

**From:** Dhanya Jayagopal <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 12:22 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is **Dhanya Jayagopal** and I am a resident of **San Jose**, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

### **1. Redirect Police Funding**

Phillip McHarris (doctoral candidate focusing on race) and Thenjiwe McHarris (strategist with the Movement for Black Lives) [explain the problem](#) with current police reform efforts:

*"More training or diversity among police officers won't end police brutality, nor will firing and charging individual officers. Look at the Minneapolis Police Department, which is held up as a model of progressive police reform. The department offers procedural justice as well as trainings for implicit bias, mindfulness and de-escalation. It embraces community policing and officer diversity, bans 'warrior style' policing, uses body cameras, implemented an early intervention system to identify problematic officers, receives training around mental health crisis intervention, and practices 'reconciliation' efforts in communities of color."*

Evidently, that was not enough. Instead of heightening the resources that officers have, they advocate redirecting funds to alternative emergency response programs, which can also be fueled by state-level and local-level grants. The McHarris' argument is that we should work towards a reality in which healthcare workers and emergency response teams should handle substance abuse, domestic violence, homelessness, or mental health cases, while rapid response social workers provide individuals with the care they need. Community organizers would be responsible for spearheading responses to the pandemic. "The average police recruit spends [58 hours learning how to shoot and only 8 hours learning how to de-escalate](#)." Police officers are not trained nor necessary in reacting to such crises—specialized responders are.

Most police funding is budgeted and taxed at the local level, with city-level and county-level votes periodically increasing budgets. In 2017, [Oakland allocated the highest share of its general fund to policing](#) nationwide, at 41 percent and \$242.5 million. It is crucial to establish state-level and local-level bans on heightening police funds, while simultaneously redirecting budgets to the aforementioned alternatives.

For-profit policing is a large culprit. Even though [Governor Brown's 2016 bill](#) helped protect Californians from civil asset forfeitures, this is far from sufficient. As of 2020, [66.25% of forfeiture profits go to police](#)—a C+ rating.

The Black Lives Matter Movement [demands](#) "acknowledgment and accountability for the devaluation and dehumanization of Black life at the hands of the police... We call for a national defunding of police. We demand investment in our communities and the resources to ensure Black people not only survive, but thrive."

The McHarris' conclusion states, "We need to reimagine public safety in ways that shrink and eventually abolish police and prisons while prioritizing education, housing, economic security, mental health and alternatives to conflict and violence."

A persistent, genuine, and well-thought-out legislative effort to redirect police funds and end for-profit policing is imperative.

## 2. Abolish Legislative Police Protections

Murderers who wear a badge have consistently been given a free pass to decimate Black life. [BLM](#) “demand[s] accountability [for] those who are victims of police violence.”

It is vital to ensure that police officers are met with precisely the same consequences as their badgeless counterparts. Accountability has been denied to Black people for centuries, and it is crucial to impose legislative confirmation that accountability is ensured.

[Campaign Zero](#) is an organization dedicated to “limiting police interventions, improving community interactions, and ensuring accountability.”

They propose a solution of independent investigations. Because only [1% of all killings by police lead to an officer being charged with a crime](#), “independent investigations and prosecutions of police officers” must be mandated to eliminate biases. A broken system should not be evaluating itself.

## 3. Demilitarize the Police

Campaign Zero emphasizes that [studies](#) show how “more militarized police departments are significantly more likely to kill civilians.” Unfortunately, “the federal 1033 program transfers military weapons to police departments.”

[Campaign Zero](#) continues that to demilitarize, we must “prohibit cities and counties from using federal funds to purchase military equipment.”

California is not void of this indictment. In total, 41 MRAPs [are in the possession of law enforcement agencies in California](#). All in all, California’s quantity of purchasing such outlandish and high-level military technology is unmatched: “In terms of cash value, California gets more 1033 gear than other states.”

Even though the LAPD has refused to take on more military equipment, they stated that [“the department will replenish and replace”](#) existing equipment. Such measures must be barred in an effort to eventually demilitarize the police force entirely in the long run.

Police departments should be [restricted](#) from using federal grant money to purchase military equipment, using the SWAT team, or conducting no-knock raids. Over-weaponized departments must reduce their use of weapon stockpiles, as “agencies should seek to return to the federal government the military equipment that has already been received” as [places like San Jose already have](#).

The [warranting](#) is simple: “Military equipment naturally increases military-style training for said equipment. That training can increase the other dimensions of militarization,” contributing to the war-like mentality implicitly enforced by the police, who have no place fighting wars against the most disenfranchised members of their communities.

I hope that our legislators can take tangible, policy-level initiatives to defend Black lives, something they have failed to do so up until this point. Please listen to the pleas of the Black entities listed above and countless others, and help give rise to a future where Black folks do not have to fear for their lives on a daily basis.

Sincerely but not silently,

Dhanya Jayagopal

**From:** helen d <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 12:31 PM  
**To:** helen  deng <>  
**Cc:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo  
<[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> Garcia, Edgardo  
<[REDACTED]>  
<[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** We Demand Justice NOW

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Helen Deng and I am a resident of San Jose, California and one of your constituents. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

### **1. Redirect Police Funding**

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The McHarris’ conclusion states, “We need to reimagine public safety in ways that shrink and eventually abolish police and prisons while prioritizing education, housing, economic security, mental health and alternatives to conflict and violence.”

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Sincerely but not silently,

Helen Deng

**From:** Karen Xu  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 12:58 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** BLM - Legislative Action to Take

[External Email]

To Toni Taber,

My name is Karen Xu and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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Sincerely but not silently,

Karen Xu

**From:** Isha Muthyala <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 1:32 PM  
**To:** City Clerk < [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

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Sincerely but not silently,

Isha Muthyala

**From:** Janhavi Pillai <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 1:42 PM  
**To:** City Clerk < [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW.

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is **Janhavi Pillai** and I am a resident of **San Jose**, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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**Janhavi Pillai**

**From:** Niki Hakami <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 1:45 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo  
<[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> Garcia, Edgardo  
<[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** We Demand Justice NOW

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Niki Hakami and I am a resident of Sunnyvale, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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I hope that our legislators can take tangible, policy-level initiatives to defend Black lives, something they have failed to do so up until this point. Please listen to the pleas of the Black entities listed above and countless others, and help give rise to a future where Black folks do not have to fear for their lives on a daily basis.

Sincerely but not silently,  
Niki Hakami

**From:** Rebecca Borrison <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 2:06 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW!

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Rebecca Borrison and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

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The McHarris' conclusion states, "We need to reimagine public safety in ways that shrink and eventually abolish police and prisons while prioritizing education, housing, economic security, mental health and alternatives to conflict and violence."

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Sincerely but not silently,

Rebecca Borrison

**From:** Jocelyn Swift <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 2:14 PM  
**To:** City Clerk < [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** We Demand Justice Now

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Jocelyn Swift and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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Sincerely,

Jocelyn Swift

**From:** Sam Dhanani <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 2:16 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** We Demand Justice Now

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Sam Dhanani and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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Sincerely but not silently,

Sam Dhanani

**From:** Kay Jewler <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 2:18 PM  
**To:** City Clerk < [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Kay Jewler and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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Sincerely but not silently,

Kay Jewler

**From:** Katie Lang <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 2:26 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Justice and Legislative Changes

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Katie Lang and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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Sincerely but not silently,

Katie Lang

**From:** Simant Baral <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 2:28 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Racism Against Black People

[External Email]

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A persistent, genuine, and well-thought-out legislative effort to redirect police funds and end for-profit policing is imperative.

## **2. Abolish Legislative Police Protections**

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Sincerely but not silently,

Simant Baral

**From:** Jack Clisbee <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 2:36 PM  
**Subject:**

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Jack and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

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Sincerely but not silently,

Jack Clisbee

**From:** Kate Tankersley < >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 2:38 PM  
**To:** City Clerk < [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Kate Tankersley and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers. The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

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Sincerely but not silently,

Kate Tankersley

**From:** Sonali C <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 2:40 PM  
**To:** City Clerk < [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Sonali Chellappa and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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Sincerely but not silently,

**Sonali Chellappa**

**From:** Mika Huynh <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 3:24 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

[External Email]

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My name is Mika Huynh and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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Mika Huynh

**From:** lauren chivers <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 3:36 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

[External Email]

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Lauren Chivers

From: Anastasia Langner <>  
Sent: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 3:53 PM  
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: We Demand Justice Now.

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For-profit policing is a large culprit. Even though Governor Brown's 2016 bill helped protect Californians from civil asset forfeitures, this is far from sufficient. As of 2020, 66.25% of forfeiture profits go to police—a C+ rating.

The Black Lives Matter Movement demands "acknowledgment and accountability for the devaluation and dehumanization of Black life at the hands of the police... We call for a national defunding of police. We demand investment in our communities and the resources to ensure Black people not only survive, but thrive."

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I hope that our legislators can take tangible, policy-level initiatives to defend Black lives, something they have failed to do so up until this point. Please listen to the pleas of the Black entities listed above and countless others, and help give rise to a future where Black folks do not have to fear for their lives on a daily basis.

Sincerely but not silently,  
Anastasia Langner

**From:** Amanda White <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 3:55 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] Garcia, Edgardo <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]>  
The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <[REDACTED]> City  
Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Amanda White and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

### **1. Redirect Police Funding**

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Sincerely but not silently,

Amanda White

**From:** Amudha Sairam <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 4:08 PM  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] City Clerk <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor  
Sam Liccardo <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> Garcia, Edgardo  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Changes That I Would Like Made

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Amudha Sairam and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

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Sincerely but not silently,  
Amudha Sairam

**From:** Andrew Lenz <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 4:13 PM  
**To:** City Clerk < [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Support for Black Lives Matter in California

[External Email]

Dear City Clerk Taber,

My name is Andrew Lenz and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

I am disappointed at your support of the police force despite the violence they have enacted upon many peaceful protestors in San Jose.

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Sincerely but not silently,

Andrew Lenz

**From:** Arianna gonzalez < >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 4:20 PM  
**To:** City Clerk < [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** BLACK LIVES MATTER

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,  
My name is Arianna Gonzalez and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.  
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Sincerely but not silently,

Arianna Gonzalez

**From:** Maya Abiram  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 4:20 PM  
**Subject:** Letter to Support BLM in California Through Reform

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Maya Abiram and I am a resident of Cupertino, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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The [warranting](#) is simple: “Military equipment naturally increases military-style training for said equipment. That training can increase the other dimensions of militarization,” contributing to the war-like mentality implicitly enforced by the police, who have no place fighting wars against the most disenfranchised members of their communities.

I hope that our legislators can take tangible, policy-level initiatives to defend Black lives, something they have failed to do so up until this point. Please listen to the pleas of the Black entities listed above and countless others, and help give rise to a future where Black folks do not have to fear for their lives on a daily basis.

Sincerely but not silently,

Maya Abiram

**From:** Isabel Bellot <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 4:24 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Isabel Bellot and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

### **1. Redirect Police Funding**

Phillip McHarris (doctoral candidate focusing on race) and Thenjiwe McHarris (strategist with the Movement for Black Lives) [explain the problem](#) with current police reform efforts:

*“More training or diversity among police officers won’t end police brutality, nor will firing and charging individual officers. Look at the Minneapolis Police Department, which is held up as a model of progressive police reform. The department offers procedural justice as well as trainings for implicit bias, mindfulness and de-escalation. It embraces community policing and officer diversity, bans ‘warrior style’ policing, uses body cameras, implemented an early intervention system to identify problematic officers, receives training around mental health crisis intervention, and practices ‘reconciliation’ efforts in communities of color.”*

Evidently, that was not enough. Instead of heightening the resources that officers have, they advocate redirecting funds to alternative emergency response programs, which can also be fueled by state-level and local-level grants. The McHarris' argument is that we should work towards a reality in which healthcare workers and emergency response teams should handle substance abuse, domestic violence, homelessness, or mental health cases, while rapid response social workers provide individuals with the care they need. Community organizers would be responsible for spearheading responses to the pandemic. “The average police recruit spends [58 hours learning how to shoot and only 8 hours learning how to de-escalate](#).” Police officers are not trained nor necessary in reacting to such crises—specialized responders are.

Most police funding is budgeted and taxed at the local level, with city-level and county-level votes periodically increasing budgets. In 2017, [Oakland allocated the highest share of its general fund to policing](#) nationwide, at 41 percent and \$242.5 million. It is crucial to establish state-level and local-level bans on heightening police funds, while simultaneously redirecting budgets to the aforementioned alternatives.

For-profit policing is a large culprit. Even though [Governor Brown’s 2016 bill](#) helped protect Californians from civil asset forfeitures, this is far from sufficient. As of 2020, [66.25% of forfeiture profits go to police](#)—a C+ rating.

The Black Lives Matter Movement [demands](#) “acknowledgment and accountability for the devaluation and dehumanization of Black life at the hands of the police... We call for a national defunding of police. We demand investment in our communities and the resources to ensure Black people not only survive, but thrive.”

The McHarris' conclusion states, “We need to reimagine public safety in ways that shrink and eventually abolish police and prisons while prioritizing education, housing, economic security, mental health and alternatives to conflict and violence.”

A persistent, genuine, and well-thought-out legislative effort to redirect police funds and end for-profit policing is imperative.

## **2. Abolish Legislative Police Protections**

Murderers who wear a badge have consistently been given a free pass to decimate Black life. [BLM](#) “demand[s] accountability [for] those who are victims of police violence.”

It is vital to ensure that police officers are met with precisely the same consequences as their badgeless counterparts. Accountability has been denied to Black people for centuries, and it is crucial to impose legislative confirmation that accountability is ensured.

[Campaign Zero](#) is an organization dedicated to “limiting police interventions, improving community interactions, and ensuring accountability.”

They propose a solution of independent investigations. Because only [1% of all killings by police lead to an officer being charged with a crime](#), “independent investigations and prosecutions of police officers” must be mandated to eliminate biases. A broken system should not be evaluating itself.

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[Campaign Zero](#) continues that to demilitarize, we must “prohibit cities and counties from using federal funds to purchase military equipment.”

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Sincerely but not silently,

Isabel Bellot

**From:** Tara Samardar < >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 4:39 PM  
**To:** City Clerk < [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Tara Samardar and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

### **1. Redirect Police Funding**

Phillip McHarris (doctoral candidate focusing on race) and Thenjiwe McHarris (strategist with the Movement for Black Lives) [explain the problem](#) with current police reform efforts:

*"More training or diversity among police officers won't end police brutality, nor will firing and charging individual officers. Look at the Minneapolis Police Department, which is held up as a model of progressive police reform. The department offers procedural justice as well as trainings for implicit bias, mindfulness and de-escalation. It embraces community policing and officer diversity, bans 'warrior style' policing, uses body cameras, implemented an early intervention system to identify problematic officers, receives training around mental health crisis intervention, and practices 'reconciliation' efforts in communities of color."*

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The McHarris' conclusion states, "We need to reimagine public safety in ways that shrink and eventually abolish police and prisons while prioritizing education, housing, economic security, mental health and alternatives to conflict and violence."

A persistent, genuine, and well-thought-out legislative effort to redirect police funds and end for-profit policing is imperative.

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Sincerely but not silently,

Tara Samardar

**From:** Isaiah Saluta < >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 5:15 PM  
**To:** City Clerk < [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Black Lives Matter

Mrs. Taber,

My name is Isaiah Saluta and I was born, raised, and am currently residing in San Jose, California. As a 19 year old, I thought that protesting against police brutality and systemic racial discrimination and oppression was something that belonged in the history book. I, clearly, am shamefully wrong. I, like the system, require change. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

## **1. Redirect Police Funding**

Phillip McHarris (doctoral candidate focusing on race) and Thenjiwe McHarris (strategist with the Movement for Black Lives) [explain the problem](#) with current police reform efforts:

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I have had my say and have taken the time to echo the words that those far smarter, wiser, and more knowledgeable than me have bravely stood by. Will you?

Sincerely but not silently,  
Isaiah Saluta

**From:** Pranav Janjam <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 5:20 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW.

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Pranav Janjam and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

### **1. Redirect Police Funding**

Phillip McHarris (doctoral candidate focusing on race) and Thenjiwe McHarris (strategist with the Movement for Black Lives) [explain the problem](#) with current police reform efforts:

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The McHarris' conclusion states, "We need to reimagine public safety in ways that shrink and eventually abolish police and prisons while prioritizing education, housing, economic security, mental health and alternatives to conflict and violence."

A persistent, genuine, and well-thought-out legislative effort to redirect police funds and end for-profit policing is imperative.

## **2. Abolish Legislative Police Protections**

Murderers who wear a badge have consistently been given a free pass to decimate Black life. [BLM](#) “demand[s] accountability [for] those who are victims of police violence.”

It is vital to ensure that police officers are met with precisely the same consequences as their badgeless counterparts. Accountability has been denied to Black people for centuries, and it is crucial to impose legislative confirmation that accountability is ensured.

[Campaign Zero](#) is an organization dedicated to “limiting police interventions, improving community interactions, and ensuring accountability.”

They propose a solution of independent investigations. Because only [1% of all killings by police lead to an officer being charged with a crime](#), “independent investigations and prosecutions of police officers” must be mandated to eliminate biases. A broken system should not be evaluating itself.

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Campaign Zero emphasizes that [studies](#) show how “more militarized police departments are significantly more likely to kill civilians.” Unfortunately, “the federal 1033 program transfers military weapons to police departments.”

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I hope that our legislators can take tangible, policy-level initiatives to defend Black lives, something they have failed to do so up until this point. Please listen to the pleas of the Black entities listed above and countless others, and help give rise to a future where Black folks do not have to fear for their lives on a daily basis.

Sincerely but not silently,

Pranav Janjam

From: Harika Janjam <>  
Sent: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 5:20 PM  
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: We demand JUSTICE

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Harika Janjam and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers:

1. Redirect Police Funding

It is crucial to establish state-level and local-level bans on heightening police funds, while simultaneously redirecting budgets to the aforementioned alternatives.

For-profit policing is a large culprit. As of 2020, 66.25% of forfeiture profits go to police—a C+ rating.

The Black Lives Matter Movement demands “acknowledgment and accountability for the [dehumanization] of Black life at the hands of the police...”

A persistent, thorough, and genuine legislative effort to redirect police funds and end for-profit policing is imperative.

2. Abolish Legislative Police Protections

Murderers who wear a badge have consistently been given a free pass to decimate Black life. BLM “demand[s] accountability [for] those who are victims of police violence.”

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Sincerely but not silently,

Harika Janjam

**From:** Mel How <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 5:21 PM  
**To:** City Clerk < [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Demand Justice

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Melissa and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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Sincerely but not silently,

Melissa

**From:** nikta khanbadr <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 5:40 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** BLM

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is **NIKTA KHANBADR** and I am a resident of **San Jose**, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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Sincerely but not silently,

Nikta Khanbadr <3

**From:** Cindy Xu <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 5:41 PM

**Cc:** [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Garcia, Edgardo <[REDACTED]> District1  
<[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <[REDACTED]>  
[REDACTED] City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** BLM in California

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Cindy and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

### **1. Redirect Police Funding**

Phillip McHarris (doctoral candidate focusing on race) and Thenjiwe McHarris (strategist with the Movement for Black Lives) [explain the problem](#) with current police reform efforts:

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The McHarris' conclusion states, "We need to reimagine public safety in ways that shrink and eventually abolish police and prisons while prioritizing education, housing, economic security, mental health and alternatives to conflict and violence."

A persistent, genuine, and well-thought-out legislative effort to redirect police funds and end for-profit policing is imperative.

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Murderers who wear a badge have consistently been given a free pass to decimate Black life. [BLM](#) "demand[s] accountability [for] those who are victims of police violence."

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Sincerely but not silently,  
Cindy

From: Aashna Bombwal <>  
Sent: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 6:01 PM  
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: WE DEMAND CHANGE.

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Aashna Bombwal and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

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Phillip McHarris (doctoral candidate focusing on race) and Thenjiwe McHarris (strategist with the Movement for Black Lives) explain the problem with current police reform efforts:

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Murderers who wear a badge have consistently been given a free pass to decimate Black life. BLM “demand[s] accountability [for] those who are victims of police violence.”

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Sincerely but not silently,

Aashna Bombwal

**From:** Medha Somayaji <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 6:12 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Black Lives Matter

[External Email]

To City Clerk Taber,

My name is Medha and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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Sincerely but not silently,

Medha Somayaji

From: Rachel Chen <>  
Sent: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 6:13 PM  
To: City Clerk < [REDACTED]>  
Subject: WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW.

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Rachel Chen and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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Sincerely but not silently,

Rachel Chen

**From:** Savannah Silva <>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 6:17 PM  
**To:** City Clerk < [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** WE DEMAND JUSTICE NOW

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Savannah and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

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I hope that our legislators can take tangible, policy-level initiatives to defend Black lives, something they have failed to do so up until this point. Please listen to the pleas of the Black entities listed above and countless others, and help give rise to a future where Black folks do not have to fear for their lives on a daily basis.

Sincerely but not silently,  
Savannah

**From:** Aarna Garg < >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 6:22 PM  
**To:** City Clerk < [REDACTED]> [REDACTED]> [REDACTED]>  
[REDACTED]> Garcia, Edgardo < [REDACTED]> District 10  
< [REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo < [REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Justice for Black Lives

[External Email]

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Aarna and I am a resident of San Jose, California. I am writing to demand the following legislative changes you can make to eradicate the decimation of Black people at the hands of police officers.

The following is a compilation of background information and implementation strategies for necessary legislative actions derived from collecting the pleas of Black organizers, activists, and journalists:

### **1. Redirect Police Funding**

Phillip McHarris (doctoral candidate focusing on race) and Thenjiwe McHarris (strategist with the Movement for Black Lives) [explain the problem](#) with current police reform efforts:

*“More training or diversity among police officers won’t end police brutality, nor will firing and charging individual officers. Look at the Minneapolis Police Department, which is held up as a model of progressive police reform. The department offers procedural justice as well as trainings for implicit bias, mindfulness and de-escalation. It embraces community policing and officer diversity, bans ‘warrior style’ policing, uses body cameras, implemented an early intervention system to identify problematic officers, receives training around mental health crisis intervention, and practices ‘reconciliation’ efforts in communities of color.”*

Evidently, that was not enough. Instead of heightening the resources that officers have, they advocate redirecting funds to alternative emergency response programs, which can also be fueled by state-level and local-level grants. The McHarris' argument is that we should work towards a reality in which healthcare workers and emergency response teams should handle substance abuse, domestic violence, homelessness, or mental health cases, while rapid response social workers provide individuals with the care they need. Community organizers would be responsible for spearheading responses to the pandemic. “The average police recruit spends [58 hours learning how to shoot and only 8 hours learning how to de-escalate](#).” Police officers are not trained nor necessary in reacting to such crises—specialized responders are.

Most police funding is budgeted and taxed at the local level, with city-level and county-level votes periodically increasing budgets. In 2017, [Oakland allocated the highest share of its general fund to policing](#) nationwide, at 41 percent and \$242.5 million. It is crucial to establish state-level and local-level bans on heightening police funds, while simultaneously redirecting budgets to the aforementioned alternatives.

For-profit policing is a large culprit. Even though [Governor Brown’s 2016 bill](#) helped protect Californians from civil asset forfeitures, this is far from sufficient. As of 2020, [66.25% of forfeiture profits go to police](#)—a C+ rating.

The Black Lives Matter Movement [demands](#) “acknowledgment and accountability for the devaluation and dehumanization of Black life at the hands of the police... We call for a national defunding of police. We demand investment in our communities and the resources to ensure Black people not only survive, but thrive.”

The McHarris' conclusion states, "We need to reimagine public safety in ways that shrink and eventually abolish police and prisons while prioritizing education, housing, economic security, mental health and alternatives to conflict and violence."

A persistent, genuine, and well-thought-out legislative effort to redirect police funds and end for-profit policing is imperative.

## **2. Abolish Legislative Police Protections**

Murderers who wear a badge have consistently been given a free pass to decimate Black life. [BLM](#) "demand[s] accountability [for] those who are victims of police violence."

It is vital to ensure that police officers are met with precisely the same consequences as their badgeless counterparts. Accountability has been denied to Black people for centuries, and it is crucial to impose legislative confirmation that accountability is ensured.

[Campaign Zero](#) is an organization dedicated to "limiting police interventions, improving community interactions, and ensuring accountability."

They propose a solution of independent investigations. Because only [1% of all killings by police lead to an officer being charged with a crime](#), "independent investigations and prosecutions of police officers" must be mandated to eliminate biases. A broken system should not be evaluating itself.

## **3. Demilitarize the Police**

Campaign Zero emphasizes that [studies](#) show how "more militarized police departments are significantly more likely to kill civilians." Unfortunately, "the federal 1033 program transfers military weapons to police departments."

[Campaign Zero](#) continues that to demilitarize, we must "prohibit cities and counties from using federal funds to purchase military equipment."

California is not void of this indictment. In total, 41 MRAPs [are in the possession of law enforcement agencies in California](#). All in all, California's quantity of purchasing such outlandish and high-level military technology is unmatched: "In terms of cash value, California gets more 1033 gear than other states."

Even though the LAPD has refused to take on more military equipment, they stated that "[the department will replenish and replace](#)" existing equipment. Such measures must be barred in an effort to eventually demilitarize the police force entirely in the long run.

Police departments should be [restricted](#) from using federal grant money to purchase military equipment, using the SWAT team, or conducting no-knock raids. Over-weaponized departments must reduce their use of weapon stockpiles, as "agencies should seek to return to the federal government the military equipment that has already been received" as [places like San Jose already have](#).

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Aarna