

January 21st, 2014

Dear Chief Lansdowne,

As community organizations and leaders, we were alarmed to read the recent *Voice of San Diego* and KPBS reports that the San Diego Police Department did not understand racial profiling to be a community concern and, as a result, had stopped gathering racial data on vehicle stops.

We commend your public commitment to restart data collection in earnest and to make that data available to the community. Furthermore, we appreciate your meeting with advocates recently and your commitment to them to amend certain department policies in order to improve officer interactions with community members.

As concerned members of the community, we strongly encourage you to not stop at collecting data only for vehicle stops. Collecting data on all stops, not just vehicle stops, is the only way to get a reliable picture of police-community interaction by race. As the department determined in 2000, when it began collecting data on vehicle stops, these statistics provide an important tool in addressing community concerns about racial profiling.

We write to offer our support as your department embarks on tackling these critical issues. As legal, policy, and community organizations, we welcome involvement in developing department policies and in holding your department accountable to abide by its policies. Additionally, we welcome an ongoing dialogue through which we can work together to identify other policies or procedures that might warrant change in order to further our shared goals of policy-community trust and safe neighborhoods.

We look forward to working with you to ensure that every San Diegan is treated with dignity and respect when interacting with the San Diego Police Department.

Sincerely,

Organizations

NAACP San Diego Branch

ACLU of San Diego and Imperial Counties

A New PATH (Parents for Addiction Treatment & Healing)

Alliance San Diego

Amity Foundation

Black American Political Action Council

Casa Familiar

Center on Policy Initiatives

Council on American-Islamic Relations, San Diego

El Grupo

Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice of San Diego County

Islamic Center of San Diego

MAAC Project
Metro United Methodist Urban Ministry
National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum - San Diego Chapter
San Diego Criminal Defense Bar Association
San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association
Pillars of the Community
Pilgrim United Church of Christ
United African American Ministerial Action Council
United Taxi Workers of San Diego
100 Strong

Individuals

Roger Cazares, Past Chair, San Diego County Criminal Justice Board
Jeff Chinn, Board Member, ACLU of San Diego and Imperial Counties
Barbara Filner
Marne Foster, Board Member, San Diego Unified School District
Mary Graham, San Diego Community College District Board of Trustees
Jessica Hayes, San Diego Democratic Party
Alex Kreit, Law Professor, Thomas Jefferson School of Law
Udoka Nwanna, Immediate Past President, Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association
Bernie Rhinerson, San Diego Community College District Board of Trustees
Norma Rodriguez, Chair, San Diego Chicano Democratic Club
Greg Rose, Board Chair, ACLU of San Diego and Imperial Counties
Ken Seaton-Msemaji
Maria Senour, San Diego Community College District Board of Trustees
Rev. Madison Shockley II
Lorena Slomanson, Commissioner, San Diego Human Relations Commission
Hon. James Stiven, Ret., U.S. District Court, Southern District of California
Luz Villafana, Board Member, ACLU of San Diego and Imperial Counties
Peter Zschiesche, San Diego Community College District Board of Trustees