

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

NAACP



April 18, 2014

Marti Emerald, Chair, Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee  
San Diego City Council  
City Administration Building  
202 "C" Street, 10th Floor  
San Diego, CA 92101

**RE: May 14<sup>th</sup> Hearing & Demographic Data on Vehicle Stops**

Dear Councilmember Emerald,

The NAACP San Diego Branch and the ACLU of San Diego & Imperial Counties respectfully submit this letter in regard to an item expected to be on the agenda of the City Council's Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee on May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014: the San Diego Police Department's report on its collection of race/demographic data at all vehicle stops.

As per San Diego Police Department Order 13-25, issued on October 31, 2013, the San Diego Police Department's policy is to collect demographic data on all vehicle stops. On May 14<sup>th</sup>, the Department has committed to reporting on data from a period of time beginning no later than January 1, 2014.

The NAACP and ACLU share the City Council's commitment to transparency and accountability. Guided by those shared principles, we respectfully request that the City Council's PSLN Committee direct the Department to make publicly available the raw data it has collected on all vehicle stops citywide. These records can be released without violating officer privacy; they can be made anonymous by replacing officer badge numbers with unique identifiers. The release of raw data will provide an opportunity for independent review and will also build public confidence in the Department's openness and the City's commitment to oversight.

In addition, we urge the PSLN Committee to request from the Department a meaningful breakdown of the data at the May 14<sup>th</sup> hearing. Specifically, we suggest the PSLN Committee request that the following be included in the Department's report:

- The total number of vehicle stops and searches citywide;
- The number of vehicle stops and searches for each police precinct;
- A breakdown of the number of vehicle stops and searches by race, gender, and age for each police precinct;
- The number of individuals who received a summons or were arrested as a result of a vehicle stop in each police precinct;
- A breakdown by race, gender, and age of the individuals issued a summons or arrested as a result of a vehicle stop in each police precinct;
- An explanation of the reason for the vehicle stop and search for each police precinct;

- The number of vehicle stops and searches, in each police precinct, which resulted in the discovery of contraband, and the specified contraband found, broken down by race, gender, age, and legal justification.

Thank you for your consideration. We will follow up with your office next week. Of course, please do not hesitate to contact us at any time.

Sincerely,

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Cc: Council President Todd Gloria, Council President Pro Tem Sherri Lightner, and Councilmembers Myrtle Cole, Mark Kersey, Lorie Zapf, Scott Sherman, and David Alvarez