

**County of Los Angeles
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Moderator: Good afternoon everyone. I'm calling to order this public hearing of the Los Angeles County Commission on human relations. It's a public hearing on policing human relations with a special focus on the experiences of members of the LGBT communities and women of color. I want to welcome everyone here this afternoon. My name is Isabel Gunning. My pronouns are she, her, and hers; and I am the president of the LA County commission on human relations. And I work as a law professor at Southwestern Law School; and I have the privilege of presiding over these hearings this afternoon. What I'd like to do before I go ahead and have my fellow commissioners introduce themselves and point out some of our wonderful staff, is to ask if all of you would just take a moment of silence now whether you're doing positive thoughts or prayers. I'd just like you all to remember and hold up all of the folks that have been devastated by the earthquake in Mexico, and the various hurricanes in Puerto Rico, Dominica, the Caribbean islands, and also of course in Texas and Florida. Thank you.

Moderator: Can we take one additional moment of silence for the queer and trans folks and the women of color who have been killed by police and the state? Especially, we want to call the names of Jamil Moore, Wakisha Wilson, Riddell Jones, Megan Hockaday, Michelle Shirley, and so many others who have been killed by the state in this county. And we want to remember them and ask that they be present with us as we conduct these hearings; and people tell their stories. Let their truths also be heard from our mouths. Thank you.

Moderator: Thanks very much. Okay... so I want to make sure to thank all of you today for coming this Saturday afternoon. And I'd like to ask all of my fellow commissioners — you already hear from commissioner Abdula, but she'll introduce herself and she'll also be speaking a little bit more later on; because she is the chair of our ad hoc committee whose pulled together all of these hearings and has really been the heart and soul of putting this together.

Moderator: My name is Malina Abdula. I go by she and her, and I am the chair of the committee on policing and human relations, as well as a member of the equal relations commission. And I am * chair of African studies at Cal State LA.

Moderator: My name's Cindy Anderson Barker. I go by she and her, and I'm a civil rights attorney and am on the human relations commission. *.

Moderator: Hi everyone. My name is * Montano. My pronouns are she and her. I represent district three *. I want to thank you here and being able to talk to us today.

Moderator: Good afternoon. My name is Preedy Golgurdi. I go by she and her; and I'm a representative of the third district * by supervisor Keul; and I would also like to thank all of you for being here and for sharing your stories. Thank you.

Moderator: And next to me is Robert Sael who is the assistant executive director of our commission; and he'll be helping me as he always does. And we have a number of other staff folks. Terico; he is walking down the aisles there. Louisa's here. Monica, Clifton; they're sitting over here; they'll be doing our timing. There are a whole bunch of... Ray is here; Josh; Ray is at the front table where there is a sign in. So, I want to just there's — there's Josh; he's waiving his hand. So, I want to just thank all of our staff people. We couldn't do this without them. Just a little bit of background. I'm not going to go through it for a long time. This commission is holding this hearing, because of course policing issues have been front and center in our county and of course in the national news. And holding hearings like this and investigating policing relations is something that this commission has done historically. And when the anniversary of the 1965 * took place, we decided we needed to take stock again; and clearly this is a timely matter. This is the sixth in a series of seven public hearings. We've been to every district in the county; and then we decided that we needed to have this one specifically for the LGBTQ community; our brothers and sisters there as well as women of color in particular; because the concerns around them are really the greatest in terms of what's happening. So, we are really grateful that you're here. We want to hear from you; what your experiences have been; what your ideas are and recommendations are for improvements. If there are things that are working that you like, we want that held up. And the things that aren't, all ideas on how that can be changed and improved. It's all that we want to hear from you. As a commission, we are a fact-finding research body. So, while all of us have been appointed by county supervisors, our job is to advise them; recommend to them as strongly as we possibly can what will be the most positive things to be done around police and *. And so, we'll collect all the information, as well as our final hearing; which will be specifically for law enforcement; and we'll be gathering information from experts on ideal policing and ideally all from you. Because ultimately, positive changes around policing and * that come from all of us; not from our particular report; not from the * that we hope we will generate for your use; but from all of us working together to demand what all of us deserve. So, at this time, let me have commissioner Abdula say a few words; and then I'll talk a little bit about just the specifics and forums and all that stuff.

Moderator: So again, good afternoon. We're very appreciative of you for giving up your Saturday afternoon to be here. I want to share with you what the intent of this hearing is. We recognize that public safety is not going to be transformed through this body.

What this space is intended to be, is a way for you as community members to get your voice on the official record, so that we can generate a report around what it is the community is experiencing and what it is the community is demanding. That report will also not carry the weight of — it's no enforceable. But it is something that you can advise through. So, this is meant to be another tool in our ability to advocate. We have to remember that any time we talk about transformation, and again, this is our sixth of seven hearings. We're hearing a lot of language around transforming public safety. This is not what we're hearing from our community members is not necessarily rhetoric about healing relationships. But rather, being visionary in what the public safety looks like right? And so, we need to be clear that any time we're talking about that kind of transformation; that kind of transformation never * comes through governmental bodies. It doesn't come through commissions. It comes through the work that you're doing on the ground. And so, what we'd like to do, is provide an additional tool for you to do that work; for us to do that work. And so, we want to be very clear about that. We also want to remind those that know police have been invited to this hearing or any other community hearing. We believe that it's very important that there's space where we can talk together as a community. That said, we cannot guarantee that there are no police in the room who have not identified themselves. But we have not invited any police into this space. So, we want to be clear about our intent. This is meant to be a space for community voices. That seventh hearing will be an opportunity for us to then set this side what's been said in community; present that back to law enforcement, and ask them about the issues that you want us to ask them about. Finally, a report will be generated that we can advocate around. In addition to putting your voice on the record by making public testimony, and you can do that either here in the microphones or you can also write down your testimony. You are welcome to use an — I'm sure commissioner Gunning is going to go over this process in a moment. You're also welcome to use pseudonyms. You don't have to use your full name or even any of your name if you choose not to. In addition to that, we have in the back of the room, law students who are taking formal complaints. So, if there is a complaint that you want to lodge with an agency, please raise your hand law students. They are happy to help you make those complaints. So again, thank you for being here, and we look forward to your testimony; and we hope that this is a fruitful conversation and space.

Moderator: Thank commissioner Abdula. Can everybody hear? You probably heard her really well. Could you hear me before? Okay. We'll try to speak right into the mic to make sure. So as commissioner Abdula was alluding to, we do have speaker forms back there with Ray and Riku; so, if you'll please fill them out; then Riku will run up here and Robert will keep them in order; and we'll call you all in order. We're asking at this time that people limit their remarks to two minutes; because we want to make sure that we hear from everybody who wants to speak. If you do have more things that you want to say, hopefully there'll be time at the end and people can come back around and still testify. In addition, as commissioner Abdula mentioned, you can do anonymous testimony; not

just coming up here; not using your own name, but going to room 107; which is right out the door here; and immediately to the right; where you can both do additional testimony; but also, if you prefer to testify in a more private space, we can make sure that it is anonymous; that you are not identified; your face does not have to appear; but you still can in fact provide some testimony. So, let me just let's okay... commissioner Abdula's talking about doing three minutes. Let's try to start with three, and see if that will work with everybody here. As I said, I do want to make sure, we all want to make sure that everybody who's here wants to speak gets a chance to. So, we might make it back to two as I first said; if that will make it easier for everybody to have an opportunity to say what they need to say in the open forum. Child care, I think there's a sign there. It's again, out these doors; all the way to the end. So, we do have child care. So please — and as people come in, if you can let them know if they bring children. They're all the way at the end of the hall. The bathrooms are midway between us and child care. You'll make a right and so they're there as well. There is food as well in the hallway, and you are free to bring it and eat it in here. But not while you're testifying with your mouth full; because your mom told you not to do that, so we're not going to do that. But we do have food for us, so I want to make sure that you all know that and enjoy it. Other than that, I just want to say let's all just make sure that we respect each other. What you're going to do is important; some difficult sometimes very painful work; and we want to hold up everybody in a respectful way as they come forward and tell us what is *. Okay, at this time, what we're going to do before we call up the folks who have signed up, we've got some community partners, who will in fact have a little bit more time, five minutes, and the first is Jaden Fields, from Gender Justice. Jaden, is he here? Okay, he's not here. Ronnie Valiz? *?

Respondent: Okay. Buenos Tardes. My name is Ronnie Vadiz. I am the founder and executive director of *. It's * to be invited when LA organizations usually exclude us, because we're from the San Fernando Valley; so, we really want to send a shout out to the commission for actually being really intentional and bringing us on board for this dialog. I am a CSUN student; master in social work. First one in my family to get this far. Formally homeless and jailed also by the system, and I am here as a transgender, non-binary immigrant of color from Peru. With that said, I want to bring visibility to the issues that we see with bullying in schools. Young people under 18 having to go through difficult and traumatic experiences not only with the LA PD, but with the system the LA County law enforcement. We want to make sure that we go beyond restorative justice, because some things are not meant to be restored. That we actually really are intentional in also going beyond the 501C3 status that some grass roots organizations don't have; and they still matter. And they deserve to be heard. So, we really want to push transformative justice, and we need to start it as soon as possible. In addition to that, we are here to bring visibility and attention to a new way of dealing with bullying that has got to become priority. In the san Fernando valley we have had conversations with elementary school principals who do not believe that bullying is a real issue. That is heart breaking as it's continuous happening. Just a week ago, a 13-year-old youth committed suicide; and we need to work together to make

sure that these stories are actually honored; and it's going to take not just organizations on the grass roots level, but it's going to take all of us. The policing of our communities and there are so many check points in Pacoima, San Fernando, Selmer; and when you go to Calabasas or Burbank or Glendale, you don't see the same thing. And that is not right. I wonder what people in Beverly Hills or in areas such as that would feel if they actually were over policed like we are in the Northeast valley particularly. Another thing that we would like to bring visibility and attention is it victim blaming when it comes to sexual violence. That continues happening. We demand that no organization having — no organization doing sexual anti-sexual violence work has sheriffs onsite; for undocumented transgender people and for people with make status families and formally incarcerated; that is furthering the trauma that we have come through. So, we demand that LG county stops funding any organization that has sheriff on site when they're actually trying to help sexual survivors of sexual violence. In addition to that, we also are here to make sure that you know that we have been working really hard in the San Fernando Valley to keep out youth safe in bathrooms. But as there is no complaint right now to inform the community about which bathrooms we can go to. Out in the community, outside the schools, where we don't have to deal with people clients or consumers calling on police; and because for instance the city of san Fernando is such a small tiny city; many people think that san Fernando's part of the city of LA but it's not right. A lot of the times we are policed by the sheriff in the city of san Fernando; and that is extremely concerning; because the way that they deal with us is extremely different. Also, mental health. Mental health professionals we're extremely concerned about the — about certain county employees breaking families apart when it comes to further pushing youth to the foster care system; instead of having a transformative justice approach. The way that our families are policed in the san Fernando valley is very concerning. There is no real — there's no real intersectionality in the way that we are understood as far as how we are criminalized. I also want to mention that learning what has happened with the deputy raping women in jails, that sends a strong message to our youth, what is the point of helping them understand consent culture? What is the point of helping them understand that some people are being criminalized, and then when they are taken behind bars, the same system that is telling us not to be criminals, is the same system raping our bodies. So, we want to make sure that that has accountability and we're here also with Jamil Moore. And everybody here that feels the pain and the trauma of our communities... so that's what we wanted to be here for. Thank you so much for your attention.

Moderator: Thank you. Ronnie, before you go, you mentioned the health. Do you have some recommendations on mental health and what your organization would prefer to be saying that we can put as part of our recommendation?

Respondent: Yes, so when it comes to mental health, one of the things that we are very concerned is a lot of people continue using the word youth. Very lightly for 18 to 24 only; and we forget about minors. So, the recommendation is that people actually care to get to know our LGBTQ plats youth council; it's for ages 10 to 17. We provide mentoring, and we provide

counseling. We provide this at friends of the family, every first and third Saturday of every month. It's on our web site. Somosfamiliavaya.org. We have been funded by the community. We're still funded by the community that's available. The other thing is we had conversation with the national suicide prevention hotline, and many of the conversations that end up there, actually start with bullying. And we want to make sure that everybody pulls out their phones right now; thank you for that. I want you to know one phone number that has been started in collaboration with the san Fernando valley community mental health center. And this serves orange county, LA county, it serves Ventura county; and san Bernardino county. The number for any cases of bullying k-12 is 1-844-256-0735. Again it's 844-256-0735. Young people under 18 and parents and concerning professionals can call to get informed about bullying presentations about it; and because bullying is a crime and in the state of California, we want to make sure that the people who are doing the bullying are not disproportionately impacted and pushed into the juvenile system as well. So that's why it's important for us for you to know. Thank you.

Moderator: Thank you so much Ronnie; we really appreciate it. Vameli Salcedo from Trans Latina Coalition? Is Bamby here? Is Jaden Fields from Gender Justice here? Did he get here? Okay... What we'll do then is we'll start with the folks who have signed up to speak here from the community. And the first one is Amani Moses. Three minutes. So once this starts running, you'll know that you've used up one minute; but we know you've got three minutes. Good morning. Go ahead.

Respondent: Hi. My name is Amani Moses. I am a part of the women's leadership project at Gardena high school; and I have been a part of WOP since 2007; and I'm currently a graduating senior at California State University long beach.

Moderator: Congratulations.

Respondent: Thank you. So first and foremost, we need to have solidarity within the community to decrease police presence and also be supportive of our surrounding communities. Policing in high schools in particular high schools in south LA communities are targeting black women and men for random searches and this can include negative behaviors in school and branding young students as criminals. School is for learning and for students to grow and make mistakes and move on from those mistakes. Police in school's stunts growth and to be honest, they can behave as bullies. As a young woman, it can be frightening to see an increase in police in neighborhoods, instead of having more college and educational opportunities, parks, libraries, and recreational centers. There needs to be more investment in our futures and pursuing a better life for ourselves than for us to go to jail or die. In the 23 years I have been on this earth, I have seen too many cops pulling people of color over for walking down the street, or for standing outside with a group of friends and getting a pat down without a valid explanation. This has become a normal — this has become normal in our community; and it should not be. I have had several people close to me get arrested or approached from the police and not enough go to

college, graduate, or even have stick with jobs with a decent pay wage to be able to support their families. Think about the support that is provided in wealthy white communities compared to high schools in south LA. We don't see heavy policing in those schools, constant random searches, or police cars posted every few blocks. Instead of pulling people over for walking down the street, why not ask how's your day going? Why not say keep up the great work in school? We want positive and active support to be the best we can be. The system is setting us up to fail before we have even started and the time is now for it to all be up to an end. And thank you... first of all, I want to say thank you Malina for coming to black grad; and for presenting. I just want to say you're very inspiring and thank you for everything; and I appreciate your words of encouragement. Thank you.

Moderator: Thank you so much. Melinda Cole?

Respondent: Hello. My name is Miranda Kyle. I'm also from women's leadership project. I am a Cal State Northridge student. Under grad; I'm majoring in social welfare and justice at CSUN. And I just wanted to seek on a little bit about like what Amani speaked on; but more about * of color and more about sexual assault of women. So specifically, in my high school Gardena I've seen a lot of profiling from the police at our high school in terms of a black Latino students; and a lot of the women at the school are not as encouraged to pursue higher education. Especially the African American and Latino students compared to the Asian students at this school. And then also when it comes to what we can do in terms of our careers a lot of the students are really pressured to want to do like nursing and cosmetology. So, there's not enough awareness; not enough encouragement from the counselors at the staff at Gardena about doing more than that and really wanting to go to a four-year university. The amount of law enforcement at the school outnumbers the amount of college career counselors in terms of the presence. I feel like a high school should be a pathway to college rather than prison. So, I feel like a little bit of how Gardena represents itself. So, I really ever see women of color being included in conversations when it comes to police brutality as well as law enforcement officers killing black and visuals. So, you don't really care about women; and including the amount of sexual assault on women of color from law enforcement, you don't really care about that. That doesn't happen to men as much as it happens to women; so, I think that's something that needs to be recognized more. And when I was doing my research on the transgender population, was very staggering in the terms of the amount of transgender individuals of color that were sexually assaulted by police. And then, the stigma of a homosexual black female who is aggressive and uneducated is what law enforcement gets ready for when they get a call about a woman of color that is being unruly or that is being called the police on. So that's what they're getting ready for. So, I just want to change the conversations about how women of color are being represented and profiled and so that that's not what they're trying to get ready for an unruly black woman or a woman of color. Thank you.

Moderator: Thank you very much. Shianne McClure?

Respondent: Hi. My name is Shianne. I go by her and she.

Moderator: Thank you.

Respondent: Okay... so I've always been anxious around the police for the wrong reasons. It's not like I'm some troublemaker, but my skin automatically makes me a target. I can't wear a hoodie at night; I'm too scared to drive; and now I have to worry about being criminalized, at a place that's supposed to give me a quality education and help my future. We need more counseling, libraries, and college counselors, and we need to work on the training, at least if we're going to keep security guards at my school. I guess this is on the spot, but I was going to talk about a situation that had happened earlier this school year with a security guard after school. I wasn't sexually harassed, but I was profiled; and I guess I'll talk about it. But, I was going to the library because I had book club; and it was after school and I was walking with a guy friend. And I was immediately stopped by my security guard and I could already tell he assumed that I was going to do something like — I don't know, make out with that friend or do anything like inappropriate at school; when I was just going to the book club and he didn't take my word for it. So, he basically separated me away from my friend and followed me up to the library to see if the door was at least open, and it was, of course, because I was going to book club. And he said oh, the door's open; and I was irritated and miffed, so I kind of — I was like oh yes, the door is open; with an attitude. But I was irritated because I was assumed of as someone who was going to do something inappropriate when I was just going to go to book club. And the fact that I was in a skirt wasn't going to — I knew that he made that assumption probably based on my appearance, but it shouldn't make him assume anything about me; especially because I'm a woman and because of my color and because of the stereotypes that black women have. So, I was very irritated, and I felt frustrated and I ended up crying because of it. And I feel like it was important for me to bring up. So yes, thank you.

Moderator: Thank you Shianne. Shianne, if you're willing, can you tell us what the school is? If you don't want to do it openly, you can talk with our law students.

Respondent: I'd rather talk with a law student.

Moderator: Okay. Go ahead and do that. Thank you.

Moderator: And what grade you're in; what grade you're in.

Moderator: She said CSUN I think.

Moderator: Are you in college or high school?

Respondent: I'm in high school. I'm a junior.

Moderator: Thank you. Jerome Kitchen?

Respondent: Good afternoon everyone. My name is Jerome Kitchen. I am a community activist in both the black community and the black gay community. I have a background in social work and mental health. First, I want to thank you all for convening us together and having this safe space for us to come and talk about issues that matter to us. It really means a lot to us. I know it takes a lot of hard work; a lot of head bumping, and we appreciate you guys for giving us this safe space. Today I want to take some time to introduce you guys to my friend Jamil. Jamil was just 26 years old. Hours after Jamil arrived in Los Angeles California at LAX airport, Jamil was found dead in the apartment of West Hollywood. In an apartment in West Hollywood by sheriff deputies and first responders. Sheriffs was not familiar with Jamil. He has no criminal background. Sheriffs should have been familiar with the owner of the house where Jamil was found because he's a well-known wealthy political donor; going all the way up to 2016 election campaign with Hillary Clinton. He was one of her top campaign donors. Jamil's mother was told shortly after the death that it was ruled an accidental death. There was no investigation; there was no background check into who Jamil was or the relationship between Jamil and the individual in who home he was found dead in. Right away Jamil was deemed a black, homeless, gay, sex worker; who died of a drug overdose. That bothers me, because I am 29, I'm black, and I'm gay. I have a lot of dealings with white, Hispanic, any other race. If I come up dead in the home of someone that doesn't look like me, will my mother have to deal with the tears and the pain that Jamil mother has to deal with, because till this day, she has not been given an official statement as to what happened to her son. She has not been sat down and told officially the counts that took place after her son arrived in Los Angeles. The person whose house Jamil was found dead in was never taken in for official investigation. This person has donated all the way up to our current mayor here in Los Angeles; our current DA here in Los Angeles. And to this day, Jamil's family, his community, and his friends and supporters have not been given the compassion and sympathy given to other victims in similar situations as Jamil. When women are trafficked into this country from other countries and used for sex work, we sympathize with them. We give them compassion; we hug on their moms; we hug on their younger siblings. With Jamil, his mom was told to bury him and move on. We sat down with the captain and west Hollywood. The only thing he was able to tell us is our officers responded to a rescue call. It was later determined in a phone conversation between the officers on the scene and the command officers that we will turn this over to the coroner office. We have to ask ourselves; had that white, rich man been found in Jamil's home would that have been pushed away that fast? You have to ask yourself if your child have been found in Jamil's home, would you have token that as an answer? Later, if the detectives had grabbed Jamil's backpack, looked in Jamil's backpack, read his notebook, they would have learned about the dealings and the relationship between Jamil and the predator who house he died in. That predator is free today. Has free of all accusations. The sheriff, the DA, nobody has even said he's a person of interest. They have statements; they have witness

statements; they have victims here saying that this person is a danger to public health. Using reused syringes and possibly affecting people that look like me with HIV. I thank you for your time.

Moderator: Thank you.

Moderator: Jerome, can I ask you a couple of questions? Do you mind? Thank you for being here.

Respondent: Thank you.

Moderator: There's a couple of things I'd like to ask you, because we want it on the record. First, you mentioned that someone said to Jamil's mother burry him and move on. Can you tell us who that was, what agency that they came from; the individual?

Respondent: Jamil's mother had been placing calls to the homicide detectives. The West Hollywood sheriff department pushed her off to the Los Angeles County homicide detective office for her inquiries. She had been calling; nobody was returning calls. And then, when she did get a call, the detective was not compassionate. He wasn't sympathetic with her. He has not to this day even sympathized with her lost.

Moderator: So, this is the sheriff LA county?

Respondent: This is the detectives that's handling the case.

Moderator: Right, the detectives out there the LA county sheriff's office?

Respondent: Well, they said it's dealt with by the Los Angeles county homicide department.

Moderator: And then, one more thing that might be a couple of things from you. So, we understand that the wealthy donor is — I'd like you if possible, to say what it is you'd like to see how you'd like to see agencies behave differently; or what shifts you'd like to see in terms of public agencies. So, are you asking for immediate investigation? I heard you say more compassion, especially for black gay communities. Can you just give me a couple of bullet points; give us a couple bullet points of what you'd like to see?

Respondent: Thank you Malina for giving the opportunity. I actually did want to address that; but just in the motion right now. I honestly think that it's never okay for deputies, police officers, or first responders to wind up at the home of any individual and find someone dead and right away determine that without any investigation. Whenever someone is dead, I think that individual, their family members and their community deserve to have an official

investigation deemed right away. There should not be anything pushed off to the corners office. Every person deserves paid homicide detectives to investigate what happened to them and why did they end up dead at the home that they were found in. I also think that there needs to be strict policies and procedures in place that when people that look like me, go to the police officers that's sworn to protect and serve their community, they don't get turned away. They're not mocked; they're not told you're tweaking; or if you don't leave us alone you're going to get arrested. A year before Jamil was found dead in West Hollywood, he reported his predator. He wasn't taken serious. Had someone listened, has someone listened to his other victims, maybe I wouldn't be here today telling you to change it, fix it, and put policies and procedures in place to save young people like me. Jamil's gone; there's nothing you, me, or anybody else can do for Jamil. But there's other people like me that or other people that look like Jamil that needs you guys to press the issue to save lives that look like us.

Moderator: Thank you so much Jerome. Jerome, would you be willing to speak with some of the law students back there? We're familiar with the case but commissioner Anderson Barker was saying that if we can get whatever information you're willing to give to our students back there, we'll see what more we can do. Thank you so much for coming forward. Thank you. Camille Johnson?

Respondent: Hello council members. This is my first time attending anything like this. Can I move these?

Moderator: Yes, well, the thing with the silver, try to stay close to that one.

Respondent: Oh okay. So, my name is Camille Johnson, and I wanted to speak on a situation that happened to me in a community college I was attending about six years ago. I have been going to school and really just trying to get out. I just got out of the military and I was suffering from post-traumatic stress. And post-traumatic stress syndrome and depression; so when I began going to the school my grades weren't all that good. And I wasn't all that focused on going to school. And then, in like two semesters later, I really got serious about it. I had taken 18 credits, and I had finished that whole college semester doing 18 units with all A's and B's. That's when the change started. So, I was bringing in my homework real late the first semesters like I said. I had like a C D average, and I had to take some classes over. And then, when I really got serious, I noticed that I started to have problems with teachers. I felt like teachers weren't as supportive as they were after I got the good grades as they were when I didn't. Okay, so I started to have problems with a particular teacher who would take a lot of days off. And so, the main point of this part of the story is organization rights versus the individual rights. And I feel like when police force comes in its automatically on the side of the organization; and not so much I believe micro it's involved, but I think it becomes it goes money, like money, race, sex, and it's liked of like a micro-management that goes on between organizations in the police force. So too * my story because I've got like a minute left; basically, what happened is I was having a problem

with the teacher giving me verbal threats. And because it was nothing on record, like I couldn't prove it. But when I went to the director, they seemed to support him. And it stemmed onto I was already kind of coming out of my depression and post-traumatic stress disorder, but it began to kind of impact that in me. And the ending result was I was sitting in my car, I was on my laptop one day and I was at a class; at a class that I had to take; because I wanted to take it a further semester, but I was told by the teacher that if I missed just one day he was going to fail me; whether or not that was the grade I was supposed to get. And when I went to the director and higher ups they didn't do anything about it. So, I was there not wanting to be there, and guy to get my attention, he like kind of like footballed into my car; and he left a big dent. Okay, well, when I went to the police department on that campus, I was not supported at all. And the ending result was the police came; they put me in handcuffs. They put me in the car; they sexually assaulted me in the car. They handcuffed me on school property, and I like literally was not being — he said he was intimidating and scared; the police officer. And I wound up the ultimate ending result was that I was suspended. I came back; the person who was in charge of like student situations, they retired; and then the next semester I came back; and the teacher got with that guy and then they basically even though I hadn't done anything when I came back to school; and was able to come back to school; they retracted that same event; and then put me out of that school. So basically, taking all my GI bill money that I served in the military to get, and after sexually harassing me, boosting up my military assault that I dealt with while I was in the military and my military trauma. And I went like three years without even stepping foot into a school. I was two years homeless; like, I was just mentally broken in a place. And so right now, I graduated with a bachelor's degree and I didn't let that take me down. But sorry I went over, but mainly the point of that whole thing was like, organization versus individual rights and how all of those things. Gender, race, background, age, all these things are just micro managed within this big system of not loving one another. And that's all I have to say.

Moderator: Camille, thank you so much for coming forward. These kinds of stories are really *. They take a lot of courage to come forward and speak on this. Are there any other questions for specifics?

Respondent: I'm surprised I'm not bawling.

Moderator: We appreciate your being here. And if you want to go and talk with some of the law students with more of the specifics or any kind of follow-up, please do that.

Respondent: Just one more thing I'd like to add... I just feel like the — I think that, I believe that the law enforcement agency should be all mentally evaluated from head to toe on all levels. And mental services need to be available for the social people. We were talking about today, but it needs to be available to us. That's it.

Moderator: All right. Thank you so much.

Respondent: Thank you.

Moderator: Alexandra Magon?

Respondent: Hello. My name is Alexandra Magallon. I come from trans Latina coalition. It's a trans advocacy nonprofit organization. The reason why I am here today is to share two different incidents that happened in the city of Compton, and the city of Lynwood. This happened in 2011, as I was going to school at the fashion institute of design and merchandising; and residing in Compton. So, at that time I was taking public transportation. I was taking the blue line, walking to the blue line; taking the blue line in Compton Station, and then taking that to downtown; and then getting to school there. There was a night where I had to do homework at * and so I was going to go to the blue line; get on the bus station; and then get to school. What happened though was because I'm a transgender woman, and at that point I was transitioning, I was very visibly trans. So, I was walking up to the — I would walk to the blue line every single day; but I would always get bullied or pushed or harassed; and there was a particular area at that point that people would hang out. And then, they would either buy or sell tickets; and those were the people who would be harassing me. So, what I did is to avoid that situation, I went through the emergency doors in order to avoid getting bullied and being harassed and dealing with all of that. I just wanted to go to school. So, there were two police officers waiting at that emergency entrance and saying okay give us your ID's. It was me and another guy walking by. I didn't know the guy; so, I was walking up — I was like okay; I'm going to go get a ticket. I just don't want to go all the way around, because there's people harassing me because I'm a transgender woman. And the officer said, I don't care, you violated this. I'm going to give you a citation for — so he gave me a citation. And I looked at the situation, and it was a moving violation.

[End of recording]

County of Los Angeles

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Respondent: And I let him know that I wasn't driving; so that I wouldn't be getting a mobile violation. And then so he said oh you're a smart ass, aren't you? And I'm like yes, I am. This isn't the right ticket. Give me the right ticket and I'll take it because of what I did. So, he's like no. So, for that I'm going to give you a misdemeanor. So, then he took the ticket away, gave me a new ticket and it was actually a misdemeanor offense. And then, he asked the guy who was next to me; he said, do you want the same thing? And the guy said no; so, the guy didn't get the same ticket that I got. And I still said I'm still going to fight this because this is not right. I let you know why I was walking through here. I let you know my reasons. I'm just going to school. I'm not looking for any trouble. I'm just trying to get to school. And he said if you don't sign it, then I'm going to arrest you and take you into the police car that's waiting right there. And so, I signed and then got the ticket. Had to do community service in order to get that misdemeanor out; and I had to take a plea in order to get it off of my record. That was one incident. The other incident happened when...

Moderator: That was in Compton?

Respondent: That was in Compton at the Compton Blue Line Station. The other incident happened as we were getting off of the blue line in Wilmington in Linwood; and it was me and my trans friend. And we were walking on Long Beach Boulevard, because she lives off of Long Beach Boulevard in Linwood. So, we were walking down the street with our huge fitting bags. And if you know what a fitting bag is, it's a sewing machine type of bag. Because we were going for designing marketing. So, we were walking the street, and she said just watch; this cops over here are going to pull us aside. And I said why? We're not doing anything. We're just walking. And she's like, they do it to me every single day. And I'm like girl, whatever... I didn't believe her. So then, the cop low and behold, pulls us to the side and asks us what we're doing. And we're like, we're just walking officer. I have my student badge. Do you want to see it? Like, do you really — what else are we going to be doing? He's like, are you sure you're not walking; you're not doing; you're not soliciting? This is when I got so upset and I said, do you really think that I'm going to pull a trick with my fitting bag right now, hop in his car, fuck him, and then what am I going to do with my bag? And this is my friend. Do you really think we're going to do that right now? And he said well, no... I'm like, no. You see my badge here that I've just come from school. You see my school supplies; you see this; I'd rather you get in your car, and drive away. We're going to walk away from you. So, we did that. We walked away; and that was that. But it is imperative for you to listen to this, because transgender women are profiled on a regular basis for being in the sex industry. And it's also imperative that you also know that even if I were to be a sex worker and I were to be in the sex industry, I would have had to do that because workforce development in the city of Los Angeles doesn't focus on that. It doesn't focus on that

enough, because it requires people in order to access workforce development to sign up through selective service. If you're a transgender woman and you seek asylum in the United States of America, you're not able to then get into selective services. So, it creates so many barriers to the trans community that workforce development alone doesn't acknowledge. So, all of these things that are not created for trans people that create barriers for us to even get a job let alone have housing. There's so many issues around housing, that a lot of the trans community becomes purposefully infected with HIV in order to access housing, because half way's the only one then that is funding housing. So, it's imperative that we all understand what the sex industry is for the trans community. It is not that we are there to just make money; just make a quick dollar as they say, or just because we're lazy or just because of anything. A lot of the times we are pushed; we are pushed; we are pushed; till we have nothing else left. But, to survive. Thank you very much.

Moderator: So that was Linwood Sheriff's department that stopped you the second incident you described?

Respondent: Yes.

Moderator: And where exactly was the location of the stop?

Respondent: It was right after — so we're going — it was in... if you get off of the off of the two big thing... I don't know if you've ever gone on the blue line. There's a two-story thing, right? So, you walk down, and you're walking south on Long Beach Boulevard. Then, it would be right before the highway; like where the intersection is. So, it's still...

Moderator: And that was 2011?

Respondent: That was in 2011 2012.

Moderator: Thank you.

Moderator: Thank you again. *?

Respondent: Okay, now, I want to be specific about a case of a teenager from Sun Valley. The school is Byrd Middle School. And I was extremely taken back by the principle's attitude towards youth of color. And what happened was that the middle school student was being bullied and cyber bullied, and in addition to that, many of the schools in the northeast valley have these huge banners about restrictive justice. When I brought up the whole restrictive justice item to the principle, the principle said, I don't think that what you're talking about is official. And I pulled the bulletin. I told the principle; here's the bulletin; this is what I'm talking about. Didn't want to believe us, because we were coming from an LGBTQ organization. From the beginning, we were given the ugly look. Most importantly, this is a student who witnessed a rape. And the

student was constantly being taken out of the classroom for the detective to constantly be interrogating him. And I learned that this had happened so many times without the consent of the youth. And the mother the single parent was not even aware of that. And this is a student who had already been — the school couldn't care less about the family history. This is a student whose dad was deported; this is a student whose favorite cousin was murdered in the neighborhood recently. This is a student who witnessed one of his bet girlfriends getting raped. And then, to shut up about it he got a knife in his neck by the student. But, what I'm talking about is we have got to work together to make sure that this does not continue happening. The school's not knowing; the principles not knowing the damn policies. Principles not believing the restrictive justice is actually something the community has pushed for. Being youth of color being taken out of the classroom constantly, and that impacting their grades and all that; at the expense of detectives doing their paperwork without consent is just a lot. And I wanted to bring that to your attention.

Moderator: Ronnie? A few questions.

Moderator: So what law enforcement agency was the detective from; do you know?

Respondent: I believe it was from LA PD.

Moderator: And how long ago was this incident?

Respondent: This was about two to three months ago.

Moderator: Oh, and that was Byrd Middle School?

Respondent: Yes.

Moderator: Thanks. We should talk to the students in the back; that's a big complaint. And recently...

Moderator: *?

Respondent: My name is Urias as you guys just heard. I'm a black and Mexican boy from Maquena. From as young as I can remember, my people have grown up knowing that the police only care about what happens in white neighborhoods. At a young age being sexually assaulted, when my family finally found out and called the cops, nothing happened. There was no search; there was not even a report on my abuser. And then, when my mom, when she called the police for the third time for being abused by her stepdad, the police officer, a white woman, simply told her that they didn't want to be hit anymore she should leave. This is things going on that while diversity tries to be filled by adding women to the police force, nothing happens for people

of color. I agree with Camille that law enforcement should have to do psychology classes in their processes of becoming an officer. Additionally, ethnic studies and racial relationships and social work should be emphasized consistently in the process of becoming a law enforcement provider; not just when our people are killed in cold blood, but this should be also voted on by community councils to fully evaluate their capabilities to act with control. That's about all I've got to say.

Moderator: Thank you. Thank you Urias. I appreciate it. Jackson Richards.

Respondent: Hello. I just want to come up here first and start off by saying I'm Jasmine Richards with Black Lives Matter Pasadena. And I want to say Jamil Moore's name; so, if we could all collectively say his name. Jamil Moore. Say his name, Jamil Moore. Say his name, Jamil Moore. That part... And the political donor is Ed Buck. I want to start off and put his name on the record; because there's been three or four stories; actually, four stories besides — three besides Jamil's; and these young black men have been — have told their stories to the police stations to not only to share but to Compton police station, as well as Hollywood; and have been denied. They've been called tweakers like my brother just said. I want to start off by saying that Ed Buck is a deviant. He's a sexual predator. He goes around West Hollywood looking for young black men, and testing them with drugs. Looking at them and testing them; and this is not — it's just like Jasmine said; it's like Tuskegee. It's like the Tuskegee experiments. He's testing our young black men, and nobody's saying nothing; because they're considered the lost, right? And so, what I want to say is their lives matter. And what Ed Buck is doing, is he's paying off political folks. He's paying off Mayor Garsetti. He's paying off Jackie Lacey. He's paying off the Sheriff's station in West Hollywood; and everybody is turning a blind eye. Why? Because he has money, and money out here it rules everything. But we know that money is the root to all evil. And Ed Buck is the epitome of evil. And the more we keep letting this man keep walking around West Hollywood; if we don't say his name and we don't go in front of his house and we don't keep making everybody know the story of Jamil Moore, the more he's going to go around and do this to young black babies. And this is not fair. I'm here to ask you guys for preventative measures. Now, we know things are going on in West Hollywood. There's drugs, there's sex; there's sex work. But we know that nobody's out there because they want to be. They're out there because they have to be right? So, it's up to us to stop this. It's up to us to go out there and offer programs, mental health. Not only that, but Drugs. People need NA, CA, but nobody wants to go to a grownup CA meeting if you're young. You need folks that are your age. So, we need more places that are for the youth; that are for the young adults. Jamil Moore, he was nothing different than me. He was nothing different than the folks that I know. And what I'm feeling right now in my heart is that people don't care because he's a black man. And people don't care because Ed Buck has millions of dollars. But what I want to put on record is that this man, Ed Buck, is a sexual predator. He's a deviant. He is going around and he is killing our babies; and this is not right. And it's up to all of us to do something. Not this board, but it's up to us; because out on Santa Monica Boulevard, I used to work at Equality California... And I noticed that on this side of Santa Monica which is La Brea, you're okay right? The white folks; they look

out for each other and everything. But on this side of Santa Monica, it's just a brown and black folks and on Santa Monica highland, it's drug use, it's sex work; it's all type of stuff going on; but it's because babies have to be. Now, I have niece, he's transgender; and he's out there on Santa Monica. And he doesn't come home, because of the way the family treats her. So, what I'm here to say is that it's my fault; and it's our fault; and we have to be here so there will be no more Jamil Moore's.

Moderator: I think a point that you made is really important, which is specific prevention programs for particular communities. So, you said these narcotic anonymous are often times older folks. Younger people don't want to go to those meetings?

Respondent: Yes, it's unrelatable.

Moderator: Would you say the same thing is true for queer and trans folks having specific programs; more specific programs and funding for those programs specific to those communities?

Respondent: Yes. I feel that way. There's a program in Pasadena called it's called the art house; and it's specifically for LGBTQ youth and young adults who have just been incarcerated and who have a drug problem. And you could come there for free. There's not — it's not just like rehabilitation. You could come there and bring your whole family. It's a family space; where not like most of these programs; there's a 30 day wait and you can't talk on the phone; you can't leave the program or anything like that. But with this program you can go talk on the phone; you can leave; they try to put you back into life you know what I mean? And it's not shutting you out, but it's getting you back. And that's what we all need right? So... Just more programs.

Moderator: Thank you so much Jasmine. Amanda Bode?

Respondent: Good afternoon. My name is Amanda Goode. I'm an attorney with the ACLU of southern California, focusing on LGBTQ rights, so my comments here will focus there as well. We appreciate the opportunity both to speak and to listen. Starting on a national level, in the US transgender survey released in 2015, respondents experienced high levels of mistreatment and harassment by police, including verbal harassment, repeated misgendering, physical assault, sexual assault, and being forced to engage in sexual activity to avoid arrest. All of those adverse interactions leave scars. 57 percent of survey respondents said they would feel uncomfortable asking police for help if they needed it. Respondents who interacted with the police while perceived as doing sex work, reported particularly pervasive problems; with nine out of ten, reporting being harassed, attacked, sexually assaulted, or mistreated in some other way by the police. Locally, we continue to hear of alarming rates of profiling by law enforcement, including disproportionate stops, arrests, and overcharging of trans women, trans youth, and LGBTQ people of color. AB953 was an important step forward in terms of collecting data on who

involuntarily interacts with law enforcement. But a lot more work will be needed to equalize communities comfort levels with treating the police as a resource who can help solve problems. We at the ACLU feel that one crucial step will be for LA PD and other local agencies to deprioritize enforcement of laws against sex work; as that enforcement does not create other economic opportunities for folks engaged in sex work; and very often contributes to the burdens of stigma and trauma carried by trans women of color and other vulnerable members of our community. Finally, I want to acknowledge that attacks on immigrants' rights are currently a huge human relations problem facing our local LGBTQ communities among others. Particularly given the harsh environments of trans phobia, homophobia economic marginalization, and physical danger that face many LGBTQ immigrants in the countries of origin, as well as in civil immigration detention here. We look forward to the implementation of SB54, insuring that all of California represents a sanctuary from local authorities complicity with federal immigration enforcement. Assaults on immigrants will continue to emanate from Washington and Los Angeles must stand united to resist them. Thank you.

Moderator: Thank you.

Moderator: You're in the local ACLU office?

Respondent: ACLU of Southern California Los Angeles office.

Moderator: Okay, so are you documenting incidents of the kind you've just described in your testimony of the harassment by the police; is that what your project does?

Respondent: We do when they come to us. Our community partners I believe have a lot more information of that nature.

Moderator: Okay, but when they refer to you, you will document and then what do you do with that documentation?

Respondent: We would love for there to be a clearer structure for reporting such things if the county has resources.

Moderator: Okay. Well, it's just good to know that the ACLU is out there and you have a project like this in your focus, and that you can be a resource for the folks in this room to; correct?

Respondent: Absolutely. We try to focus on making change for the greatest number of people through policy litigation as well as community education.

Moderator: I think it's just a damning statistic that nine out of ten folks who have this kind of interaction with the police are harassed by the police.

Respondent: It's unacceptable.

Moderator: Did you also say there's an existing report that you're pulling from?

Respondent: The report we were pulling from is national. It's called the US Transgender Survey, published by the National Center for Transgender Equality. Again, we would love to do local data collection and focus in on Los Angeles County; but we would need resources and support for that.

Moderator: Do you mind writing down where we can get that national survey at least?

Respondent: Absolutely.

Moderator: Thank you.

Moderator: Thanks very much. So, Tyler Baranzo. This is our last so if there's any folks who want to speak again, please feel free to go ahead and be silent.

Respondent: My name's Tyler Picasso. Gender * jargon *. I'm with *. And I am a trans male. There's two occasions that happened to me. First was in Mohollin middle school. I came out to my father, and my dad called my mom a prostitute and said it wasn't for church, I would have killed you a long time ago. And I took my mom to the police department, and they said that they couldn't do anything because they said that it wasn't a real threat. They told me that I can just go to court and get my mom could get full custody of me; and for that it's really hard, because she doesn't get a lot of money for her to really support a family. So, we need to live in an apartment building with my uncle and her boyfriend so we can help each other out to get a good money statement. Right after Mulholland, right after that happened, I had to switch schools because I was afraid to see my father again and afraid of what he would do. And this second incident was in Sepulveda middle school. I went there. I didn't come out to the counselor yet, because I didn't know the way she would react. So, around October around I think it was Halloween, and I came out to her, and I told her that I would like to go by he, him, his and by Tyler. And she said it was perfectly fine; and that she would tell the teachers. She did tell the teachers, but every day I would get misgendered by the teachers; and then I got picked by a student in my science class. He called me by my birth name, and my teacher was there and she didn't say anything. She just stood there and stare at him; and she didn't say anything. And then, once we told the principle, he didn't say anything either. He didn't do anything. He told Lonnie which helped my mom out a lot that he was going to speak with the teachers and that never happened. So that's all I have to say.

Moderator: Thank you so much. Tyler? Will you answer a few questions?

Moderator: Tyler, when the police — you went to the police, and the police told you it was not a threat what your dad said. What police agency was that? LA PD?

Respondent: Yes, I think it was LA PD.

Moderator: Where were you living at the time?

Respondent: I was living with my dad around Tarzana.

Moderator: In Tarzana area. Okay... and how long ago was that?

Respondent: That was last year in the month of October.

Moderator: And please talk to the law students in the back, and feel free to if you want to make a complaint because that's outrageous what they said to you.

Respondent: I want to add on to what Tyler said. A very similar thing happened to me with my mom's stepdad. He threatened me. He threatened my mom too; both verbally that he would kill us.

Moderator: Urias?

Respondent: Yes, Uria. And so, the same thing happened to me, and yet but and many times law enforcement have been called on him. He has a history of sexual and physical assault against women; and was even seen like watching me through my window. And when I tried to report that and when I tried to report the threats of like murder, the police department, San Fernando police department they came and told us too that it wasn't a real threat because it was verbal and it could be like hearsay or whatever it's called; like that. So that's definitely something that's very common in our community.

Moderator: Make a complaint.

Moderator: Yes, can you talk to the — because that's not hear say. That's just a threat. Okay. Anybody else? Okay... So, I'm seeing a hand in the back? Yes? I couldn't tell if it was a hand or you wanted to...

Respondent: Yes, hi... My name is Gia Alias. I'm a reentry counselor with the center for health justice, and I am here just to simply recommend cultural sensitivity training when it

comes to gender and sexual diversity when it comes to the correctional officers in the sheriff department. Also with the vice police under cover department; and also with the probation department handling the juveniles in juvenile hall. Thank you.

Moderator: You said you were with the?

Respondent: The center for health justice.

Moderator: Yes. Do you have some materials that kind of list out some of the specific source of trainings that you would like to *?

Respondent: Absolutely, yes. There are a variety of trans and gender and sexual diversity 101's throughout the network of the trans service provider network which are full of community based organizations.

Moderator: Would you be willing to email that to the commission please? So, we can make sure that we have it from your organization on our record?

Respondent: Will do. Thank you.

Moderator: Any more questions?

Moderator: So, Gia, I don't know if this is for you or for other folks in the audience... we did want to — we've been getting reports of trans folks being when they are booked into custody, held in solitary confinement. We don't have that on official record because nobody offered testimony to that. So, if you do have a comment, we'd love to get that on the official record.

Respondent: *.

Moderator: I didn't mean to call anybody out, but I wanted to make sure those things are documented and presented by anybody else who wants to talk about the experiences that trans folks in jails and in custody please let us know. Feel free to come up or anonymously write down your experiences.

Moderator: Yes, absolutely; because we know that this is all very sensitive. So absolutely. Remember that the room right behind us 107 is where you can do that anonymously; and here comes someone. Tell me your name.

Respondent: Hi there. I'm T, Tiffany. She her... You'll have to forgive me. I was not actually preparing to speak today. I'm here on behalf of the LGBTQ center of Long Beach. I'm

pretty new to the area. I just moved here with my partner... I am from Washington DC. We just moved here I want to say at most four months ago. So, I'm pretty green, and DC has its problems if you all don't already know. We're definitely struggling and fighting through some stuff, but I'm wondering here as I'm still familiarizing myself with how folks do things here, is there any sort of LGBTQ liaison unit that the police departments here in LA county has? Is there anything like that? What's happening that we're not being advocated for? What's happening that they're not advocating for us? What's happening that when you call the police or the police shows up, and you make it clear that you're queer or LGBT identified in any way, that the unit is not called immediately to advocate on your behalf?

Respondent: Thank you for your question. To my knowledge, the sheriff and police department and Los Angeles police department each have one LGBT liaison where they take our comments and our issues. However, they're usually not on call 24-7.

Moderator: And that is all that they do? Take comments?

Respondent: Yes, and give recommendations.

Moderator: To the caller not to anybody else?

Respondent: No, to their board.

Moderator: Okay...

Respondent: Is there a way for — I apologize that I don't know how reasonable this is; but it's got to become reasonable at some point. Is there a way for resources to be routed to make sure that the that department has the support they need to have them on call 24-7? Is that possible?

Moderator: It's certainly a demand; a recommendation that's exactly what we're trying to collect; this kind of information that there may be something on paper; but what's on paper isn't working. What's on paper is under sourced; and that seems to me to be what I'm hearing from you Gia, that there's one person; but it's not enough. And it's not the 24-7 that you already four months in here is needed.

Respondent: Yes.

Moderator: That's...

Respondent: Thank you; that's all I had.

Moderator: Thank you. I see a hand back there.

Respondent: I am Korina Samala, and I am the chair of the * City of Los Angeles * advisory council.

Moderator: I'm sorry say that again?

Respondent: Transgender advisory council. We deal when we start working group, we deal with the policies with LA PD on interaction of transgender peoples. There is not being implemented by LA PD. Okay, on housing and other issues that's come up... on the liaisons LA PD has LA PD liaisons right now. * is one of them; Ian also is also a liaison. People can come up with... They come to all our meetings, and also attend all our meetings and have also forums and also working groups with LA PD; with the community. So, anything that is and it's all out there. The sheriff's department has the same thing. It has LA PD liaisons also that work with the community and work with us and work with our advisory board and also our working group. So those policies are set. I guess some of the community members do not know about this then I guess we need to encourage them to come forward to our advisory board, advisory council and also to the liaisons of both departments.

Moderator: Okay... Oh, yes, can you — Korina?

Respondent: Yes.

Moderator: Can you fill out a form just so we'll have the contact information for you? Because we would want to be able to...

Respondent: And also, we have also members of our community like I am who is also on the advisory councils of both LA PD and sheriff's department.

Moderator: Okay, absolutely; because we want to get more information from you further. So please fill that out so we have that information. Thank you very much.

Respondent: Hello. I was also not planning on speaking. My name is Olympia. I'm the LGBT health access and outreach intern at the central American resource center of Los Angeles. I have a copy of the Los Angeles County Sheriff department's manual of policy and procedures, as well as their transgender and gender non-conforming employee guide. But none of these explicitly detail anything about the liaison policy; and I just thought I would mention that.

Moderator: Thank you.

Respondent: Hi Gia again. I just want to additionally add that the first responders to my knowledge don't have a gender or sexual diversity cultural training.

Moderator: Thank you. Anyone?

Respondent: Hi. I actually wasn't planning on speaking today as well...

Moderator: Can you say your name?

Respondent: Oh. My name's Andrea, and I wasn't planning on speaking today as well; but my heart told me to and I'm speaking on behalf of my mom. My mom is an immigrant, and all her life, she was in an abusive relationship and she has called the cops at least 40 times when I was little. All the time, the cops had told her that she should just get out of the house. Just find a job; and just leave away from her abuser. I'm 21 now, and my mom recently just left her abuser, and I'm just saying this because I wish the police had done more. And this was in the city of Wineco all my life; and it was the LA PD. Every single time my mom called the cops, they ignored what she had to say. They only listened to what my ex-father would say; and hearing other youth speak about how verbal abuse isn't being accounted for and how nobody's paying attention to, it affects a lot. Sometimes more than what physical is. Verbal abuse is valid, and it really does hurt us. So yes, thank you.

Moderator: Thank you so much Andrea.

Respondent: I would like to add that I am diagnosed with depression and anxiety disorder...

Moderator: Tyler?

Respondent: Yes. And my father used to tell me that if I didn't behave, that he would go to Mexico and leave me for a new family. He used to pinch me in my arm. He used to say that my mom was a whore; that she was a slut; that she's not a good woman; that she used to beat me; that it was her fault for the way I am. He used to tell me, I can fix you with the bible; I just need you to come so you can come with me. He used to tell — I used to ask him, so what if I was gay? He said, I will chop you into pieces and put you in a cage and burn you alive. And he would always call my mom on social services, but it like told him that she didn't do anything bad. She like spanked me or something; he would call social services on her and make sure that I am taken away from her.

Moderator: Thank you. Very very good of you to come forward with that. Thanks, so much Tyler.

Respondent: My name's Camila. I had spoken briefly anonymously, but after hearing a lot of my peers and community members speak, I decided to come up myself and share a little bit about my own story. I was only profiled once, and I don't know if you could actually call it

profiling; which is why I was so hesitant to actually share it. It was in July of 2016 and I was feeling on fire considering I had just started presenting as female and I was really feeling my oats. But when you're still visibly an assigned male at birth and you're on public transportation, and quite clockable, you realize that merely existing puts yourself in danger. And so, I was on the red line and realized that there was a man who was quite angrily staring me down; and I decided hey I don't have the money for it but I'm going to get the hell out of here and get off on the next stop; and I'll take a lyft. And it was a want to say like 8:00 PM at night; and so, I hopped off at Sunset and Vermont; and I called a lyft; and as I'm waiting for my lyft, I see a cop car slow down, and then I'm like okay; whatever... That's nothing to worry about; and then, I guess it had gone around, and came and parked right immediately in front of me. And the officers in it were staring at me; whispering, saying some stuff. And I'm like walking back and forth, clearly looking like I might have been soliciting, but I was just waiting for a lyft. But it was just such a clear moment that I realized my mere existence was a red flag to the police department and to officers to be like wait a minute; this could be one of those trans sex workers that we've been cracking down on so hard. And it was such a sobering moment of reality because I had like I said been feeling really confident especially that day; and then to realize that at the hands of fragile masculinity, I couldn't ride public transportation. And at the hands of trying to actually like attain my own safety and get a lyft, the people who were meant to protect and serve me were deeming me a potentially a potential criminal when in reality as my colleagues Alexandra Magaron we work together at the trans looking now coalition she mentioned like... What else are we supposed to do if people don't want to hire us? And you know, I myself am very privileged. I was born in the United States; was able to get a bachelor's degree of education; and have the opportunity to work with women who are and men who are in far less fortunate situations. And they themselves would be here today if it weren't for the fact that they're so afraid to actually tell their stories; so, these forums are beautiful and amazing and great in theory, but the reality is; coming forward with the harsh realities of what we experience on a day to day basis is overwhelming considering we've been turned away time and time again in doing so has often bitten us in the ass. So, I don't really know what the recommendations are. I agree with Gia that trans sensitivity trainings are necessary. I know that the bureaucratic systems of government and the city of Los Angeles might not necessarily make that possible overnight or over the course of the next year. But at least prioritize us and realize that the people you're policing are the ones that need protecting the most. Thank you.

Moderator: Thank you. And I just wanted to say thank you for making the decision to come forward; because as you point out there, we know that there are people who can't. It's so hard, and so we really appreciate your decision to say okay; I'm going to stop up here and speak. Thank you. Samantha Jo Dato?

Respondent: Hello everyone, how are you? I'm good. I'm Samantha Jo Dato. I'm on the leadership team of TWOC, which is the trans women of color collective. And I want to thank all of you for sharing your stories and stepping up to that plate. Like, this area that we're at

here is not an unfamiliar area for us. There's all these town halls where people come and we share our stories and we don't know what happens after that right? And what happens is it feels like you've been erased or your story has not been heard enough to make an impact for change. And one of the things that I'm charging you with or asking you to do is to put controlled competency trainings from the people that are behind — in front of you; and not from these design people who are educated and think that they know all of these things. The lived experiences are real. And not only that, we usually walk our self and support one another out of our trauma; because we can't face it or find it anywhere else. So even though the education may not be there, the experience, the training, and all of the other things that trans people of color and anyone who's been sexually assaulted, molested, aging, all kind of discriminations. We start and we are the change that we seek. So, I think that we need to start looking from in these rooms and in these amount of organizations that are working to get things rolling on the ball. Thank you.

Moderator: Samantha, am I right in hearing that you are echoing what we've heard about cultural competence; but the one thing that you want to make sure is that it's not a bunch of folks with academic credentials; it's about folks who have lived and gone through it and survived and thrived out of it?

Respondent: I am echoing that definitely; and I'm also echoing that the LGB is not the same as the T. And I want to make sure that they're separated. I hear this clustered together; and my identity is in orientation. So being trans is definitely who I am. But yes, I am to the top of the mountain screaming that this training in these cultural competencies need to start from within. And contract at work which will start employment which fights all kind of barriers that trans and LGBT people face. Thank you.

Moderator: Okay, thank you.

Respondent: I wanted to added to what our movement * mentioned; that one thing that I'm learning as I'm accessing higher education and academic spaces and all that, is that the thousands and thousands and thousands of dollars are going to white led organizations that have only opinions. I have sat down with an executive director of a family justice center in the San Fernando valley. She herself told me, that she wanted to hire me; but she told me, you don't — just so you know, the Sheriffs here think they know it all. The nurses here think they know it all. But when it comes to racial justice at the intersection of mental health services, and institutional violence, she didn't want to talk about grass roots organizations. Or, she didn't want to acknowledge that all people of color are at the bottom; and board and everything is white. And it hurts when trans led organizations like first generation immigrants; by people of color; by formerly homeless; formerly hospitalized; formerly jailed, we don't get nothing. So, I encourage you all to use your power and bring us with you to the man that the dollars go to grass roots organizations and we should not have to fight that damn fight for 501-C3 status. We have to innovate; redefine what social work means; but also, how we channel the money from the

LA county to the people who actually know how to thrive; not just survive. Thank you. Adam Roll?

Respondent: Hi, my name is Adam Roll and my pronouns are the and they. I'm not affiliation with any organization. I had two incidents in the past count of almost eight years ago; and about two years ago with the foot hill division of Lake View Terrace. All my life I was raised in a verbally abusive home due to the account of my father being an alcoholic. The first incident indicated that he was intoxicated and was a danger towards the people in the home including my mother. But he didn't hit anybody. And so, when the police arrived they said they couldn't take him back to the station or detain him; that me, myself, my mother, and my two siblings had to relocate to a hotel, a motel, or a friend's home and come back to our house. And so, they didn't take any action and just left us there for us to deal with it on our own. And so, because of that, we did do that; and my mother still very much financially depended on my father. She remained with him for the next several years. And then, on the account of June of 2015, he was intoxicated; verbally aggressive toward my mother; controlling; manipulative; and he grabbed her by the throat and he hit her. And so that's when he was detained by the police. And because of that, they finally detained him after six years, I had to endure my fair share of trans phobia displacement; trauma; that I'm still dealing with today. I just left my abusive home. And now I'm dealing with unemployment, displacement; because of LAPD not taking action on verbal abuse in the home and dismissing my case completely. Now I'm dealing with this; and my family is still with their abuser. And I'm constantly my trauma is invalidated because of that. And so, for LA PD, they really need to really make mental health their priority, especially for undocumented folks as well. For the trauma that they're processing through. Thank you.

Moderator: Thank you so much. Anyone else?

Moderator: So, we're about to close, but one of our partners asked that I announce that on I think this is Tuesday. Tuesday, September 26, at 9:00 AM there will be a launch of the justice LA campaign on the corner of Temple and Grand Avenue. For more information, please go to justicela.org. But they wanted to invite everyone to meet at Temple and Grand, on Tuesday September 26 at 9:00 AM.

Moderator: Yes, I see a hand. Yes, you can; come on...

Respondent: Again, my name is Amani. I don't want to say anything too big, but I think in the future, it's very important to have conferences and hearings that people can actually attend. Because like for myself, I go to Cal State Long Beach as I said, and I work in the mornings. And I have school; so even if I flip and switch those schedules I still have somewhere to be; and I can't afford to miss a day of work. So, I just wanted to put that out there to if you guys do have the authority and the power to make sure you guys can have hearings that are appropriate for

people so they won't be able to miss work. Because they need that money. We need that money; I need that money. I'm a struggling student, so just wanted to say that. Thank you.

Moderator: We hear you...

Respondent: Can I say one more thing?

Moderator: Yes, you can.

Respondent: So, I know we're wrapping up. I was born in Los Angeles, and I went to school on the east coast, and after graduation I lived in Manhattan. I had to move back to Los Angeles two years ago, largely in part because Manhattan was a place that was very destructive because white executive got me addicted to crystal meth. And the only way that I could truly deal with that addiction was by coming home and forcing myself to separate me from that as somebody else referenced predator. And as this is wrapping up, I think it's important that we just remind ourselves that Jamil Moore's case is of the utmost importance and something that really needs to be addressed; not only in the case of holding people accountable, but holding white supremacy accountable. Because a lot is being said, but nothing is being done; and I was lucky enough to have gotten away from my abuser. And there are so many people who aren't; so, as we kind of finish, I think it's important that we just remember that and constantly keep it in the back of our minds; because the community deserves to see action in that respect. Thank you.

Moderator: Thank you so much.

Moderator: I just wanted to tell Adam, are you still here? That was very powerful testimony, and I'm hoping that we can get more detail. Because what was really interesting to see is in foot hill division we make a complaint; and you see all these years passed after the first incident; and the next incident if there were numerous calls and they did nothing in response.

Respondent: Yes, and may I include, the night of me fleeing the home, I had called the division several times for them to shadow over my safety as I flee the home. I had to jump out the window of my home while family was out of the house. And I had to take an uber to get to safety.

Moderator: Thank you.

Moderator: Thank you so much. We're coming to a formal close. So, thank you all again for coming forward. I know that a lot of this testimony was tough; and so, I just want to acknowledge the courage, the bravery, of all of you stepping forward here. I want to remind you that of course we have one more hearing, and that will be to actually hear

what law enforcement has to say. And if you want to know when that is, you can get to our web site. It too will be a public hearing; and I want to encourage all of you to keep on us. Because we're going to produce something, but we want it to be something that you all can use or that we can support you in all of the changes that we know have to be made. Because it's going to take not just * or anything like that, but all of our efforts and more people who aren't even in this room. So, I want to remind you that we still have food; so please go and eat. There is some information out there for those of you who may not have seen it about various community organizations. And the last thing, is to adjourn in the name of and memory of Jamil Moore. So, we do keep holding up his name. So, thank you all for coming.

[End of recording]