



**RESOLUTION ON TRANSPARENCY AND REFORMING UNIVERSITY POLICE AT  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES**

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

*Associated Students, Incorporated*

*Submission Date: 02/11/21 Approval Date: TBD*

Authored by Diana Chavez, *President, Associated Students Incorporated*

**WHEREAS**, The Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI) is recognized as the official voice of the 26,390 students tasked with expressing and protecting the rights and interests of all the students in the institution. ASI 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**, The Department of Public Safety states that the “University Police Department protects the University’s students, faculty, staff and visitors, answering more than 42,000 calls for service a year. Uniformed patrol officers, investigators, dispatchers and members of the Eagle Patrol work together to provide a safe environment, control traffic and prevent crime. Officers focus on educational programs such as Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) and Citizen Emergency Response Training (CERT) and members of the Eagle Patrol provide escort services”<sup>1</sup>, and

**WHEREAS**, the CSU states that, “Each of the California State University 23 campuses operates a police department, whose peace officers are sworn and certified by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). Each police/public safety department is charged with maintaining a safe campus environment by enforcing federal and state laws, CSU regulations, and the establishment of crime deterrence and prevention-related programs<sup>2</sup>, and

**WHEREAS**, the police killings of historically marginalized persons have increased especially within the unarmed Black and Hispanic community where both are overrepresented in the State of California. The Black population is 6.5%, yet the percentage on police killings of unarmed Black persons is 19.6%<sup>3</sup>. In addition, the Hispanic population is 39.4%, yet the percentage on

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.calstatela.edu/police/about>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www2.calstate.edu/systemwide-campus-safety-security/Pages/university-police-departments.aspx>



police killings of unarmed Hispanic persons is 46.4%<sup>3</sup>. Furthermore, American Indian and Alaskan Native men and women face a higher lifetime risk of being killed by police than whites. American Indian men are 1.7 times more likely to be killed by police than white men and American Indian women are 2.1 times more likely to be killed than white women<sup>4</sup>, and

**WHEREAS**, it was announced on June 6th, 2020, that all 23 of the CSU Police Chiefs pledged to implement recommendations from President Obama’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing to take action and implement accountability, equity, and justice<sup>5</sup>, and

**WHEREAS**, the Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Department within the Student Health Center at Cal State LA has shared that the policies of the Cal State LA Police Department supersede the policies of CAPS in cases where a student is found to be a danger to self or others<sup>6</sup>. This means that the University Police is called upon by CAPS to make the final determination on whether a student is a danger to self or others, and

**WHEREAS**, in 2018, approximately 1,000 people in the United States were fatally shot by police officers and approximately 25% of those were people with mental illness<sup>7</sup>. It is not required for campus police to be trained on how to reduce risk of serious injury or death during an emergency interaction between persons and/or students with mental illness and police officers. Instead the Cal State LA Police Department undergoes a process of handcuffing the student during a mental health crisis and search for weapons before transporting them to the hospital<sup>8</sup>, and

**WHEREAS**, the police department is the highest funded entity under the Public Safety budget. The total annual 2019-2020 budget for Public Safety was \$5,040,763.41 wherein the police department budget was \$4,912,658.84 compared to the other entities in the same overall budget

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<sup>3</sup> <https://calmatters.org/explainers/california-police-shootings-deadly-force-new-law-explained/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.pnas.org/content/116/34/16793>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/news/Pages/CSU-Police-Chiefs-Pledge-to-Implement-Recommendations-from-The-Presidents-Task-Force-on-21st-Century-Policing.aspx>

<sup>6</sup> Fries, J., Personal communication to ASI Board of Directors, February 20, 2020. [https://asiCal State LA.org/sites/default/files/content/minutes/2020/05/bodminutes02.20.2020certified.pdf](https://asiCalStateLA.org/sites/default/files/content/minutes/2020/05/bodminutes02.20.2020certified.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://jaapl.org/content/early/2019/09/24/JAAPL.003863-19#:~:text=Crisis%20Intervention%20Team%20\(CIT\)%20training,widely%20both%20nationally%20and%20internationally](http://jaapl.org/content/early/2019/09/24/JAAPL.003863-19#:~:text=Crisis%20Intervention%20Team%20(CIT)%20training,widely%20both%20nationally%20and%20internationally)

<sup>8</sup> [https://www.calstatela.edu/sites/default/files/groups/Department%20of%20Public%20Safety/Policies/iv-39\\_responding\\_to\\_persons\\_with\\_mental\\_illness.pdf](https://www.calstatela.edu/sites/default/files/groups/Department%20of%20Public%20Safety/Policies/iv-39_responding_to_persons_with_mental_illness.pdf)



such as keys was \$39,690.29, emergency preparedness was \$77,703.30, and public safety was \$710.98<sup>9</sup>, and

**WHEREAS**, the University Police Department has a higher budget than most student-focus departments and resources such as the Educational Opportunity Program (\$2,185,183.35), Dreamers Resource Center (\$296,450.67), the Office of Students with Disabilities (\$1,172,281.16)<sup>10</sup> and the Office of Equity, Inclusion and Discrimination which includes resources such as Title IX (\$653,650.93)<sup>11</sup>, and

**WHEREAS**, historically, law enforcement agencies have lacked training in responding to crimes of violence against women such as sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking<sup>12</sup>. In addition, it is not required for campus police to be trained on how to handle sexual assault cases specifically how to handle the victim undergoing trauma especially right after the incident, and

**WHEREAS**, the University Police are armed with department issued firearm- Glock 22, 40 caliber, Glock 17, 9., AR-15 platform,<sup>223</sup>; department issued MP5' and authorized secondary weapons such as .38, .380, 9mm, .40 and .45 caliber firearms. Furthermore, officers assigned with the Critical Response Unit are armed with 37/38mm Shoulder GAS Gun; 40mm Launcher; Shotgun, loaded with lethal and non-lethal ammunition, MP5 A2 or A3; and AR-15 rifle and shall not fire warning shots<sup>13</sup>, and

**WHEREAS**, the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's (LACS) are known for their unfair treatment, and excessive use of force towards historically marginalized persons, corruption, and overall being a racist organization<sup>14</sup>, yet Cal State LA Police Department administration allows the University Police Department cadets to attend the LAPD basic academy training<sup>15</sup> knowingly that the university mainly serves students of color, and

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[https://www.calstatela.edu/sites/default/files/groups/Budget%20Administration/2019\\_20/2019\\_20\\_division\\_summary\\_administration\\_finance.pdf](https://www.calstatela.edu/sites/default/files/groups/Budget%20Administration/2019_20/2019_20_division_summary_administration_finance.pdf)

<sup>10</sup>[https://www.calstatela.edu/sites/default/files/groups/Budget%20Administration/2019\\_20/2019\\_20\\_division\\_summary\\_student\\_life.pdf](https://www.calstatela.edu/sites/default/files/groups/Budget%20Administration/2019_20/2019_20_division_summary_student_life.pdf)

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.calstatela.edu/hrm/oedi>

<sup>12</sup> [https://cops.usdoj.gov/html/dispatch/04-2018/iacp\\_resources\\_article.html](https://cops.usdoj.gov/html/dispatch/04-2018/iacp_resources_article.html),

[https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1300/J012v18n03\\_04?journalCode=wwcj20](https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1300/J012v18n03_04?journalCode=wwcj20)

<sup>13</sup> [https://www.calstatela.edu/sites/default/files/groups/Department%20of%20Public%20Safety/Policies/iv-1\\_use\\_of\\_force\\_0.pdf](https://www.calstatela.edu/sites/default/files/groups/Department%20of%20Public%20Safety/Policies/iv-1_use_of_force_0.pdf)

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.cpp.edu/~rreese/nonfla/RAMPART.HTML>, <https://www.npr.org/2017/04/26/524744989/when-la-erupted-in-anger-a-look-back-at-the-rodney-king-riots>, <https://www.npr.org/2020/11/11/933816870/la-county-coroner-investigates-andres-guardados-sheriffs-deputy-involved-death>, [https://www.huffpost.com/entry/lapd-george-floyd-valentines-day-card\\_n\\_602a720dc5b6591becda596b](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/lapd-george-floyd-valentines-day-card_n_602a720dc5b6591becda596b)

<sup>15</sup> [https://www.calstatela.edu/sites/default/files/groups/Department%20of%20Public%20Safety/Policies/ii-2\\_training\\_career\\_development.pdf](https://www.calstatela.edu/sites/default/files/groups/Department%20of%20Public%20Safety/Policies/ii-2_training_career_development.pdf)



**WHEREAS**, the last review of a bias-based profiling training was in 2018<sup>16</sup> despite the current events around the nation where police discretion and police brutality towards historically marginalized persons have been deadly<sup>17</sup>.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the ASI Board of Directors recommends that in an effort to address systemic racism embedded in its policing and establish a culture of well-being and harm-reduction; Cal State LA shall severely limit ties or sever contracts and trainings with local, county, and state police departments that do not agree in reforming contract terms that will benefit historically marginalized persons and community members. Furthermore, publish all existing contracts, memoranda of understanding, and other agreements with local, county, state, and federal agencies for transparency, and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that ASI requests banning all aggressive police tactics, lethal firearms, and excessive use of force during student protests, student events, and any other non-critical campus situations and commit to replacing it with non-punitive forms of accountability, including non-lethal use of force and restorative and transformative justice, and implement a diverse variety of techniques to further solve on-campus situations, and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that ASI recommends the Cal State LA Police Department revisits the true goal of having campus police in that implementing the name and purpose of peace officers, and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that ASI recommends reallocating 25% of funding taken from the police department budget to create a Center for Black Student Success which will provide academic, professional, and personal support and enrichment programming. Furthermore, will serve as the central hub and campus home for Black student life, working with campus and local community members to ensure Black Collegiate success at Cal State LA, and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that ASI requests the University Police Department to collaborate with but not limited to community groups, College of Ethnic Studies faculty, and the Cross-Cultural Center to design and facilitate police trainings, and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, ASI recommends mandating the training of police officers on trauma-informed approached for interactions with students such training includes the

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<sup>16</sup> [https://www.calstatela.edu/sites/default/files/groups/Department%20of%20Public%20Safety/Policies/iv-34\\_bias\\_based\\_profiling.pdf](https://www.calstatela.edu/sites/default/files/groups/Department%20of%20Public%20Safety/Policies/iv-34_bias_based_profiling.pdf)

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.cbsnews.com/pictures/black-people-killed-by-police-in-the-u-s-in-2020/>,  
<https://interactive.aljazeera.com/aje/2020/know-their-names/index.html>



Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)<sup>18</sup> that has been implemented both internationally and nationally by several law enforcement agencies. Furthermore, eliminating the “handcuffing” policy, and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, ASI recommends mandating the training on trauma informed sexual assault investigation training and should collaborate with the Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion on how to implement that while utilizing the police budget funding, and

**THEREFOERE, BE IT RESOLVED**, ASI requests a bi-yearly mandatory unconscious bias training and de-escalation training and recommends revisiting and revising (if necessary) the Bias Based Profiling training, and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, ASI recommends to take steps in becoming more transparent and accountable to students by frequently and accurately reporting all important data and publish all budget allocations of the police budget, line by line on a yearly basis, and

**THEREFOER, BE IT RESOLVED**, ASI recommends that in efforts to stand in solidarity with the statewide and nationwide movement of reforming police, Cal State LA shall implement such changed outlined herein by August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. It is further resolved that Chief of Police, Larry Bohannon, shall create and publicly present a draft plan to ASI and the Academic Senate to implement these changes, including corrective action, and a specific written reply to each recommendation outlined, no later than May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

**RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be distributed widely, including, but not limited to, the Cal State LA University President William A. Covino, Provost Jose A. Gomez, Vice President for Student Life Nancy Wada-McKee, Director of Public Safety / Chief of Police Larry Bohannon, Vice President for Administration and Finance Lisa Chavez, Academic Senate Chair Talia Bettcher, Vice President for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Octavio Villalpando, Title IX Officer and Director of Human Resources Equity and Diversity Policies and Procedures Aundrea M. Cameron, Investigator/ADA Compliance Specialist Hannah Passano, College of Ethnic Studies Dean and Faculty, and Chancellor Joseph I. Castro.

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<sup>18</sup> [http://jaapl.org/content/early/2019/09/24/JAAPL.003863-19#:~:text=Crisis%20Intervention%20Team%20\(CIT\)%20training,widely%20both%20nationally%20and%20internationally.](http://jaapl.org/content/early/2019/09/24/JAAPL.003863-19#:~:text=Crisis%20Intervention%20Team%20(CIT)%20training,widely%20both%20nationally%20and%20internationally.)



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