

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jon von Gunten

**Date Submitted:** 05/25/2021 04:47 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S118

**Comments for Public Posting:** COUNCIL FILE: 21-0002-S118 goes too far and will undermine the life and safety of every Angeleno. Following huge spikes in violent crime, city after city that defunded police are now shifting and re-funding law enforcement. LAPD might benefit from greater training for the exceedingly rare high-intensity use of force situations. But it should not be additionally handcuffed in dealing with criminals who devote every day to endangering and deteriorating your lives, the lives of those you love, and your constituents. ? LAPD's DECADES-LONG IMPROVEMENTS: A 2009 Harvard University study began... "The Los Angeles Police Department is completing one of the most ambitious experiments in police reform ever attempted in an American city." This Council File INACCURATELY treats LAPD as a robotically run, big-city brute-force police leviathan. It has not been such for more than 20 years, and original reforms began before that. If LA City Council further constricts LAPD, early retirement will diminish the force and hiring new officers will become near-impossible. Criminals will run the streets—except for those who can hire private security. ? ENDING SO-CALLED "POLICE IMMUNITY" Grave officer error or abuse have long been punishable by: Desk assignment; undesirable assignment; suspension; no pay; dismissal; loss of pension, and of course prison time. Must we also encourage lawsuits to take their homes and add more homeless families to our streets? Below is a \*condensed and notated\* summary of an email from highly awarded LAPD veteran since 1995, Cdr. Don Graham. He asked it be circulated: ? LAPD IS FAR AHEAD OF EVERY LARGE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT: — Not all police departments are created equal. The bill in Congress is like taking the LAPD manual, highlighting the changes we LAPD has made over 25 years, and writing the word "BILL" on top. ? CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT & DISCIPLINE SINCE 1920 — LAPD has been governed by the civilian Board of Police Commissioners since 1920. This Board has power to discipline the Chief, make LAPD Policy, access every LAPD document and investigation, have an independent Inspector General, and are the only civilian board in the country that rules on use of force. ? CHOKEHOLDS: LAPD banned chokeholds nearly 40 years ago, in 1982 ? BODY CAMS: LAPD piloted video cameras in 2016 and went Department-wide

in 2018. It was the first Department with >100 employees to require body cams on all field officers. ? USE OF FORCE INVESTIGATIONS: LAPD set up its Force Investigations Division in 2004 and is the only Department in the country that requires its Inspector General and District Attorney to roll out on any critical force incident. ? NO-KNOCK WARRANTS are dangerous for officers. In 25 years, I (Graham) have never participated in or authorized one. They are used very rarely for illegal casinos or where drugs can be destroyed before officers can reach them. I (Graham) support their elimination. ? OFFICERS ALREADY SELF-POLICE—OR ELSE: LAPD officers have long been required to report officer misconduct. Failure to report misconduct is, itself, misconduct. ? COMMUNITY INCLUSION AND OUTREACH: — LAPD has instituted Department of Community Police Partnerships, Community-Police Advisory Boards, Community Police Academies, Cadet Leadership Programs, and outreaches ranging from community sports and youth boxing, Coffee with a Cop, Holiday Shop with a Cop, to Neighborhood Watch meetings. ? LAPD IS THE MOST DEMOGRAPHICALLY DIVERSE large police department in the USA. It is a parallel representation of our City: ? LAPD DIVERSITY (2019) - Hispanic: 49.15% - White: 30.4% - Black: 9.5% - Asian: 7.75% - Filipino: 2.46% - Indian: 2.46% ? CITY OF LA DIVERSITY (2019) - Hispanic: 48.6% - White: 28.5% - Black: 8.9% - Asian: 11.6% - Other: 2.4% I WRITE THIS AS A PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL looking ten years forward to the unintended consequences of new law. Jon von Gunten Tujunga resident

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/25/2021 06:22 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S118

**Comments for Public Posting:** George Floyd died because of a drug overdose coupled with a bad medical history- but none of that means anything to corrupt, greedy politicians or the “progressive Left”. George Floyd means nothing more to this City Council than any of his victims do- He is just an opportunity for politicians to grab more power for themselves. Did any of you see the entire video? The one where Mr Floyd was out of control BEFORE the police put him on the ground? He was shouting he couldn’t breathe then- AND trying to destroy the police car he was in- what would you have done if you were dealing with someone out of control on drugs? I suppose you wouldn’t call the police, right? I saw the video- I saw the police kneeling on Mr Floyd’s shoulder blade- not his neck-but that doesn’t matter to politicians hungry for more power- Now the City Council is using this as another opportunity to allow hate groups to flourish in our communities- I am speaking of ABRA- a hate group which tries to hide its hateful agenda behind a guise of “tolerance” and anti- bigotry. It is racist, intolerant and the agenda is strictly Communism rather than America- they hide behind their agenda- but it doesn’t take much to bring out the screeching hate and destruction when they are crossed- Last summer, the Sunland Tujunga residents started holding rallies on a sidewalk in town- there was music, flags, food and companionship- but then the hate group ABRA caught wind of the rallies and literally reached out to communist and anarchist hate groups to come to town to ASSAULT the peaceful rallies because hate groups such as ABRA are intolerant, racist and just plain evil- They care nothing for POC- if they did, why would they call black people “Uncle Tom” and “Oreo” or why would they assault an Asian young man merely because he believes in America? Why would they dox, harass, threaten and vandalize the property of a hispanic man- who just didn’t agree with their philosophy? So much for their “anti racism” farce As to one public comment speaking to groups such as “Proud Boys” or whatever- those groups were unknown in this community until ABRA started bringing in hate groups to attack people for merely using their right to free speech and the right to peacefully assemble- If you actually cared to ask the police about the situation in Sunland Tujunga, you would be told that there were no incidents of violence until ABRA brought domestic terrorists into this

community. You would learn there were MORE people of color on the rally side than on the ABRA side, you would also find that there were more people from outside the community than community members on the ABRA side- you might also find out that most of the ABRA members STAYED home rather than risk injury from the hate they unleashed on this community- The police saved a lot of people from being injured during those "counter protests" with their skillful and professional handling of these black garbed thugs- who wears helmets, bullet proof vests, goggles and carries weapons to a peaceful protest? You must be blind or purposely ignorant if you cannot see what is happening in our communities because of hate groups like ABRA. Because of such a hate group, many of the community now have security cameras and weapons- and you want to further empower such groups? The City Council's defunding of the police has not worked- homicides, shootings, gang crime is way up-which you know- and most of this is happening in minority communities- The police need better training, better discipline and better equipment- Criminals haven't slowed down- they are better armed than our police- yet, you want to further weaken the police ability to protect and serve the community- I know of at least ONE Council member who took police protection for herself while leaving the community unprotected- the hypocrisy of this council beggars description. Stop your hypocrisy- until you do something about making criminals respect our communities and our laws, our need for police will only grow- so do something about criminal behavior- instead of pandering to it.