**RESOLUTION ON DISARMING UNIVERSITY POLICE FORCE AT**

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES**

*Respectfully submitted to the Board of Directors of California State University, Los Angeles, Associated Students, Incorporated*

*Submission Date: 08/01/2019 Approval Date: TBD*

Authored by Aaron Castaneda, President, Associated Students, Incorporated

The Associated Students, Incorporated (A.S.I.) is recognized as the official voice of the students, tasked with expressing and protecting the rights and interests of all the students in the institution. A.S.I is committed to overseeing administration at California State University, Los Angeles and tasked with ensuring the practice of shared governance and determining if the efforts and initiatives of campus administrators align with the needs and the interests of the student body.

**WHEREAS,** campus police consolidated and expanded their power and prestige within the university system in the 1960s and 70s as a result of quelling student protest[[1]](#footnote-1); and,

**WHEREAS,** In April 2017, David Josiah Lawson, a black student at Humboldt State, was murdered near campus in an area with a complex history of racialized violence, in a community unsettle rest[[2]](#footnote-2); and,

**WHEREAS,** despite not needing deadly weapons in the course of their job, nationwide campus police departments continue to utilize a culture of fear around school shootings to justify their increasing armory of military-grade hardware[[3]](#footnote-3); and,

**WHEREAS**, there is evidence that campus rarely intervene in school shootings until after the events are resolved,[[4]](#footnote-4) when they mostly serve to provide secondary support. Despite not demonstrating need, we still see a move towards increased militarization; and,

**WHEREAS,** other state legislatures like Oregon introduced a bill to disarm police at both University of Oregon and Portland State University, indicating that this issue is within the purview of a university student association and within the power of the student community to decide;[[5]](#footnote-5) let it be,

**RESOLVED,** ASI calls for the Cal State LA administration to disarm its campus police of all lethal and military-grade hardware.

**RESOLVED,** ASI shall support the “No Harm, Disarm!” campaign by the Students for Quality Education[[6]](#footnote-6).

**RESOLVED,** ASI calls on the University to provide guidelines and resources, in conjunction with student organizers and worker union representatives, to support non-police, community-based responses to community wellness issues so that even the possibility of unnecessary stop and frisk, search, threat of violence or other escalation is removed from everyday life on campus for all members of the community.

**RESOLVED,** the ASI President shall coordinate a meeting with the University President to discuss the dangers presented by an increasingly militarized police force, and the concerns from the student body on police force.

**RESOLVED,** ASI reasserts our commitment to fairness, equity, and equality by developing student services which are not dependent on police intervention.

**RESOLVED,** that copies of this resolution and supporting documentation be distributed widely, including, but not limited to, the Cal State LA Campus President William A. Covino, CSU Board of Trustees, CSU Chancellor, Cal State LA Academic Senate, CSU Academic Senate, the CSU Campus Presidents, all CSU Associated Students bodies, the California State Student Association, Students for Quality Education, the University of California Student Association, the United States Student Association, California Faculty Association, LA-32 Neighborhood Council, Los Angeles City Council, State and Federal Representatives, Governor Gavin Newsom, the Cal State LA University Times, the Los Angeles Times, and all related media outlets.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Aaron Castaneda Date David Sans Date

President Secretary/Treasurer

Associated Students, Incorporated Associated Students, Incorporated

1. <https://www.vox.com/2015/7/29/9069841/university-of-cincinnati-police> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://kymkemp.com/2019/01/08/mother-of-josiah-lawson-claims-dna-on-knife-identifies-her-sons-murderer-calls-for-justice/> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <http://www.npr.org/2015/07/30/427806790/many-colleges-have-armed-police-squads-but-are-they-worth-the-risk> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2015/10/oregon-shooting-gun-laws-213222> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2019R1/Measures/Overview/HB3338> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. <http://csusqe.org/http-csusqe-org-no-harm-disarm/> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)