

## INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

February 7, 2022  
1.14

**TO:** The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

**FROM:** Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** PRETEXTUAL STOPS SUMMARY

In looking at revising policy and possibly placing limits on pretextual traffic and pedestrian stops, the Department has provided a dedicated email as an additional avenue for public comment on the matter.

The email, [stops@lapd.online](mailto:stops@lapd.online), opened to the public on February 1, 2022, and will be available for comments until February 15, 2022, at 5 p.m. In the first six days, a total of 31 individuals have submitted emails and the breakdown is as follows:

- 16 in favor of the proposed policy to limit pretextual stops;
- 11 against the proposed policy;
- 3 emails were blank and included no written content; and,
- 1 email was categorized as “other” due to contradictory verbiage.

Comments made by a number of individuals in favor of limiting pretextual stops stated they had been stopped without cause, and another who called police “corrupt, violent and resistant to change.” Some advocated that police should always treat everyone fairly and equally, including when making stops.

Individuals opposing the proposed policy cited increasing crime as the main reason not to limit pretextual stops. They said this policy would dangerously remove a tool that officers used to keep communities safe. One person predicted this could lead to increased homicide numbers like those in Philadelphia and Chicago, and another wrote, “These policies put the law-abiding public TAXPAYERS in danger. Enough with more rights for the criminals.”

Additional notes:

- Most emails appeared to come from Los Angeles City residents; however, there were others from a retired Oklahoma police sergeant, a Manhattan Beach resident, a Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority bus operator, a University of Southern California professor, and retired/active criminal defense attorneys/judges.
- Several seemed to equate pretextual stops to racial profiling using the terms interchangeably.

- At least four individuals who approved of the proposed policy used the word “hunch” or appeared to reference the February 1, 2022 *Los Angeles Times* article on pretextual stops.
- One email viewed the proposed policy as a positive change stating, “I have come to believe most police officers are imbued with uncommonly high levels of common sense, and do not want to discriminate against Black and Brown citizens. The proposed policy change would allow them to inspire other members of the force to be the same.”

Attached are the emails collected thus far. The email addresses and other identifying information (other than the person’s name) have been redacted.

The last day for the public to submit feedback to the dedicated email is February 15, 2022; any information and input received prior to the above date will be presented to the Police Commission.



MICHEL R. MOORE  
Chief of Police

Attachments

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:51:24 PM

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

From: Robert Larks <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 11:27 AM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject:

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'm a 55 year old black male from Los Angeles. I began driving in 1983 and getting pulled over by the police began immediately. I was always asked "what set are you from? " I've never been in gangs or in trouble. I've already been the nerd type. Today, I'm still getting pulled over and having my car searched for no reason. I don't trust the police. Lastly, I'm a Metro bus operator and I've been pulled over 8 times in 15 with my uniform on.

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:50:43 PM

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

From: kieran budd <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 12:21 AM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject:

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.

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:48:28 PM

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**From:** Amy Hollingsworth <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 3, 2022 1:12 PM  
**To:** stops <stops@lapd.online>  
**Subject:**

**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 oppose the changes to the pretextual stop policy proposed by Lizabeth Rhodes, These policies put the law abiding public TAXPAYERS in danger. Enough with more rights for the criminals.

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: [oig-lapd] Contact - new submission  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:49:58 PM

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**From:** Community Relations OIG <communityrelationsoig@lacity.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 7, 2022 9:03 AM  
**To:** stops <stops@lapd.online>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [oig-lapd] Contact - new submission

**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.**

Hello. Please see below comments regarding the new policy draft on pretext stops. Thank you.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **John Onyshko** <[REDACTED]>  
Date: Thu, Feb 3, 2022 at 9:20 PM  
Subject: [oig-lapd] Contact - new submission  
To: <[communityrelationsoig@lacity.org](mailto:communityrelationsoig@lacity.org)>

**John Onyshko** just submitted your form: Contact  
on [oig-lapd](#)

**Message Details:**

Name: John Onyshko

Email: [REDACTED]

Subject: "pretextual" traffic stops

Message: Do not support this policy. These traffic stops are one of the best tools for solving our current crime wave in this city and the country. I have over 30 years experience with LAPD and these stops are the best example of "pro active policing" which lowers crime rates and puts citizens at ease when they feel safe again.

Reply to this email directly or via your site's Inbox: Reply directly or go to your site's Inbox:

[Respond Now](#)

If you think this submission is spam, [report it as spam](#).

To edit your email settings, go to your Inbox on desktop.



**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Abolish Hunch Stops  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:49:00 PM

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**From:** SEGUN ALFRED <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 4, 2022 6:07 PM  
**To:** stops <stops@lapd.online>  
**Subject:** Abolish Hunch Stops

**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 Los Angeles Police Department Commission,

Hunch stops are very unnecessary and ineffective. They are practically another name for racial profiling, which mainly effects Blacks and Latinas/Latinos. These stops can cause people to feel unnecessary anxiety, stress, and confusion. It can break the trust they have in law enforcement more so than in the past with police injustice. This policy must be approved because it will require officers to get training that will better their performance in the field, with a better perspective, which will subside these unwanted stops. This is only the start to seeing a decline in injustice amongst Blacks and Latinas/Latinos, and seeing a justice system that is better operated and fair.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Amend last email  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:47:38 PM

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

From: Danielle Weber <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 7:14 AM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: Amend last email

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.

Hi I actually lived in la county from 1984-1988 when I was in school at cal poly Pomona I was in Davis from 1988-1992

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: I Oppose the Pre Textual Stop Policy Proposed by Lizbeth Rhodes  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:47:24 PM

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

From: Amani Abou-Zamzam MBA <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 9:16 PM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: I Oppose the Pre Textual Stop Policy Proposed by Lizbeth Rhodes

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 Oppose the Pre Textual Stop Policy Proposed by Lizbeth Rhodes ..

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Limit "Pretextual Stops"  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:49:39 PM

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**From:** Bridgette Ramirez <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 6, 2022 3:58 PM  
**To:** stops <stops@lapd.online>  
**Subject:** Limit "Pretextual Stops"

**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 the Members of the LA Police Commission:

There is no doubt in my mind that the proposed policy to limit "pretextual stops" is the absolute bare minimum to protect communities of color from police abuse. Listen to the cries of LA's residents for justice and accountability! The police in our city have proven to be corrupt, violent, and resistant to change - as we can see in the fight they are putting up now against a straightforward, common sense policy.

Cops do not need protection. The people do.

Bridgette Ramirez

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: New Bill Proposed Is Idiotic  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:49:23 PM

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

From: NATHANIEL MIRANDA <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Saturday, February 5, 2022 4:21 PM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: New Bill Proposed Is Idiotic

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.

If you want LAPD to have not homicides than Philadelphia and Chicago then passing this bill is what the doctor ordered. If you genuinely care about the community and protecting it stop feeding into the false narratives be grown men and women with common sense and allow the men and women in blue to get the job done at the end of the day because that is what they are good at. A police officer was just killed at the beginning of this year because the system failed him. This is spitting on his grave as well as all the graves of the individuals killed in los angeles over laws that aid criminals and give them an advantage. It's not about pretty it's about what's right. Let Police Officers be Police Officers and get these nuisance to society off the streets and behind bars before more mothers and fathers face empty rooms where there children use to play and lay their heads down at night. Enough is Enough.

Very Concerned Citizen

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: New policy on stops  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:47:31 PM

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

From: Danielle Weber <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 6:34 AM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: New policy on stops

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 would like to enthusiastically approve of the new policy on stops When I was a student at cal poly Pomona from 1988 to 1992 I was stopped a lot because I always had a head light going out due to an electrical problem with the car I also felt I was stopped because I was driving a cheap subcompact and felt the same way when I got a Honda Civic later but that was mostly driving up north because by then I was in Davis at vet school I only ever got a fixit ticket but I felt I was being harassed and that they were targeting me because they thought I was Mexican - I'm not but lots of people think I am I even had one person compliment me on speaking good English so it is not too far for me to think they stopped me because they saw my brown hair and dark eyes and tan skin Thanks Dani Weber DVM  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: New policy  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:50:24 PM

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

From: J CHACON <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 6:35 PM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: New policy

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 can all agree on one thing. Violent crime is up and will continue to go up if something is not done. Do you really think this is going to help? Might as well tell officers to stop doing police work.

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: now lets clean up the 110 freeway!  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:51:33 PM

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

From: S Berti <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Friday, February 4, 2022 3:57 PM  
To: stops <[stops@lapd.online](mailto:stops@lapd.online)>  
Subject: now lets clean up the 110 freeway!

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.

Thanks for freeing up patrol cars and let's concentrate on the derelicts that are destroying the 110 freeway with fires, graffiti and trash. Maybe LAPD and Cal Trans can clean it up and patrol the bridges and surrounding areas now.PLEASE.  
Suzann Berti

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: OPPOSE - New limits on 'pretextual stops'  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:50:17 PM

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

From: Theresa Malham <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 5:20 AM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: OPPOSE - New limits on 'pretextual stops'

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 absolutely object to the implementation of a new policy restricting the use of "pretextual stops" of motorists and pedestrians by officers investigating serious crime.

From the article in the LA Times:

"It also found the stops were "of limited effectiveness in identifying evidence of illegal firearms or other serious crimes," with only 2% of traffic stops resulting in an arrest."

I would follow up of the "2%" with an actual number. How many pre-tuextual traffic stops stops were made, and how many arrests resulted from that. That's important.

Our police officers are treated like the enemy, when they are actually part of our community and provide the difficult job of assuring public safety. This results in the police having to do unpopular and disliked procedures. Let them do their jobs! Of course abuse of power is to be vehemently sought out and obliterated in the department, but for crying out loud let them investigate. 2% is a real number, and it means something. Let the officers keep some tools in their tool belt to investigate and prevent crime. If you only leave them with lethal force, to prevent a crime or to take in a bad actor after a crime is committed, that is unacceptable.

Stop treating the police as the bad guy! Who would want to be a police officer when they are portrayed as the enemy? Let them do their job.

Sincerely,

Theresa Malham  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to limiting Pretextual - Stop Policy  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:50:30 PM

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

From: Susan Collins <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 8:52 PM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: Opposition to limiting Pretextual - Stop Policy

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 am emailing today to OPPOSE the proposed changes to the pretextual stops policy made by Lizabeth Rhodes. We're currently experiencing a crime wave and residents throughout this city are scared and begging for MORE law enforcement - NOT less. Please, let the police protect us and stop implementing policies that provide criminals with greater opportunities to victimize our community.

Thank you,  
Susan Collins

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Patriot Act violates US CONSTITUTION Fourth Amendment Section 215  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:50:56 PM

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

From: Barbara Murphy-Bridge <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 9:01 AM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: Patriot Act violates US CONSTITUTION Fourth Amendment Section 215

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 Amendment provides American Citizens PROTECTION from being searched without a warrant or ‘ probable cause’ -

Limiting 'Pretextual Stops' needs to be eradicated completely from the books.

B. Murphy-Bridge  
Feb 3, 2022

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Please end pretextual stops  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:49:09 PM

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**From:** Ronni Solman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 4, 2022 10:26 PM  
**To:** stops <stops@lapd.online>  
**Subject:** Please end pretextual stops

**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 It May Concern:

I want to voice my opinion as an LA resident that I oppose pretextual stops on behalf of the LAPD and greatly support their termination. If there is a survey I can fill out I will do so. If this email suffices to have my opinion registered, then let this email stand as my stated opinion. Please end police pretextual stops in our city. Sincerely, Ronni Solman

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Please research and review the effectiveness of traffic and pedestrian stops by armed police officers. "Pretextual stops" at higher rates than appropriate need to end.  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:47:12 PM

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

From: Avis Ridley-Thomas <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 6:37 PM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: Please research and review the effectiveness of traffic and pedestrian stops by armed police officers. "Pretextual stops" at higher rates than appropriate need to end.

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.

From a child growing up in South Los Angeles, I can attest to the rank fear we experienced as we simply walked or drove from one location to another. Police Officers are needed to enforce far, far more serious crimes than such things as overdue vehicle registration. Surely a policy can be adopted that begins the process of developing a less fearful presence of officers among members of my community.

Officers could, no doubt, benefit from getting to know more of the residents in the neighborhoods they patrol. By participating in community organizations and events, Officers could learn a great deal more than is possible by detaining so many residents.

This is a serious issue. It is my hope that the Commission employ creative, effective and efficient use of our resources by having "pretextual stops" strictly overseen and regulated.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: please stop pretext stops....it's time  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:48:41 PM

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

From: ALLISON THOMAS <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Friday, February 4, 2022 6:19 AM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: please stop pretext stops....it's time

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.

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Pre textual minor traffic violation stops: Violations of Fourth Amendment Right to be Free of Unreasonable Searches and seizures and Fourteenth Amendment right to Equal Protection of the Laws  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:47:59 PM

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

From: David Callahan <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 9:38 AM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Cc: s.rector@latimes.com  
Subject: Pre textual minor traffic violation stops: Violations of Fourth Amendment Right to be Free of Unreasonable Searches and seizures and Fourteenth Amendment right to Equal Protection of the Laws

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 People:

The proposed policy changes have been needed for over a half century: this I know from my initial employment with the Los Angeles Public Defender's Office in the Summer of 1967, when my Supervisor explained that traffic stops and traffic warrants for failures to appear are kept on file for perpetuity so that police can show they are working and maybe make a bust.

Just last week I spoke with a police officer here in Texas about slow days, and in the course of explaining a traffic stop that immediately escalated into an harrowing assault against him by a passenger, he mentioned that the stop on that very slow Sunday morning was to document that he was going to issue a warning to show that he was at least doing something on patrol.

IMHO, it is conventional wisdom in police forces that half the people on the road after 9:00 p.m. are driving under the influence, and 100% of the people are the roadster midnight are under the influence. Further there is a good chance that those on the road after that are up to no good.

The motto "To Protect and Serve" is, again IMHO non-inspirational to a lot of police officers.

FWIW, after over 52 years as primarily a criminal defense attorney, I have come to believe most police officers are imbued with uncommonly high levels of common sense, and do not want to discriminate against Black and Brown citizens. The proposed policy changes would allow them to inspire other members of the force to be the same.

David Patrick Callahan  
Admitted to Practice Law  
California 1969  
Florida 1970, Missouri 1972  
Illinois 1973, Texas 2002  
U.S. Supreme Court 1974  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: pretext stop policy  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:50:50 PM

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

From: DJ <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 8:49 AM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: pretext stop policy

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 don't understand what the outcry or grievance is from the LAPD union. There is nothing "new" about the traffic/bicycle/pedestrian stop policy being contemplated by the LAPD commission.

Pretext stops have been considered a violation of the one's right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures under the Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and our state constitution through the Fourteenth Amendment and case law precedents (that go back as far as the 1970's).

I am a retired deputy Public Defender. Courts routinely granted motions to suppress evidence (P.C. section 1538.5) based on pretext stops by the police if the facts showed the officer was clearly on a "fishing expedition" and exploiting a traffic/pedestrian/bicycle stop without additional "specific and articulable facts." Incriminating evidence was suppressed because courts ruled a "bad" search cannot justify what it turns up.

So not only is it illegal in the first place, it encourages further bad behavior from police officers and forfeits any opportunity of establishing trust and good relations with the community at large.

Do the right thing.

Do not give credence to the bad faith grievances of the LAPD union: anti-vaccination, police misconduct—shootings, beatings, planting evidence, changing their police reports, turning off their body cameras and mics, and bad pretext traffic stops.

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Pre-text stops  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:50:10 PM

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

From: christian mejia <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 7:00 PM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: Pre-text stops

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 read the article that suggests the police commission is proposing to end pre-text stops. I think this is absurd! With crime already sky-rocketing, unsafe neighborhoods throughout the entire city and a complete disaster in dealing with our homeless problems, you are asking for the city to burn!! And it will!! The police officers that are out there trying to prevent crime from occurring already have their hands tied with the District Attorney taking the sides of criminals and now this would definitely put an end to proactive policing. There is already a diminished proactive police force within the LAPD, as many cops do not want to risk being the next headline all over the news. I can guarantee the criminals would take full advantage of this if approved by the police commission and you will have blood in your hands. I can already see officers responding to calls of service like the fire department, only leaving the station when they are called upon and returning to the station once the call has been handled. I hope you seriously reconsider this, as the ones who will suffer the most from this policy would be those living within the Hispanic and Black communities. The people of color will suffer, not the "city leaders" or those privileged ones that get to go home every night to their gated communities. Think about that and please reconsider this policy, it will only make our beautiful city a much more dangerous place to live in. Do not bow down to those trying to decriminalize everything! The majority of Angelenos want to be safe in their city and not have to worry about becoming the next victim.

Respectfully,  
Christian Mejia



**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Pretextual stops  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:51:11 PM

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

From: Ken Baldwin <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:48 AM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: Pretextual stops

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 am concerned for two reasons. First that Black and Latino areas of LA report having higher instances of crime. That would account for higher instances of so-called pretextual stops. Black and Latino communities seem to want more police presence but without the ensuing higher enforcement rates for infractions.

Second, I am concerned that lack of enforcement of “minor” infractions leads to greater hazards for all. What are minor infractions? Is running through a stoplight or rolling through a stop sign a minor infraction? What about speeding? Why should I be required to follow the laws of California such as using a turn signal or ceding the right of way or having current license tags or obeying speed limits if the LA police department will enforce such laws only outside of Latino/Black areas?

PS: the easiest way to enforce expired tags is to use parking police to cite parked cars in LA. That means all over LA.

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: pre-textual stops  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:51:04 PM

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

From: Gary Karasik <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 9:39 AM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>; letters@latimes.com  
Subject: pre-textual stops

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 members of the Police Commission:

We are long-term residents of Los Angeles. Like most of our fellow citizens, we are concerned about crime, both major and minor, and its effects on our quality of life. We think we understand how our police would consider the "pretextual stop" to be a useful law-enforcement tool. We nevertheless would like to go on record as supporting a policy change in favor of modifying or eliminating this type of stop. (Just the implication that police rely on a "pretext" to stop people should be sufficient indication that this policy needs rethinking.) For us, the problem with this type of stop is the tacit admission that while people everywhere are constantly breaking various "minor" laws, the numbers of actual stops skew heavily within minority communities. Clearly this has hugely-negative societal impacts in undermining minority-community trust in equal policing and equal justice. The continued appearance of an us-against-them mentality within police ranks fosters a hard-to-deny perception among minorities of biased policing that in turn breeds a lack of respect for law and those entrusted to enforce it. That in turn reinforces a vicious cycle that ultimately makes life harder and more dangerous not only for police but for all. To our minds, the solution is to fully and fairly enforce all our laws everywhere, but until our society is ready to bear the costs of implementing this, the costs of unequally enforcing our laws will inevitably outweigh the benefits of unequally-applied justice. For these reasons, we hope the Police Commission will modify the policy on pretextual stops so that it is either applied fairly throughout our community or, failing that, eliminated.

Gary Karasik  
Karen Cunningham  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Pretextual stop policy  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:47:16 PM

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

From: Mark Bisaha <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 8:17 PM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: Pretextual stop policy

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 the members of the Police Commission:

I am a resident of L.A. city. I support the proposed restrictions on pretextual stops.

Kind regards,

Mark Bisaha

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Pretextual Stops Objection  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:51:17 PM  
**Importance:** High

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

From: Frank Geraty <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:50 AM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: Pretextual Stops Objection  
Importance: High

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.

Commissioners,

I strongly oppose and request you reject Chief Moore's proposed policy changing the Limitation on Use of Pretextual Stops!

In this era of street racing and intersection takeovers, loud stock hot rods and motor cycles, and generally uncivil drivers as of late, how in the world can the LAPD be required to stand down on proactive policing including lesser PC to initiate traffic stops that most often result in major arrests? I realize that DA Gascon has created a culture that fully embraces the proposed elimination of Pretextual Stops, but our civil society is suffering from this and other incentives for police officers to stop protecting the public.

Although I am presently the chair of the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council's Public Safety and Transportation Committee, I write this email only representing myself personally.

Warmest Regards,

Frank Geraty

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Pretextual stops  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:48:14 PM

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**From:** Grant, Edward G. <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 3, 2022 12:47 PM  
**To:** stops <stops@lapd.online>  
**Subject:** Pretextual stops

**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.**

Having read the article in the LA Times today I am writing to give my support to the elimination of the so called pretextual stops. This has put the LAPD in a bad light for years, particularly among minority communities and should be stopped. The data clearly shows that this practice is unfair and promotes the issues around "driving while Black".

Edward G. Grant MD, FACR  
Professor  
Dept. of Radiology  
Keck Hospital of USC  
USC Norris Cancer Center  
University of Southern California

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

email - [REDACTED]

Keck Medical Center of USC

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Pre-Textual Stops  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:48:52 PM

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**From:** Rich Havel <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 4, 2022 10:14 AM  
**To:** stops <stops@lapd.online>  
**Subject:** Pre-Textual Stops

**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 strongly support the commission's proposal to limit or prevent pre-textual stops. It is one small and concrete step that will promote police reform and improve public confidence in the police. I am a long time resident of Los Angeles. Over the decades there have been an endless series of investigations, litigation and political confrontations around police abuse and use of excess authority. I have come to believe the police are burdened with a history, culture and mind set that invites over stepping bounds and covering up or explaining away their misconduct.

Please move forward with this policy and others to enhance transparency and accountability. I am so frustrated and angry that the Police Union or Protective League are a consistent obstacle to these important and timely changes.

Richard Havel

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Stop the STOPS  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:49:30 PM

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

From: Hilda Boulware <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Saturday, February 5, 2022 4:33 PM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: Stop the STOPS

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 stop the stops that are unnecessary, but rather harassing and racially profiling. Please stop.  
We support police, just not brutality and harassment.  
Thank you,  
Hilda

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Stop the stops  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:47:52 PM

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**From:** Gordon Louttit <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 3, 2022 7:21 AM  
**To:** stops <stops@lapd.online>  
**Subject:** Stop the stops

**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 am a 74 year-old white male with many black friends. For years I have heard them talk about how many times they have been stopped for little or no reason: things like jay-walking or bike riding on the wrong side of the street or a burned-out tail light.

In 74 years I have never been stopped for such a thing and while I try to keep my lawbreaking to a minimum, I don't think this is a coincidence.

Hunch stops and minor infraction stops are simply pretexts for harassment and should stop.

Gordon J.Louttit  
[REDACTED]

*Those who can get you to believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities – – Voltaire*

***Dictated to my iPhone. If it's garbled, it's the phone, not my brain.***

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Stops based on pretext and hunches  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:48:07 PM

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**From:** Gary Hastings <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 3, 2022 12:35 PM  
**To:** stops <stops@lapd.online>  
**Subject:** Stops based on pretext and hunches

**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 the Commission members:

I read with interest the article in today's L.A. Times "LAPD may limit hunch stops." From reading the article I believe that the policy suggested is in accord with the law and should be adopted.

"The Fourth Amendment prohibits 'unreasonable searches and seizures' by the Government, and its protections extend to brief investigatory stops of persons or vehicles that fall short of traditional arrest." (*United States v. Arvizu* (2002) 534 U.S. 266, 273.)

"Ordinary traffic stops are treated as investigatory detentions for which the officer must be able to articulate specific facts justifying the suspicion that a crime is being committed." (*People v. Suff* (2014) 58 Cal. 4th 1013, 1053-54.)

And while traffic stops may be justified by articulate facts supporting a traffic infraction (*People v. Wells* (2006) 38 Cal.4th 1078, 1082-1083) they are not justified based on profiling (California Penal Code section 13519.4; *United States v. Smith* (11th Cir. 1986) 799 F.2d 704, 707-708) or hunches. (*United States v. Arvizu*, 534 U.S. at 274: ("[A]n officer's reliance on a mere 'hunch' is insufficient to justify a stop, [citing *Terry v. Ohio* (1968) 392 U.S. 1, at 27; and *United States v. Smith, Id.*; *People v. Hernandez* (2008) 45 Cal.4th 295, 299, citing *United States v. Arvizu*.) And where a valid traffic stop has been made, further investigation for other crimes is not warranted unless during investigation of the traffic stop specific articulable facts of another potential crime come to light. (*United States v. Smith, Id.*; *People v. Lomaz* (2010) 49 Cal.4th 530, 564-565.)

From reading the various recent articles in the L.A. Times about police officers and sheriff deputies stopping motorists of color it appears that many stops based on claims of traffic violations are mere pretext based on profiling or hunches - basically the same thing. The articles report that most of the stops do not result in finding criminal activity. But those that do usually result from a search the officer or deputy claims consent was given. I handled enough cases on the trial court and court of appeal to realize that officers sometimes lie about whether consent was given or the circumstances place the stopped person under pressure to provide consent even though there are no specific articulable facts to support the request.

Justice (Ret.) J. Gary Hastings  
California Court of Appeal, Second District, Fourth Division

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Test  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:49:16 PM

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

From: Debbie Thomas <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Saturday, February 5, 2022 1:04 PM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: Test

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.

Test  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [stops](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Traffic Stops  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:50:36 PM

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

From: Jim Rice <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 10:28 PM  
To: stops <stops@lapd.online>  
Subject: Traffic Stops

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.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I do not reside in California, however I'm a 33 year veteran police Sergeant from Oklahoma. I had 21 officers in my squad, and they would always ask me my opinion on traffic Stops for suspicious activity and vehicles. I would hope you would step back and look at the whole picture.

If a child molester was out looking for someone to molest or rape, wouldn't you want your officers to stop him and realize who he was and stop a rape or a child from being harmed. Or let's say it's a burglar leaving a house where he might have killed his victims. I know that nobody likes to be stopped, but it's a necessary part of the job. It's like baking a cake without all the ingredients.

If you take the valuable tools away from the Police Officers, Crime will go up, it's a cold heart fact. I was a K-9 Sergeant, and my guys were very active looking for Drugs and guns.

It's part of the job. No Look No Find. Simple as that.

I'm a white officer that doesn't give a damn about the color of someone's skin, If they are committing or have committed a crime, they need to be arrested.

Justice is not cheap, it comes with a price and action. I hope and pray that you also take into consideration of the officers lives. They cannot let people run up and down the street with guns and drugs in their cars. One last comment. Here in Oklahoma we have lots of Mexican drug cartels, we also have lots of gangs, Crips, Bloods, and so on and so on. You don't want your officers stopping these guys and stopping serious crimes, Come on!!

Unless you can prove without reasonable proof of the officers being racist, let them do their damn jobs.

Sgt. Jim Rice (Retired)

[REDACTED]

Call me and tell me I'm wrong.....