said you would implement.** It is because of entities like your commission that the people no longer trust our police, city, or county leaders.
• Your commission fails to hold true to the labeled commission purpose to hear and represent the voice of the people. I find it unfortunate that your commission does not maintain any online record of the public comments sent in. Again, you talk about the importance of hearing citizens' voices but only give them 45 minutes to speak, only invite people you want to hear speak at your police forums, and don't even record these online comments.

Sincerely,
Sarah Bowers
To whom it may concern,

I’m writing today as a concerned citizen of Los Angeles, troubled by the alarming rate at which LAPD harasses Black people and the inaction by leaders to stop this.

Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing people’s experiences of racism as “perception,” not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

The reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions,” and its massive share of the city budget.

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LAPD pretends nothing is wrong

Jason Reedy

Tue 11/10/2020 5:31 PM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: mayor.garceeti@lacity.org <mayor.garceeti@lacity.org>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; Eileen Decker <n6220@lapd.online>; Shane Murphy Goldsmith <n5449@lapd.online>; ethics.commission@lacity.org <ethics.commission@lacity.org>; Dale Bonner <n6154@lapd.online>; Sandra Figueroa-Villa <n4964@lapd.online>; Steve Soboroff <n4967@lapd.online>; lapcfails@gmail.com <lapcfails@gmail.com>; lou@legacyla.org <lou@legacyla.org>; Richard Tefank <n3025@lapd.online>; Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>; tips@laist.com <tips@laist.com>; cindy.chang@latimes.com <cindy.chang@latimes.com>; kevin.rector@latimes.com <kevin.rector@latimes.com>

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Hello,

Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception, not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear. Their truths will not be silenced. Their truths will not be disregarded. Their truths be brought to light.

These reports perpetuate the criminalization of Black people simply for being Black. The OIG writes that “activities and circumstances which can result in officers making a stop may also be affected by other underlying disparities,” including “disparities in local crime rates, poverty, homelessness, gang membership, and involvement with the criminal justice system.” The OIG fails to acknowledge how institutional and systemic racism has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black people in data sets and in circumstance for each of these categories, and how this is compounded by LAPD “missions, and its massive share of the city budget.

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We will not be silent. We will be heard and we will fight until our truths become yours!
While it feels futile to continue to call upon the IG and the Board of Police Commissioners to actually turn a critical eye to the actions of the LAPD, we will continue to do so as long as it takes. I want to note that it is totally ridiculous to have the LAPD investigate ITSELF. This is evident. But the BOPC continues to assume a position of complete subservience to Moore and the LAPD as a whole.

Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist LAPD stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong. Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception,” not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

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DO BETTER!!!
OIG Audit of Stops

Eleni Johnson [REDACTED]
Tue 11/10/2020 11:53 PM

To: ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>; mayor.garcetti@lapd.online <mayor.garcetti@lapd.online>
mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>

ATTENTION: This email originated outside of LAPD. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Your report clearly shows that LAPD surveils, stops, and harasses Black people at an incredibly disproportionate rate.

I Demand an end to all racially profiled pre-textual stops that cause harm to Black and Brown people and the immediate removal of the Metro Division from South Los Angeles due to their consistent excessive harm of Black people.

Sincerely,

Eleni Johnson

Eleni Johnson
ATTENTION: This email originated outside of LAPD. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

We the people demand an end to all pre-textual stops due to the racially profiling and harm to Black and Brown people, which at times has led to the loss of life for those stopped.

We the people demand the immediate removal of the Metro division from South Los Angeles due to their consistent excessive harm of Black people.

Lester D. Powell

*If you want something you have never had you have to do something you have never done.*
Public Comment

Sam "Domina" Husbands

Wed 11/11/2020 12:02 AM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>; mayor.garcetti@lapd.online <mayor.garcetti@lapd.online>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; Ana.guerrero@lacity.org <Ana.guerrero@lacity.org>

ATTENTION: This email originated outside of LAPD. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

to whom this may concern

I demand an end to all pre-textual stops due to the racially profiling and harm to Black and Brown people.

I demand the immediate removal of the Metro Division from South Los Angeles due to their consistent excessive harm of Black people.
public comment on OIG audit

Jared Tolbert
Wed 11/11/2020 12:32 AM
To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>

ATTENTION: This email originated outside of LAPD. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

This report clearly shows that Black and Brown people are affected by these pre-textual stops at an unethically disproportionate rate. There needs to be an end to pre-textual stops that open the door to Black and Brown people being harassed, traumatized, and terrorized due to racially influenced profiling. There needs to be an immediate removal of the Metro Division from South Los Angeles due to their consistent harm and harassment of Black people. Action MUST be taken now!

Thank you and have a great day!

Jared W. Tolbert
OIG audit of stops conducted by LAPD

Habeebah Kolleff

Wed 11/11/2020 12:39 AM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>

ATTENTION: This email originated outside of LAPD. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I demand that you put an end to all pre-textual stops due to the racial profiling and harm to Black and Brown people. We demand the immediate removal of the Metro Division from South Los Angeles due to the consistent harm of Black people.

Please honor the rule of law and make these things stop. Our people are dying and families left distraught.
No man is to be punished for the crimes of his father or his brother. Thank you for your time.

Best Regards,

H. Kolleff
PUSH L.A. - Public Comment on LAPD Stops and Consent Searches

Adrienna Wong

Wed 11/11/2020 12:49 AM

To: Police Commission <policecommission@lapd.online>; Consent Search <consentsearch@lapd.online>; OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>
Cc: Alberto Retana <alberto@cocosouthla.org>; John Kim <jkim@advanceproj.org>; Paula Minor <pbm4047@sbcglobal.net>; Shimica Gaskins <sgaskins@childrensdefense.org>

1 attachments (137 KB)
PUSH L.A. - Public Comment Letter on LAPD Stops and Consent Searches.pdf;

ATTENTION: This email originated outside of LAPD. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of the PUSH L.A. coalition, please find attached public comment addressing both:

- The Inspector General’s Report, dated October 27, 2020, relative to the Review of Stops Conducted by the Los Angeles Police Department in 2019 [BPC #20-0162]; and
- The Department’s Report, dated October 27, 2020, relative to Field Officer’s Notebook, Form 15.03.00 – Revised; and; Consent to Search Verbal Advisement, Form 15.05.00 – Activated, as set forth. [BPC #20-0156]

Sincerely,

Adrienna Wong, Senior Staff Attorney
ACLU Foundation of Southern California

aclusocal.org || facebook || twitter || blog

The ACLU: Stand for Justice

THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHICH IT IS ADDRESSED AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL AND EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICABLE LAW, IF THE READER OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT OR THE EMPLOYEE OR AGENT RESPONSIBLE FOR DELIVERING THE MESSAGE TO THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION OR COPYING OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.
November 10, 2020

**Re: Inspector General’s Report relative to the Review of Stops Conducted by the Los Angeles Police Department in 2019 [BPC #20-0162], and Field Officer’s Notebook, Form 15.03.00 – Revised; Consent to Search Verbal Advisement, Form 15.05.00 – Activated [BPC #20-0156]**

Dear Commissioners,

We the undersigned members of the PUSH L.A. coalition write to provide public comment on two action items on the Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners’ November 17, 2020 meeting agenda: (1) the recommendations in the Inspector General’s report on stops conducted by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), and (2) revisions to LAPD’s consent search procedures.

For the reasons discussed further here, both of the proposed action items are inadequate to address the serious racial injustices of LAPD’s stop and search practices—which are well-documented by the Inspector General’s report, the concurrently-presented California Policy Lab report, prior L.A. Times reporting, and testimony by community members, including members of PUSH L.A. The Commission’s action items are out of touch with specific solutions that PUSH L.A. and impacted community members have identified. Rather than or in addition to the proposed actions, you must commit to real change by answering the community’s long-standing demand for an immediate end—not superficial changes—to LAPD’s pretextual stops and searches.

**The PUSH L.A. Coalition**

PUSH L.A. (Promoting Unity Safety & Health Los Angeles) is a broad coalition of advocacy and interfaith groups challenging the city to “Reimagine Protect and Serve” by shifting investments from criminalization and punishment of Black and Brown residents to community-based support and services. PUSH L.A. includes the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California; Advancement Project CA; Black Lives Matter- Los Angeles; Brotherhood Crusade; Brothers, Sons, Selves; Children’s Defense Fund- California; Community Coalition; Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA); LA Voice; Labor Community Strategy Center; Los Angeles Community Action Network (LA-CAN); Million Dollar Hoods; SEIU 2015; SEIU Local 99; Social Justice Learning Institute; and Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), Southern California. We represent a membership and constituency base of hundreds of thousands of Angelenos, many of whom reside in the communities most directly impacted by aggressive and discriminatory policing tactics described in the OIG’s reports.
PUSH LA was formed in response to decades of racist policing that has plagued Black and Brown communities in Los Angeles. The coalition launched after data analyses in 2019 revealed that LAPD Metro Division officers stop and arrest Black people more than five times their share of the city’s population. The reality for Black and Brown Angelenos is that going about our every-day activities can turn into life-or-death situations when police choose to follow, surveil, harass, and harm us based on the color of our skin, our accents, misplaced stereotypes, or where we live.

In response to this reality and corroborating L.A. Times reporting,¹ PUSH L.A. has made three baseline demands:

1. An immediate end to the pretextual stops that are used to search, traumatize, and racially profile the city’s Black and Brown residents -- and as part of this demand, immediate withdrawal of the Metro Division from South Los Angeles.
2. For LAPD to officially and publicly admit to racial profiling and issue an apology to all residents of South LA and elsewhere in the city who’ve been unjustly stopped, searched, and harassed.
3. Discipline and removal of officers who engage in unwarranted pretextual stops, who have patterns demonstrative of racial profiling, or who engage in misconduct and abuse.²

The Inspector General’s Report and Recommendations [BPC #20-0162]

The Inspector General’s report is a detailed and incisive examination of the racial disparities arising out of LAPD’s pattern and practice of pretextual stops and searches. Moreover, this report is only the latest in a series of reports that has confirmed the discriminatory policing experienced by Black and Latinx community members—including fabricating evidence of gang affiliation, targeting individuals based on unsubstantiated designations as “chronic offenders,” harassing people without permanent housing, applying excessive force upon people suffering from mental health crises, and routine violations of procedural justice tenets. While some of these reports have recommended discontinuing the practices that allow for--and result in--unlawful discrimination, the recommendations in the Inspector General’s report on LAPD’s pretextual stops and searches fall far short of amounting to a response that will bring about meaningful change.

² More information on PUSH L.A. and our demands is available at https://pushla.org/.
• **Pretextual Stops**

The Inspector General’s report recognizes that LAPD employs a strategy of using stops for traffic or other minor violations as a pretext to investigate detained individuals to identify or suppress more serious crimes. While it finds that this policing strategy is “of limited effectiveness” in addressing crime, it also concludes that this practice results in significant racial disparities in how often people of color are stopped and searched by LAPD officers compared to white people. Specifically, Black residents make up approximately 9 percent of the population of the City, yet account for 27 percent of the people stopped by LAPD. According to the Inspector General, this occurs despite the fact that white people are more likely to be found in possession of contraband than Black people. However, none of the Inspector General’s recommendations actually call for an end to the stops, let alone clear limits that would address well-documented and persistent invidious harms inflicted upon communities of color.

Instead, the Inspector General’s recommendations merely call on the Department to “evaluate,” “curtail,” and “refocus” its strategies (Recommendations A(1)-(2), (4)-(5)), “consider” the legal and policy implications of pretextual stops (Recommendations A(2), B(2)), and set aspirational goals to eventually eliminate racial disparities (Recommendations A(3), B(1)). Such vague recommendations threaten to let individual officers retain substantial discretion to conduct pretextual stops. And the Inspector General’s own report shows that the more discretionary the stops, the more racist the outcomes.

To address the racial disparities that inevitably result from any practice of using pretextual stops for suppression policing, other jurisdictions have prohibited pretextual stops outright. For example, the Washington State Constitution forbids use of pretext as a justification for warrantless search or seizure. Similarly, the Seattle Police Department’s policy manual states that “traffic violations will not be used as a pretext to investigate unrelated crimes.” Along these lines, LAPD’s policy must, at minimum, expressly declare that pretextual stops are banned. And that policy must be followed in practice. The LAPD should publish its policy change as well as commit to providing regular stop and search data updates to the Commission.

• **“Consensual” Searches**

The Inspector General’s recommendation on consensual searches is also an inadequate response to its damning findings on the racially-biased use of those searches. The report finds that there are significant racial disparities in who is searched following a stop; that Black and Latinx people are more likely to be subjected to such “higher-discretion” searches; and, as mentioned above, they are less likely than white people to be arrested or found in possession of contraband. The report additionally points out that the recovery rate for serious contraband in such high-discretion searches was a mere two percent. Thus, the report reflects that LAPD’s racially-discriminatory consent search strategy is not an effective tool for locating or eliminating dangerous instruments related to the commission of crime, but rather erodes public safety by alienating the communities LAPD purportedly serves through increasing the rate of prolonged, intrusive, and, all too often, traumatizing detentions.
Nevertheless, the Inspector General’s recommendations do not call for an end to consent searches. Rather, they call for officers to obtain affirmative verbal consent for searches and to provide documented advisement to persons searched. Such measures do not relieve Black and Brown community members of the indignity, trauma, waste of time and livelihood, and threat to their physical safety that being targeted for such searches entails. As Commissioners suggested at the last Commission meeting, encounters with police can be so inherently coercive that any “consent” given may not be authentic. Additionally, in light of the Inspector General’s findings that LAPD officers do not consistently comply with LAPD procedures and already underreport stops and searches, it is unclear how mere changes to procedure and additional documentation requirements will meaningfully protect people targeted by such searches. The harm identified in the Inspector General’s report—that Black and Latino community members are disproportionately subjected to invasive searches and prolonged detentions under a suppression policing strategy—will be in no way alleviated by its proposed solution.³

Consent searches, like pretextual stops, are law enforcement tactics that will inevitably be used to disparately harm Black and Latino individuals if they are permitted. Other jurisdictions have prohibited consensual searches in the absence of independent reasonable suspicion or probable cause of criminal activity precisely because to allow otherwise will result in additional racial bias in policing. For example, Rhode Island’s Racial Profiling Prevention Act states as follows:

(a) Unless there exists reasonable suspicion or probable cause of criminal activity, no motor vehicle stopped for a traffic violation shall be detained beyond the time needed to address the violation. . . .

(b) No operator or owner-passenger of a motor vehicle shall be requested to consent to a search by a law enforcement officer of his or her motor vehicle which is stopped solely for a traffic violation, unless there exists reasonable suspicion or probable cause of criminal activity.

³ The Inspector General’s recommendation on consensual searches also contradicts its other recommendations and Fourth Amendment law. In Recommendation A(1), the Inspector General recognizes that “[w]hen a stop is conducted on the basis of a minor code violation, an officer should not extend the length or scope of the investigation beyond what is necessary to address the violation unless there is reasonable suspicion or probable cause of other criminal activity.” By going through the process of obtaining affirmative consent for a search unsupported by reasonable suspicion or probable cause of other criminal activity sufficient to otherwise justify the search, and by providing the recommended advisement about the search, then conducting the search, then additionally explaining the purpose of the search, the officer will inevitably prolong the length and scope of the investigation.

Indeed, by conducting consent searches following pretextual traffic stops, LAPD officers likely violate the Fourth Amendment by extending the duration of stops beyond what is necessary to address the traffic violation. See U.S. v. Landeros, 913 F.3d 862 (9th Cir. 2019). Both the Department’s current practices and the Inspector General’s recommendations fail to adequately acknowledge this Fourth Amendment limitation on LAPD’s pretextual stop and consent search practices. For this reason and others, the Inspector General’s recommendation that the Department “continue to provide ongoing training to officers on Fourth Amendment principles” is unlikely to adequately safeguard the constitutional rights of community members. The Department should invite civil rights and civil liberties experts to conduct independent training and review of LAPD’s Fourth Amendment training materials.
Since the state banned such consent stops in 2016, it has identified no negative impact on public safety. Similarly, the state of Connecticut passed a Police Accountability Law this year that provides:

“No law enforcement official may ask an operator of a motor vehicle to conduct a search of a motor vehicle or the contents of the motor vehicle that is stopped by a law enforcement official solely for a motor vehicle violation.”

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 29. Given its track record, LAPD must take similarly assertive action to eliminate racial injustice in its policing and, at a minimum, prohibit searches based solely on consent and requests for consent to search following traffic stops, along with pretextual stops.

- *Policy on Stops & Post Stop Activities*

The Inspector General recommends that LAPD adopt a policy that sets forth “legal and policy considerations for officers in conducting stops” as well as “rules and parameters related to post-stop activities,” without specifying the recommended substance of such a policy. For the reasons stated, LAPD should have a policy that specifically prohibits pretext stops and consent searches.

Additionally, the policy should prohibit officers from asking whether someone is on probation or parole during stops. The Inspector General’s report found that LAPD’s practice of inquiring into parole or probation status and criminal history during pretext stops leads to prolonged questioning -- and that such questioning is more likely to occur in stops of Black people, even though nearly two-thirds of people asked were not on parole or probation. Currently, LAPD training instructs:

“Officers must remember that trust and a sense of fairness or non-bias can be quickly lost when they unnecessarily ask a person if they are on probation or parole. Therefore, such questions should only be asked when appropriate, depending on the information that is collected.”

The training bulletin does not define what “appropriate” means, nor otherwise set any clear limitations on when officers may ask about probation or parole status. And it falls far short of adequately describing the stigmatizing effects, dignitary harms, trauma, and potential constitutional violations that are caused by LAPD’s practice of disproportionately subjecting Black community members to prolonged questioning about probation, parole, and criminal history during stops. The only sufficient solution is a clear prohibition against such questioning. Any officer safety issues can be addressed by actions that officers are legally justified in taking based on an articulable, particularized, and objective factual basis for suspecting that a person may be armed and dangerous.

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• Accountability Measures

We agree that regular audits and review of stops, searches, and seizures are needed to hold officers accountable for misconduct. (Recommendation F(1)). Consistent with PUSH L.A.’s third demand, set forth above, LAPD should commit to disciplining officers that conduct pretextual stops or searches based on “consent” without reasonable suspicion or probable cause and remove from our communities officers who engage in a pattern of such conduct.

• Considering Other Approaches

The Inspector General calls on the Commission to consider “other approaches to addressing minor equipment and technical violations that are not directly related to public safety.” (Recommendation A(4)). In light of the issues raised by the OIG report and the threat to life--particularly Black lives--posed by armed officers engaged in traffic enforcement, many cities including Los Angeles are considering shifting traffic enforcement away from police to Departments of Transportation. PUSH L.A. supports shifting traffic enforcement away from LAPD and increasing investment in traffic safety strategies that are more effective than enforcement. We urge the Commission to support these shifts to the full extent of its abilities.

Protocols for Consent Searches [BPC #20-0156]

For the reasons stated above in our comments on the Inspector General’s recommendation on consensual searches, changing LAPD’s protocols for consent searches does not meet your responsibility to advance racial equity nor protect our community members from the dangers, trauma, and indignities of such targeted searches. Instead of tinkering at the edges of this unjust practice, LAPD should prohibit consent searches as other jurisdictions have safely done.

***

The PUSH L.A. coalition agrees with the OIG that the Department should take proactive steps to eliminate racial disparities in stops. The proactive steps necessary are not laid out in the action items currently before the Commission, however, but in the demands that our coalition has asserted for nearly two years. For all the reasons stated here, we urge the Commission to stop the stops.

Sincerely,

ACLU of Southern California, Hector Villagrasa
Advancement Project California, John Kim
Black Lives Matter - Los Angeles, Paula Minor
Children’s Defense Fund - California, Shimica Gaskins
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA), Angelica Salas
Community Coalition, Alberto Retana
OIG audit of Stops

Karen Bowdred
Wed 11/11/2020 12:52 AM

To: OIG Stops <OIGstops@lapd.online>; mayor.garcetti@lapd.online <mayor.garcetti@lapd.online>; mike.n.feuer@lacity.org <mike.n.feuer@lacity.org>; ana.guerrero@lacity.org <ana.guerrero@lacity.org>

ATTENTION: This email originated outside of LAPD. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear LA Police Commission,

The OIG audit of stops by the LAPD shows that the LAPD harrasses, stops, and surveils Black people at a disproportionate rate. Based on this information, I demand that you put an end to all pre-textual stops due to racial profiling and the harm it causes to Black and Brown people.

I also demand the immediate removal of the Metro Division from South Los Angeles due to their consistent excessive harm of Black people. Their record demonstrates their abuse of and continued harassment of Black people.

Sincerely,
Dr. Karen Bowdred
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PDF Copy Attached

November 10, 2020

Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners
100 West First Street, Suite 134
Los Angeles, California 90012

Commissioner President Eileen Decker
Commissioner Vice President Shane Murphy Goldsmith
Commissioner Maria Lou Calanche
Commissioner Steven Soboroff
Commissioner Dale Bonner

Dear Commissioners:

We write with deep concern about the recent report by the Office of the Inspector General on the “ Stops Conducted by the LAPD in 2019” , and the LAPD’s “Annual Complaint Report for 2019” ,

Both reports highlight the gross abuse of power by the LAPD and the failure of the LA Police Commission to uphold and uplift the safety and best interest of Angelenos especially members of the Black community.

The Annual Complaint report shows 734 allegations of biased policing in 2019 with 68% complaints filed by members of the Black community. LAPD responded by sustaining ZERO of these complaints. Upon review of 10 years data of allegations of biased policing from 2010-2019, we found 4862 allegations of racial profiling/biased policing with ZERO sustained. This pattern of rejecting peoples’ appeal to investigate racial profiling is deeply concerning and problematic. The message from LAPD is very clear – Racial profiling is part of regular LAPD policing tactics.

What makes it even more problematic is looking at Biased policing complaints in light of the 2019 report on stops conducted by the LAPD. Both reports represent varied forms of contact with LAPD officers. The data reports over 712,000 stops. The racial breakdown shows an overwhelming majority of Black
and Brown community members stopped with a 3:1 disparate impact on the Black community. Factoring in 734 allegations of biased policing, it is absurd to even assume that 0.0013% claims of racial profiling and bias are false when compared to over 712,000 stops or points of contact.

Furthermore Black people were searched 5 times more than White people; were ordered out of the car 4 times more than White people; were handcuffed 5 times more than White people; had Tasers used on them 3 times more than White people; and guns pulled out 5 times more than White people. These numbers clearly highlight the predatory nature of LAPD policing that feeds off the dehumanization and profiling of Black people. Yet any complaint of racial profiling and biased policing is rejected as untrue.

Additionally, the OIG report shows numerous pretextual and discriminatory stops conducted by the Metro unit. Citywide, 40% of people stopped by Metro unit were Black compared to 4% White. Even in areas with larger Black populations, the disparities were even more extreme. For example, Black people make 15% of Central area but 49% of stops by Metro Unit. Several studies and analysis of pretextual stops have exposed the inherent bias and profiling rooted in this form of enforcement. The Metro unit has a long history of racial profiling, false reporting, and conspiracies.

In closing we strongly reject the bogus assertion that complaints of racial profiling and biased policing are lies and deeply concerned about the continuing pattern and practice of predatory policing of the Black community. We demand the:

- Immediate end to the practice of pretextual stops;
- Immediate dismantlement of the Metro Unit;
- Immediate end to Data Driven Policing and all use of risk assessments and algorithms.

We look forward to the commission taking these steps with immediate effect.

Thank you.

Black Lives Matter – LA
Stop LAPD Spying Coalition
White People for Black Lives

Cc:
Mark Smith – Inspector General, Los Angeles Police Department
Eric Garcetti – Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Ana Guerrero - Chief of Staff, Mayor of Los Angeles

Thank you,

Stop LAPD Spying Coalition
www.stoplapdspying.org
November 10, 2020

Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners
100 West First Street, Suite 134
Los Angeles, California 90012

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Commissioner Vice President Shane Murphy Goldsmith
Commissioner Maria Lou Calanche
Commissioner Steven Soboroff
Commissioner Dale Bonner

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Black Lives Matter – LA
Stop LAPD Spying Coalition
White People for Black Lives

Cc:
Mark Smith – Inspector General, Los Angeles Police Department
Eric Garcetti – Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Ana Guerrero - Chief of Staff, Mayor of Los Angeles
ATTENTION: This email originated outside of LAPD. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please see attached.

Respectfully,
Fernando

Fernando Rejón
Executive Director | Urban Peace Institute
1910 West Sunset Blvd. Suite 800, Los Angeles, CA 90026
Office 213-404-0124 [redacted]

A Project of Community Partners

NOTICE: In response to COVID-19 mitigation efforts, all UPI staff are currently working remotely from home. We thank you for your patience and support as we protect our most vulnerable community members during this uncertain time. For immediate assistance, please contact me by email or my cell phone. Office voicemail messages will be forwarded directly to my email.

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

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MEMORANDUM

To: Los Angeles Police Commission
From: Fernando Rejón, Executive Director
Date: November 10, 2020
Re: Comments on OIG LAPD Stops Report

We appreciate the submission of the Office of the Inspector General’s report titled, Review of Stops Conducted by LAPD in 2019, which detailed the disparities associated with the practice of pretextual stops of LA’s residents. We call for an end to pre-textual stops that adversely impact and perpetuate the criminalization of people of color. We know that the enforcement of laws via use of aggressive policing tactics does not generate long-term public safety or trust.

Upon review of the OIG report on LAPD stops, the racial disparities are plainly obvious which reinforces what we have already known working in LA’s most impacted communities. The report found that only 2% of the reviewed stops resulted in arrest or retrieval of a firearm which counters the law enforcement narrative that pretextual stops lead to “getting guns and violent predators off the street.” We believe this report has debunked that myth. We do know that overbroad and aggressive policing strategies are counterproductive to building public trust and further marginalize communities of color.

What is needed, now more than ever, are proactive and transparent steps towards transformation of the department which should include measurements that indicate substantial changes in departmental incentives, policies, and practices that translate into increased public trust and demonstrated declines in disparate impacts on people of color. More importantly, the culture and mission of American policing needs to change. We believe the core mission of the CSP Bureau should be to lead the cultural shift in policing from “us versus them” to guardian and public trust policing.

In addition, what transformation requires is a commitment from this department to acknowledge and declare that their mission includes a goal of ending the over-reliance on police for safety. That means investing in communities, inviting community-led accountability, and recognizing community leadership around safety strategies. The LAPD must develop measurable outcomes that indicate minimization of disparate impacts on residents of color in Los Angeles and support community-led alternatives to safety. Indicators of change:

1. Work with independent a community-based research group to measure community perception of safety and trust in LAPD; demonstrate increased community perception of trust and safety in communities of color.
2. Demonstrate a decline in unnecessary police contact with youth and people of color for minor infractions or probable suspicion.
3. End the use overbroad and aggressive policing tactics; demonstrate a decline in youth arrests.
4. Measure and increase the number of individuals referred to services as part of pre-arrest diversion efforts in traditionally over-policed areas of the city.
5. Increase availability and accuracy of data regarding stops, use of surveillance, big data policing, citations, and arrests.
6. Demonstrate public advocacy for funding and support for increased investment in community-led alternatives to public safety such as gang intervention, community health workers, homeless outreach, safe passage workers, and mental health first responders.