MS. HOVIS: So, hi. Good evening.

Wow. I don't know if that sounds loud to you. It sounds loud to me.

Thank you for being here tonight. It's raining. It was raining during our hearing last week in L.A., too, which I thought would discourage everybody from coming, but we actually had a decent number of people in L.A. last week.

We really do appreciate your showing today. And, you know, public participation in the regulatory process is so important. So thank you for your presence.

My name is Shannon Hovis, and I'm a senior policy adviser here in the Attorney General's Office. With me are representatives of our Civil Rights Enforcement Section and our California Justice Information Services division, which are the two branches responsible for implementing The Racial and Identity Profiling Act.

So specifically we have Nancy Beniati, who is our supervising deputy attorney general in the Civil Rights Enforcement Section, Kathy Radez, who is an attorney in our Civil Rights Enforcement Division (CRES):
Section, and Erin Choi and Dolores Haste, who are from CJIS, the California Justice Information Services division. Which is a mouthful, so we call them "CJIS." And we call them "CRES." So CRES and CJIS.

It's approximately 6:11 p.m. on Wednesday, January 18th, 2017, and we're gathered here today at Chabot Elementary School in Oakland to receive public comments on the proposed stop data regulations recently posted by the California Department of Justice.

The proposed regulations that we are concerned with today pertain to the collection of information regarding stops made by law enforcement agencies and are required by California's Racial and Identity Profiling Act of 2015, AB 953.

To be clear, this is not a meeting of the Racial and Identity Profiling Advisory Board. So if you are coming for that meeting, we're sorry, we're not part of that board. Though Oscar Bobrow, who's over here, actually is part of that board.

This is a public hearing during which you may provide comment on the proposed stop data regulations. If you are interested in the next RIPA board, Racial and Identity Profiling Advisory Board, hearing or meeting, the next meeting of that Board is next Thursday, January 26th, at 10 a.m. in Fresno. And you can join us in Fresno.

On December 9, 2016, the California Department of Justice posted the proposed text of the regulations, the Notice of Proposed Action, Initial Statement of Reasons and Fiscal Impact on our website at "oag.ca.gov/ab953/regulations."

On December 9th, we also sent the notice to interested stakeholders to let them know that the proposed regulations had been posted. This notice also outlined the ability of members of the public to submit comments regarding the proposed regulations in writing or orally at today's hearing. We are holding one more public hearing next week, which will follow the RIPA board meeting in Fresno, if you would like to tell friends, colleagues, et cetera, about that. And last week we held a public hearing in Los Angeles.

The full rulemaking file, including all of the rulemaking documents, documents relied upon to develop the proposed regulations and comments received to date are available in paper form at our DOJ offices in Oakland and in Los Angeles. And if you'd like to see the entire rulemaking file and information -- I'm sorry. If you'd like to see the entire rulemaking file, you may send an email to "ab953@doj.ca.gov."

And all of these links that I've mentioned and email addresses are also listed in a one-pager that was in the back, that you should have received when you walked in. So I hopefully won't have to repeat those links and addresses multiple times.

At the back of the room, for your reference, there are also copies of the proposed regulations.

The format of today's hearing will be as follows: This is an opportunity for you to provide comments on the proposed stop data regulations. Each person will have four minutes to provide a statement about the regulations. For example, one statement may express your support or critique of certain data elements that we have proposed to collect in the regulations.

We ask that you provide comments that are relevant to the stop data regulations, since the purpose of this hearing is to specifically provide comment on them. And this is not a question-and-answer period. It is our job in this hearing to hear you, to hear your input and your feedback. That means that we will be doing a lot of listening rather than talking.

This entire hearing will also be recorded. And a transcript of the hearing and information presented to us during the hearing will be made part of the rulemaking record. If you've brought written comments with you today to submit to us, please give them to Kathy. If you wish to submit written comments or know of anybody else who may like to in the future, comments may be submitted to our office on our website, again, at "oag.ca.gov/ab953/regulations."

And the deadline for submitting comments is next Friday, January 27th, at 5:00 p.m.

We will consider all written and oral comments. They will all be addressed in our rulemaking documents. We will not respond individually to comments that are made.

As you entered the room, you should have seen speaker cards at the back, on which you may write your name and the organization you represent, if you are here representing an organization. And when you come to the microphone to speak, please first just place the speaker card there, and then...
tell us your name and the organization you're with, if any. If you want to provide a comment anonymously, you may do that too. You do not have to say your name or fill out a speaker card.

As you entered the room, you also should have seen a sign-in sheet. The sign-in sheet is voluntary. It’s if you would like to receive notifications about AB 953, the regulations or the activities of the RIPA board. If you’re already receiving them from us, you may sign in, or you don’t have to. And unless you specify otherwise, if you request notifications from us, you will receive them by email and not by snail mail.

So we’ll now begin to take oral comments. When you would like to provide a comment, please line up behind the microphone.

Like I said, every person will be allotted four minutes to keep with just general fairness. That’s what we did in last week’s hearing too. We’ll continue that today, even though we’ll probably have some dead time and space.

We’ll be here until 8 p.m. If you also are just planning to sort of monitor the hearing, you can hang out with us until 8 p.m. And we’ll see who else -- if others trickle in.

And at this point, the microphone is essentially open to anybody who would like to kick us off. Thanks.

STATEMENT BY MICHAEL CHASE

MR. CHASE: Hello. I guess I’ll take the plunge first.

I didn’t hear all -- everything you said, but I’ll introduce myself. My name is Michael Chase, C-h-a-s-e. I’m a resident of Fremont.

MS. BENIATI: Thank you for coming.

MR. CHASE: Thank you.

It took a little while to find it through all the streets, but I got here. So thanks for having me.

I would like to say that I believe that effective implementation of AB 953 is essential to address racial and other biased policing that occurs in California. And I want to focus on "effective."

I think that the proposed regulations have a lot going for them, which I appreciate. And if time permits, I’ll get to those. But I would like to say that they must require data collection that will capture actual law enforcement practices. And that would include narrative or open fields where officers provide factual detail and context for their stops. This is in contrast to a check-the-box-type approach, which I believe is the current approach.

Narrative or open fields are especially important in two areas: One is reason for stop, and the second is basis for search.

I would also like to make it a point that having police track what they do does not distract them from public safety; it’s part of public safety. Making sure that the police are acting fairly and lawfully and that the burdens of being stopped and searched are not falling on some racial groups more than others is crucial, and it is part of the job of policing.

I don’t think that the full promise of AB 953 can be realized unless we have comprehensive and accurate data that can be analyzed by academics or other experts so that we can find real solutions, and those can be identified and implemented.

I don’t see a timer, so stop me when I run out.

But I would like to also say that I think there are some things I liked about it. I like the fact that -- I understand the officers include those who are in schools. I understand that there are some particular types of data asked for which are specific to schools, for example, referred to the school for discipline. I like the fact that frisks or pat downs are included as a search. I like that off-duty police officers are included. I understand that if they are working as peace officers for someone else, they will also be included. I like the fact that trans is included in the gender category.

Okay. Thank you. You do have a timer. I appreciate that.

And that there’s a mention of mental health as well. So that’s pretty much it.

I think, um, I’ll just be a little more specific about why I think "check the boxes" is problematic. I think that if you have a check-the-boxes approach in which every box is a legitimate reason, it reeks of kind of a leading question. I’m not an attorney. But the idea is: Which of these valid reasons did you have for a stop or a search?

And I think if we allow them to say in
their own words why they did, we have a more -- a
better opportunity to get at what is really
happening with policing. And I think that's the
tool, to get at what's really happening in
policing. I guess --
Okay. Time's up. Thank you very much for
your time. I appreciate it.

MS. HOVIS: Thank you.

MS. BENIATI: Thank you.

MS. HOVIS: Yeah. I forgot to say, we do
have cards. It's like a stoplight.

I suppose that for anybody that came here
not knowing whether they have a comment or not yet,
we have ample time to read over the regulations and
see what they want to comment on. So if you're not
positive.

How did you hear about the hearing?

MR. CHASE: About the hearing?

MS. HOVIS: Mm-hmm.

MR. CHASE: I heard about it through an
organization that I'm involved in.

THE REPORTER: I didn't hear the last
discussion. An organization you're involved in?

MR. CHASE: Yeah.

THE REPORTER: Okay.

MS. HOVIS: Yeah. I only ask because I'm
interested in how -- you know, how we're getting
the word out, in addition to the email blasts that
I'm sending -- that we're sending.

MR. CHASE: I mean, I already knew about
it. But I think out of the newspapers, local media
outlets put it on sort of a calendar, what's going
on. You probably already know that.

Or like the local radio stations,
sometimes they'll do like a local calendar, and
they'll say something like this is what's happening
this week. And sometimes they collect it.

MS. BENIATI: Did we make that cut?

MR. CHASE: Did we what?

MS. BENIATI: Did we make that cut, where
this was the happening thing on Wednesday night?

MR. CHASE: No, I don't know. I don't
know. I mean, they probably put it in the city
council --

MS. HOVIS: It was in the Capitol Alert --

MS. BENIATI: Capitol Alert.

MS. BENIATI: -- and the Sacramento Bee
today.

MR. CHASE: Oh, that's great.

MS. HOVIS: So for the gentleman who's

just joining us, we have an open mic. It's four-
minute comments. And the proposed regulations are
in the back as well as other documents, if you'd
like to grab anything.

(Pause.)

MS. HOVIS: I should add, too, that just
because you provide oral comment does not mean you
cannot also provide written comment. In fact, we
encourage folks to do both. So please do.

Even, you know, for Michael, who just
tested, please feel free to submit in writing.

(Pause.)

MS. HOVIS: You have four minutes. I'll
give you a one-minute warning.

STATEMENT BY SAMEENA USMAN

MS. USMAN: Hi. Well, I'm glad to know
that I'm not late. I drove through about -- close
to two hours' worth of traffic from the south bay
to get here. So ...

But as I was mentioning earlier, that our
organization, we ended up going all the way to
Sacramento to advocate for this bill. So two hours
coming over here is nothing in comparison.

So my name is Sameena Usman. I'm the
government relations coordinator for the Council on

American-Islamic Relations. We're a nonprofit
civil rights advocacy group that focuses on
discrimination and hate crimes. And if there are
any, you know, acts of harassment, school bullying,
those are the types of things that we work on.

Now, we advocated on AB 953 by sending
folks from all over California to Sacramento to
advocate for this bill. And it's interesting. I
was just mentioning that we were told, when we were
standing outside of the Governor's office, that it
would take a miracle for him to sign this bill.

And, lo and behold, the miracle happened, because
he did sign the bill. And we were -- we were truly
thrilled that the actions that were taken by all of
these different coalition groups, these clergy
members, these organizations, all and -- and just
regular old citizens coming together to advocate on
this bill. We were able to change the hearts and
minds of both the elected officials and also the --
the Governor as well.

Now, the reason why this bill is so
important to me and members of my organization and
members of my community is that, you know, we have
been seeing time and time again cases of either
police misconduct or people who have been killed,
you know, for no real just cause. We've been seeing all these videotaped incidents. And thank God for cell phones. Because if we didn't really have that, we probably wouldn't have known that these things -- or we wouldn't have understood that these things have been happening across the country.

Now, in order to prove that this might -- that this is a potential problem, we needed a bill such as 953 in order to capture that information that would allow us to understand, okay, well, this is kind of -- you know, these are the number of times people have been stopped or these are the number of times that maybe people of color might have been stopped.

Because the case has always been made that lots of people who are people of color might be stopped disproportionately compared to other folks who, you know, may be Caucasian or whatnot. And so, you know, if we want to make the case that this is an issue -- and in order to find ways in order to rectify this issue, we need to collect that data. And so, thankfully, we were able to get this bill passed.

Now, I think the other -- the concern with this bill is that we also want to make sure that, you know, there is an area where police officers can write down what are the potential -- you know, the information surrounding why there was that stop that was made or that action that was taken, whether it be the use of force or whatnot.

And so it is important to ensure that that element is also kept, that there is that space for a police officer to write down that data in order to capture that. Because there’s only so much that you can put by checking off boxes. Right?

So what we want to -- we want to make sure that this bill -- and that we’ll be able to accurately -- the actions taken from this bill will be able to accurately reflect some of the things that we are seeing on the streets. And then hopefully with that data, we'll be able to rectify some of the problems that we are seeing with law enforcement.

And this is only going to strengthen the relationship with law enforcement and the community. Because we can't deal with a problem if we don't know if the problem actually exists. And we won't be able to create change without having that being documented and that being known. And I think this will create a better relationship and be able to increase our trust in law enforcement. And that's what we all want, you know, to achieve and the end goal.

So thank you very much. I'm glad that you're having this hearing. I'm glad that people are willing to come out and share their thoughts and their feelings. And -- and this is why I made the drive over.

MS. BENIATI: Well, we want to say thank you so much for coming. We really appreciate your comments and taking the time to drive here. And we hope you have a much better and smoother ride home.

MS. USMAN: Thank you. I appreciate that.

MS. HOVIS: Thank you.

STATEMENT BY ALEXANDRA SANTA ANA

MS. SANTA ANA: Hi. My name is Alexandra. I'm here on behalf of the National Center for Youth Law in Oakland. And as a youth -- as an organization, we are happy to see that a lot of school-specific things were included in the proposed regs, such as stops and searches that occur on campuses, and that student resource officers are also being included. Also that school-specific outcomes data was also included.
target of the encounter.

I'm wondering what incentive the police officers have to tell the truth and what is holding them accountable for this information.

In many instances following well-publicized instances of police brutality, the account provided by the police officers involved has been inaccurate or even an outright coverup.

Would it make sense to have a system where a person fills out the same survey under five minutes following the police encounter in order to provide a different prospective? Then the two surveys would be inputted into the same file. This way, police officers have an incentive to be as truthful as possible.

Thanks.

MS. BENIATI: Thank you.

MS. HOVIS: It is now 7:59 p.m.

Thank you for coming to this public hearing.

The final date to submit written comments on the proposed regulations is 5 p.m. on January 27, 2017. This concludes the public hearing on the proposed regulations.

(TIME ENDED: 7:59 p.m.)
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ASSEMBLY BILL 953 STOP DATA REGULATIONS

PUBLIC HEARING

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2017
2:30 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.

TRANSCRIPTION OF PROCEEDINGS

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STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

AARON PRATT
VICTORIA CASTILLO
IRENE ARMENDARIZ
DENISE FRIDAY-HALL
MARIA LOPEZ
NICOLE REMBLE
GENE NICHOLSON
ANDREA DONADO
ROSA AQUEEL
ALFREDO AGUERO
TERRANCE STEWART
BRANDON STURDIVANT
KENA CADOR
CRISANTEMA GALLARDO
BOBBI BUTTS
GREG JONES
NEBYOU BERHE
SUHAINA HUSSAIN
TAYMAH JAHSI
JULIA DUDLEY

APPEARANCES

From the Office of the Attorney General, Civil Rights Enforcement Section (CRES):

SHANNON HOVIS, Chairperson
NANCY BENINATI, Supervising Deputy Attorney General
CATHERINE YSRAEL, Deputy Attorney General

From the California Justice Information Services Division (CJIS):

AUDRA OPDYKE
RANDIE CHANCE

PROCEEDINGS

MS. HOVIS: Good afternoon, everyone. So thank you all for attending both today's board meeting earlier and also the public hearing right now. We very much believe that public participation in the rule-making process is really important, and we thank you for taking the time out of your day to be here. Really, very, very genuinely thank you for spending the day with us.

My name is Shannon Hovis, and I'm Senior Policy Advisor with the Attorney General's Office. And with me today are representatives in our Civil Rights Enforcement Section and our California Justice Information Services Division. And these are the two bodies that are responsible for implementing AB 953, the Racial Identity and Profiling Act at the Department of Justice.

So, specifically, to my right is Nancy Beninati, who is our Supervising Deputy Attorney General in the Civil Rights Enforcement Section. And we have Audra Opdyke and Randie Chance, who are both with the California Justice Information Services down here.

It's approximately 2:58 p.m. on Thursday, January 26th, and we are gathered here today at the Downtown Business Hub in Fresno to receive public comments on the proposed Stop Data Regulations recently
posted by the California Department of Justice.

The proposed regulations that we are concerned
with today pertain to the collection of information
regarding stops made by law enforcement agencies and are
required by California's Racial and Identity
Profiling Act AB 953.

To be clear, this is not a meeting of the board.
You were just there, so you know that. This is a public
hearing during which you may provide comment to our
office, the Department of Justice, on the proposed
stop-data regulations since it is our office that is
responsible for drafting those.

The board functions in an advisory
capacity to us. So earlier they're weighing in,
they're discussing all these different elements they
want us to include, don't want us to include. That is
advice they give to us. And ultimately the
decision-making power for what these regulations look
like resides with the Department.

On December 9th, 2016, the California Department
of Justice posted the proposed text of the regulations
and the notice of proposed action, initial statement of
reasons, and fiscal impact analysis on our website at
"oag.ca.gov/AB953/regulations."

You should have received one page earlier, for
those of you who have been here for the duration of the
day, that basically tells you how you can participate
in the public comment process and also says specifically
where the regulations are posted on our website. If you
search on our website, if you go to "oag.ca.gov," you
can always just search for "AB 953" and also find that
information.

On December 9th, we also sent a notice to
interested stakeholders to let them know that the
proposed regulations had been posted. This notice also
outlined the ability of members of the public to submit
comments regarding the proposed regulations in writing
or orally at today's hearing. This is the last of three
public hearings. We had one in Oakland last week and
one in Los Angeles the week before.

The full rulemaking file, including the
rulemaking documents, the documents we relied upon to
draft the proposed regulations and also the comments
we've received to date, are available at one of our
offices, the DOJ in Oakland or in Los Angeles. And
you can email us if you'd like to see that full file.
The email is also on that piece of paper we gave you
earlier. But it's "AB953@doj.ca.gov." We just repeat
"AB 953" as often as possible so that you remember what
we're talking about.

At the front of the room, when you came in, I
think you all saw there are copies of the proposed
regulations. Hopefully, you received those. There are
also some copies of the statute, and I have a couple
more if anybody wants those.

The format of today's hearing will be as
follows: This is an opportunity for you to provide
comment to us on the proposed stop data regulations. Each
person will have three minutes to provide their comment.
And we'll have the time card similar to how we did this
morning, if you were here, showing the time you have
remaining.

We ask that you provide comments that are
relevant to the stop data regulations since the purpose
of this hearing is to discuss those.

And this is not a question-and-answer period.
So we won't actually go back and forth to say, "This is
our rationale for this and this," you know. Most of
you were here for the morning so you also heard some of
the back and forth about how we came to some of the
decisions on our -- on our regulations.

So this is our opportunity to listen to you,
which we are excited to do. And all the hearing will be
recorded and a transcript of the hearing and all the
information presented to us during the hearing will be
made part of the rulemaking record. So it will be
considered by our office as we revisit the regulations
to revise them. Any comments that you make here will be
taken into account. Okay?

If you wish to submit written comments after you
leave today, you may submit them through the Attorney
General's website at that same address I gave before.
You may also send them to us by email at
AB953@doj.ca.gov. The deadline for submitting
comments is tomorrow at 5:00 p.m. So if you know
anybody who wants to submit comments on the regulations,
you think would be interested in knowing what's going
on, make sure to let them know that tomorrow is our
deadline for receiving comments.

So as you entered the room, you received a
speaker card, and we've taken those. If you do want to
provide a comment anonymously, that is also an option.
So if you give us a speaker card, and you're like,
actually, I'd rather you not record my name or
whatever, just let us know. You don't have to present
it with your name. But for the rulemaking file, just in
our records, it's easier if we have that information.

Let's see. We also have a sign-in sheet. We
had one this morning. If you had not yet signed in, if
you'd like to stay apprised of different activities of
our office and implementing AB 953 and the activities of the board, you can sign up. You'll become part of our distribution list and receive notifications about what we're up to.

Unless you specify otherwise, any correspondence you receive by us, you will receive by email. You can request by snail mail, if that is your preference, but you will have to let us know that.

So we will now begin.

Do you want to call?

MS. BENINATI: I'll call people.

MS. HOVIS: Okay. So Nancy will just go ahead and call folks' names.

THE PUBLIC: We have our own order.

MS. HOVIS: Okay. So just come up and state your name.

MS. YSRAEL: Shannon, Nancy, I don't think --

MS. BENINATI: Just to kind of clarify on Shannon's point, because we are transcribing this hearing, we ask that you please be considerate of the speaker and allow that person to speak. Because if more than one voice is heard at the same time, the Court Reporter can't get that down and that person's comment might be lost or garbled. So just keep that in mind.

I do have -- we do have a public comment from the co-chair of the Racial Identity Profiling Board,

MR. MEDRANO: Thank you. My name is Ed Medrano, and I'm one of the co-chairs for the RIPA board which just met earlier.

The board did make some recommendations for the Department of Justice to consider. Prior to making those recommendations, the board considered formal comments that were submitted by other board members, considered comments made by the public prior to the board meeting, as well as public comment that was delivered today. Many of you were here today.

Just a quick synopsis of what was voted on and what was recommended to the Department of Justice. First off, in terms of the regulations, there was a recommendation and motion that passed for a narrative box to be included for "reason of the stop" and the "basis for the stop" and anywhere else there is an "other" box to allow the officers to fill in a narrative. That was the first recommendation.

In addition to that, a couple different items were added relative to information about the person that was stopped. The first item is to add a box that can allow officers to check LGBT in terms of gender, so that will make six gender options available.

Two, to add learning disability in the school setting. ADAH was one, hyperactivity, and others to allow officers to add additional information relative to school setting disabilities.

The third was to allow officers to check religion if known, and another box, if unknown.

And, lastly, to eliminate -- there was a recommendation in the regulations to have limited English proficiency. And to delete the accent only, just to check limited English proficiency.

The board unanimously voted that we forward all of those recommendations to the Department of Justice for their consideration and any potential modifications to the regulations.

That is our report.

MS. BENINATI: Thank you.

So will the next member of the public please come up. And when you do, can you please spell your name for the Court Reporter.

-00o-

STATEMENT OF PASTOR AARON PRATT

MR. PRATT: Good evening. Or should I say "afternoon"? My name is Pastor Aaron D. Pratt. I want to say thank you to the Department of Justice for your diligence in, you know, facilitating this, AB 953. It has been a diligent and very arduous road, and we're still going uphill.

So what -- I want to say a few things, but I need to frame it up right so you can know a little bit about me so when I give you these things that I feel I still want to work on you will understand where I come from.

So who am I? I am a pastor. I am a college graduate. Two universities, Syracuse, chemical engineering cum laude; and Cal Berkeley, human services degree.

Why did I chose pastory? Well, as a Navy SEAL, SEAL Team 5, graduate of Class 189, I found out that science was real. And in order to do some of the processes, running the actions on the USS Enterprise, or the Kittyhawk, riding in humvees, extracting prisoners, extracting hostages, I found that documentation was absolutely necessary. I found out that chemistry -- without me being able to measure variables, I couldn't come up with a solution.

So I'm still perplexed as to why we meet and we pondering trying to figure a way of -- you know, the new word, new vernacular, is "alternative facts."

I want to know why we are still having a problem to say thank you to the Department of Justice for your diligence in, you know, facilitating this, AB 953. It has been a diligent and very arduous road, and we're still going uphill.

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I want to know why we are still having a problem to say thank you to the Department of Justice for your diligence in, you know, facilitating this, AB 953. It has been a diligent and very arduous road, and we're still going uphill.
MS. BENINATI: The next speaker, please.

-00-

STATEMENT OF VICTORIA CASTILLO

MS. CASTILLO: Good afternoon, members of the DOJ and others. My name is Victoria Castillo, V-I-C-T-O-R-I-A, C-A-S-T-I-L-L-O. I am from Merced County.

I am going to again read some excerpts from citizens. And why I'm doing this is because I really took into consideration some of the back-and-forth that was going on between the board earlier as far as unique identifiers for officers. And I feel, personally, that this is important in order to review and establish a pattern of prejudice and/or abuse. It's not something I -- I, myself, do public records requests often, and I never come across any personal information from officers, other than if they were involved in a specific situation with an individual. And I never got anything like identifying officers' homes or any other personal information that could put that individual in danger.

Part of these citizen complaints are from different individual and specific officers from Merced Police Department. Part of this says, "At one point, Penner walked to his vehicle and pressed something. We believe he may have disabled his dash camera. With this and the fact that officers' weapons -- two officers -- were unbuttoned, both my friends and I had reasonable fear of being killed or seriously injured.

"The officers did tell these individuals that they could not record. And after that, they subsequently went to the vehicle and the light that was on was shut off, after he pressed the button."

The response to our request to this individual was: "The information provided is not specific enough to our search. Could you please provide more information, such as time and day and location of the incident to produce the dispatcher logs of the incident."

Now, with our local departments, they have sophisticated software, so that's the first and last name and date of birth of an individual or even a license plate number can give us this information. But yet that information was not entered in the database.

So as far as myself and -- just for background, both of the individuals that were in this citizen complaint that were together, they are relatives, and they're both Mexican; they both have beautiful brown skin.

Another citizen complaint, from a different individual: "During the encounter I felt I was treated like human trash, and I was in physical pain. I had to call into my place of work and explain what took place because after the experience, I was not the right state of mind to work and had pressure and a swollen hand. The incident has left me traumatized, and I feel no matter how I attempt to better my life, Merced police will continue to find ways to assault, harass or even kill me. I feel I live with this fear every single day. This is not acceptable for people in my community to be treated so disrespectfully and without regard for their rights. I'm not on probation or parole, even if I were, the way I've been treated repeatedly dehumanizes, to say the least."

And during this actual incident, I was called by the people that were being stopped in his car. And both of these citizen complaints did not result in arrest, but in both incidents the people in the car were both brown-skinned. And I went onto the scene, and these both happened in October of 2016. And I was on foot filming the law enforcement officers and the situation at a reasonable distance and was given a misdemeanor citation for reckless driving but I was not in my vehicle. So now I'm facing a trial for that I'm going to be facing.
So I just wanted to put that out there, that
data is crucial and unique identifiers are important.

Thank you.

MS. BENINATI: Thank you very much.

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STATEMENT OF IRENE ARMENDARIZ

MS. ARMENDARIZ: Hello. My name is Irene Armendariz, I-R-E-N-E, A-R-M-E-D-A-R-I-Z. I'm from Merced, California, and I support the unique identifier.

Like I said earlier, I have a brother who has been diagnosed with schizophrenic tendency through the harassment of the Merced Police Department, and he is now looking at several years of prison. It's been a burden on our family to come up with the money that we don't have to get a lawyer so he can get help for his mental condition. And I just believe the information on officers is needed to see if there's any specific patterns of prejudices or abuse. Thank you.

MS. BENINATI: Thank you.

MS. HOVIS: Thank you.

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STATEMENT BY DENISE FRIDAY-HALL

MS. FRIDAY-HALL: Good afternoon. My name is

Denise Friday, D-E-N-I-S-E, Friday, as in the day of the week, Hall. And I'm here because of the identity and the protocol of racial profiling, because my son was assassinated by Officer David Wells because of the color of his skin. So what I'm trying to say is that I feel like, in a police-involved shooting, are the police above the law? When they go to the -- the Article of Police, the Bill of Rights, I want to know all the laws were written in an era where things were different. Now, things are different now. How come the law can't be revised where a police officer involved in a police shooting is not tested for drugs or alcohol after involved shooting? And what is the actual protocol when they are in an involved shooting? When the commanding officer steps on the scene, is the commanding officer -- is he surrendering his weapon to him?

And then, on the other hand, I want to know that, are they taken immediately to go get tested? Okay. And then once they get to the office and they begin their report, if they're not verbally able to speak their report, are they able to -- I mean, write it out in a report? Do they get an opportunity to verbally say their report in a panel or something like that?

So I would like to know, what is that protocol when a police officer shoots someone in the community and something like that.

And the other thing is that, when bus drivers have an accident on the street, they're tested for drugs or alcohol. So what makes the men in blue above the law where they can't be tested for drugs or alcohol?

Because that Article in that Bill of Rights for them -- that needs to be changed, because that law is outdated.

And then, the other thing is that, when they have chance -- when they have their body camera, I feel like once the body camera is activated, then it should not be deactivated. And if it is, it should be automatically reset to turn back on, because this is to protect the officer as well as the citizen that is being engaged with the law enforcement officer.

So I feel like they should not have control of activating or deactivating the body cam when they're involved in a situation where the whole truth could be really seen and told if they not cutting their video cameras off and on.

And the third thing is that, when they approach people, they should de-escalate; they should -- okay. They should be able to have training to de-escalate situations instead of escalating them. Because, like we say, we have a lot of people out there with a lot of issues. And if they just took the time to analyze the situation, maybe they wouldn't have to shoot to kill.

MS. HOVIS: Thank you.

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STATEMENT BY MARIA LOPEZ

MS. LOPEZ: Maria Lopez from Long Beach. Maria, M-A-R-I-A, and Lopez, L-O-P-E-Z.

I'm very glad to see that everyone on this table appears to be -- may not identify but appears to be a woman. I also stand here as a woman, a brown Latin woman, a queer, gender nonconforming one, an undocumented, documented woman, a woman in poverty, a first generation woman, a (words spoken in Spanish.)

I do not choose which one to be a day. I'm all of them every single day. All of this cannot fill in blocks but can be described in a small narrative if you took the time to see the importance in all that makes me who I am.

When I hear people say they want to be a police officer because they want to make a difference, I say, "You have a chance with AB 953 to make a difference."

I commend the RIPA board on their recommendations that will impact the lives of the most vulnerable in our communities. Today is a day that will go down in our people's history as a day we took a step
**STATEMENT OF GENEAL NEPAL**

Ms. Nepal: My name is Genea Nepal. I'm 17 years old, and I have been living in the United States for 3 years. My family and I arrived from Nepal because we were looking for a better life. We were promised a better future here, but we've been treated unfairly.

I've heard stories of people being stopped and searched by the police, even when they had their papers. The police would ask questions about where we came from, even though we have documented our journey. We were always on guard, afraid that we might be stopped for something we didn't do.

I don't want to be afraid of my own government, but that's how I feel. I don't want to live in fear of the police. I want to be able to go out and walk around without wondering if someone will stop me because of the color of my skin.

So I'm speaking out today because I want to be heard. I want to be listened to. I want to be treated fairly. I want to be respected.

Thank you.
STATEMENT OF ROSA AQUEEL

MS. AQUEEL: Hi, again. Rosa Aqueel, first name R-O-S-A; last name A-Q-E-E-L, with Policy Link.

Again, just want to thank all of you for your incredible work today. I want to say that I really appreciate that the previous public comment hearings were held in the evening. It's something I know PL has raised repeatedly. So we really appreciate that you accommodate that. That was very, very meaningful.

In terms of the regulations, I just want to bring your attention to the letter that you had received that was signed by the ACLU, Policy Link, and others, that does -- definitely encompasses all of the concerns that we have.

And I just wanted to draw your attention, in particular, to Page 4 that focuses on the duration of stats. It was mentioned briefly in the board meeting, but I just wanted to make the case for why we think it's really important that we include more accurate, specific information. Where there is a stop that is 60 minutes or longer, for example, the regulations currently would only capture that it was over 60 minutes. But we think there is a big difference between someone who is stopped for 60 minutes and three hours or four hours.

Right.

I had a conversation with a young woman who was stopped for two hours, face down on the concrete. She was a young girl. She was coming home from school, being harassed by the police, terrified, 12 years old, for two hours.

And so those kinds of data points I think are really important to making sure that we're really understanding the full meaning of the data being collected.

Finally, I would just say again that I think all of the stories that have been shared, while not directly about a specific regulation, they're all about the regulations; right? And that I think having the stories and the actual testimonies of folks helps build humanity into regulations that can at times seem dry.

And so really just appreciate the work you have in front of you and just really want to thank you for that.

MS. HOVIS: Thank you.

MS. BENINATI: Thank you.

STATEMENT OF ALFREDO AGUERO

MR. AGUERO: My name is Alfredo Aguero. And I want to start with something I read this morning.

"There's a reason why we change. One, either because we learn a lot and we decide change or we been hurt so much that we have to change."

I like to say thanks, though, for taking in consideration for recommendation you made for Prop AB 953.

But I'd like to say that -- like I mentioned before, we need help in a special location because our kids, the kids with the special needs, a lot of times they don't even talk. They get home with scratches, bruises, and the schools, they don't know why. Nobody say anything.

And sometimes people said, you know what, they was scared and in crisis and the officers come and try to restrain them. They can't say anything.

So really we have to do something. Like I said, if we train our officers how to deal with these issues, that's going to help a lot. We don't get to see these kids get in all these kinds of situations because depression, anxiety, mental illness is one of the strongest parts in special ed kids.

I have one. My son is -- he got special needs.

And we know how it feels to see your kid getting home and can't tell you what happened because they been bullied. All this kind of stuff happen to them on the schools.

We supposed to get our schools (sic) to the schools to be protected, from the teachers who teach them. And sometimes they get the bullying even from them, from the same people, from the same school, from the same teachers.

So if we don't do something for them, our society is crooked. Everybody is crooked. If I don't offer them and I know what happened there, I'm doing something wrong. Because we are the voice. Our community is tired. We have to start working. And the only way we can do this is the officers have to be more response -- responsible for what they doing if they doing something wrong and get a congratulations if they do something right.

But we, as a community, I think we deserve respect. Because we like to trust the officers. But if they don't help us, impossible. It's all I want to say. Thank you.

MS. HOVIS: Thank you.
people are mentally ill are the people that are catching
the end -- the excessive force or the violence, then
it's something we have to try to do to put a stop to it.
I don't honestly believe that AB 953 will be the
complete answer, but I do believe it will be a step in
the right way. Thank you.

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STATEMENT OF BRANDON STURDIVANT

MR. STURDIVANT: It's Brandon Sturdivant,
of California, also part of Hope for Community
Organizations.

So first, I hope folks really appreciate the
level of trauma that the people in this audience are
doing right now, to recount stories that seriously
impacted us in our development and in our lives.
Imagine having to interact with a person who abused you
consistently. That is what we have to do. And even
being in the space with law enforcement officers who are
saying it's too much to collect data, to me it's an
abuser telling me I'm not gonna stop and I don't
actually want to take negativisms (sic) to stop, I'm
fine with what I'm doing.

So a lot of trauma in this room. That's the
first thing.
Second thing is, there's a duel line here. And
I don't want to misstate AB 953, about what the board
issue brought up. But the thing is, folks in this room
and so many folks outside mobilized, over a thousand
people, and sat on the lawn outside the Capitol to make
sure that this thing is passed, right, to bring our
work to fruition, to make sure we have the opportunity
to collect this data. So the folks here are directly
responsible for this legislation, for this effort. And
we're proud to see what happened with the
recommendations today. We want to see that continue
forward implementation.

I was not a part of AB 953. I actually sat out.
The reason why I sat out was because my uncle was beaten
to death by the Oakland police. Not shot, not tased.
Like billy clubs. Nine officers beat him until he
expired.

My cousin was shot in the back, killed by the
Oakland police. I got something on it, but it was just
weak narrative, weak-ass narrative, that didn't explain
exactly what happened.

So for me, and knowing other folks who
experienced police brutality, I thought what the hell
are we doing. But the folks in this audience inspired

"too much time" to go to fill out a piece of paper. But
it was a whole lot of time that they wasted pulling me
over when they only arrested me like once or twice.
And they pulled me over many of times, you know.
And so I think if they stop racially profiling,
they'll have more time. You know, that's one thing.
And then the other thing is -- is that I work with
Alfredo, and we do work with special education, you
know. And it's a growing -- everybody knows it. Mental
health is that -- a lot of people being arrested and
profiled and type of stuff, they do have mental
illnesses.

So I'd like to highlight the part that you all
said before, about putting a box there about the mental
illnesses, because I believe that has a lot to do -- and
now the jail is starting to become the biggest mental
health provider for people with mental illnesses. And I
believe that it should be some type of mechanism that we
can help people that are mentally ill before they go to
jail.

And I say -- that's all I have to say. But every
life has a value, you know. And like it's happening
real fast. The first -- what is it? -- three minutes,
two minutes is where people are being killed.

And if it's people being racially profiled and

So I hear the argument of "wasting time" and
me to step off the sidelines over the last year and 
work. I've been throwing myself into it actually and 
confront something that has caused trauma to my entire 
family.

So we want to see the recommendations move 
forward as we saw fit. We want to see over this next 
period that you're not going to (unintelligible). We want 
to see more data, as much as possible, especially -- 
especially around -- the data around the minutes that 
folks are being held. We don't want to see checkboxes. 
If you hold somebody for 60 minutes, put 60. If you 
hold them for five hours, put five hours. We need to 
know down to a "T".

Last thing, I'm really, really concerned about 
the implementation of this. So what happens when law 
enforcement doesn't do it? What happens when we get 
back crappy data? We've done public records requests 
for the Sheriff's Department in Alameda County and 
gotten back crap, like receipts for coffee, stuff like 
that, just paper. So I'm really concerned, and I'm 
wondering, how do we make sure these regulations move 
forward and hit the ground.

And the last thing is, for me, this is about an 
ak. This moment is about public safety transformation. 
We can't get it without the data. But this is the

In particular, we support the RIPA board 
recommendations to require use of open text fields with 
respect to data elements of reason for stop, basis for 
search, and any data value that refers to "other." The 
proposed regulations must require data collection that 
captures actual law enforcement practices by including 
these open field texts where officers provide factual 
detail and context for their stops.

We also believe that the regulation should 
require officers to provide a description of the actual 
location of the stop, such as sidewalk, public 
transportation, public housing or building, to provide 
context about where these stops are taking place and 
what that might mean. Moreover, there are several data 
elements that we believe the data value is offered use 
time periods that do not allow for sufficient detail to 
echo the duration of the stop that others have 
mentioned, the perceived age of person stopped and 
officers' years of experience.

Finally, we think there needs to be multiple 
data values added in response to data element for 
actions taken by officer during stop. The -- we 
might -- we suggest additional values such as other

beginning. So we have to start off on a good foot and 
push back on the law enforcement officers who are 
consistently sending a message that they want to do as 
little as possible. Thank you.

MS. HOVIS: Thank you.

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STATEMENT OF KENA CADOR

Hello. My name is Kena Cador, K-E-N-A, C-A-D-O-R. I'm here on behalf of the ACLU of 
Northern California, Fresno office.

I want to start by saying that I think the 
stories today demonstrate the undeniable human element 
involved in police interactions. It also highlights the 
need for effective data.

The ACLU commends DOJ and AOG for their 
consideration and adoption of recommendations made by 
advocacy organizations over the past several months.

The proposed regulations reflect recommendations 
related to perceived identities and any stops of youth, 
particularly of youth on and around school grounds or in 
the school setting. However, the ACLU and many other 
advocacy organizations are very concerned in certain 
aspects of proposed recommendations and have submitted 
written comments to the DOJ and AOG as part of the

I think that the importance of AB 953 cannot be 
overstated, especially as evidenced by the public 
participation here today, making sure police are acting 
fairly and lawfully and that burdens of being stopped 
and searched are not falling on some racial groups more 
than others is crucial and is part of the job. Thank 
you.

MS. HOVIS: Thank you.

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STATEMENT OF CRISANTEMA GALLARDO

Hi, everyone. My name is 

As I spoke earlier, I'm from Merced, and I 
really want to lift up the importance of ensuring that 
we have individual and personal identifications for 
peace officers.

You can go into any (speaking in Spanish) -- 
any hood, and people in the community, well, they know 
what streets, what police officers are stopping our 
community members.

In my community, on Winway near a church,
there's a white police officer that will park his vehicle there and stop brown and dark-skinned people for no reason. I think it's really important for us to be able to identify which law enforcement officers are the ones doing this.

Again, I'm really happy to be here today, because we were there in 2015 pushing AB 953, because we know it's the beginning to any (unintelligible) in our community. And I say "beginning" because it's not going to end all the injustice that we're living as people of color in this state, but it is going to ensure that we hold law enforcement officers, individual folks, accountable so that they can do the job they're supposed to be doing, so they can really build trust with our communities.

Again, I also think it's really important for our community groups to have access to all the data. So we need to create, like, a clear plan of how we as community members can know no who -- which officers are stopping who in our community and what ethnicities are being stopped the most. Thank you.

MS. HOVIS: Thank you.

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STATEMENT OF BOBBI BUTTS

MS. BUTTS: First of all, I'd like to give our praises to God. He's the love of my life.

My name is Bobbi Butts, B-O-B-B-I, B-U-T-T-S. I'm with a lot of different organizations. I was at the legislators office making sure the Transparency Bill came through.

I just know that being as dark skinned as I am, I have witnessed and been a part of a lot of racial profiling, especially living in Tennessee and out here in California as well.

I'm raising a son who wants to be a cardiologist and he plays instruments. But I know he'll grow up and be a big, black guy. So I know if I don't put my feet to the ground today and tomorrow, I'm probably not giving my son the chance that he deserves.

So I just want to thank you all in the Department of Justice for just having our back and continuing to work with us with regards to this system that is so injustice to people of color. Thank you.

MS. HOVIS: Thank you.

THE PUBLIC: One people, one fight. One people.

One fight.

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STATEMENT OF GREG JONES

MR. JONES: Good afternoon. I'm going to take this thing off. I'm sorry. My name is Greg Jones. I'm within the Congregation out for Change. And there are a couple things that really -- that really resonated with me.

One of them is, you know, how can a group of individuals who don't want there to be transparency decide how transparency is going to be implemented. I cannot get past that in my mind to understand how a group of -- a group of individuals who we're trying to hold accountable, as a society, as taxpayers, as citizens, sometimes it's victims, how we want to correct the system that has been flawed since its inception.

We all know that police officers were founded on the slave patrol. They would capture runaway slaves and, to tell the truth, they pretty much operate the same way today.

When slavery ended -- before slavery ended, excuse me, the prison system was 95 percent white. Afterwards, it was 97 percent black. That's no mistake.

The prison system was put in and perpetrated on African Americans in order to keep free labor going.

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STATEMENT OF BOBBI BUTTS

And today it operates the same exact way. Please, if you don't believe me, do your research.

The problem is that I myself don't consider myself a free man because I have to do things that I don't want to do. I don't any adult that has to do things they don't want to do.

But the problem is, when you have a system that's breathing over you and it has individuals who are equal to you, equal to you, equal to you, are telling you -- are making you feel that the system no longer applies to them, the rules no longer apply to them, and all they have to do is claim to feel fear and they can take your life, take your life with zero accountability.

And we sit here and act as if that's the norm. We sit here and act as if that's necessary in order for America to be great again. Like that's what it has to be like.

My children tremble in fear. They've seen me become a victim of police brutality. They still talk about it to this day, every time it comes up. It doesn't come up in conversations with family. It comes up in society. It's one of those things we talk about. It's one of those things that we live. It's normal.

Just like the space landing or the comet -- whatever is the norm.

Police brutality is the norm. And for people
by the way we're going now, it's not going to happen. We're asking you all to take the responsibility, take the accountability, and to ensure that the things that have happened in the past, the injustices that have happened in the past, never happen again to another person. Thank you.

STATEMENT BY NEBYOU BERHE

Mr. Berhe: Hello. My name is Nebyou Berhe, N-E-B-Y-O-U, B-E-R-H-E. So just a couple things real quick. These narrative boxes -- and I find it amusing that there was so much pushback on them. Every time we see an officer-involved shooting video or anything related to police misconduct, we're always told -- the public is told to suspend your judgment because we don't know what happened before or after. We don't know what the context was; right? We don't know what the narrative was. We don't know all these factors.

And that leads to the unique identifiers.

Right. And what is this? It's this accountability so we can say, hey, man, these type of officers are the ones -- should be held responsible for these type of actions. Maybe we can change hiring practices as we go forward.

And just to note on a local level, I live here in Fresno. Our chief of police actually ordered an internal study review of his department, and what came back was that two-thirds of the officers didn't trust the chief and a third of officers complained about officers that falsified evidence or falsified police reports. And what we're talking about is years on someone's life; right? When you falsify --

We have a brother right now that we're trying to help out who went to rescue his brothers from a shooting at a party, and he's -- now he's facing jail time because he was resisting arrest. Even though he showed up way after the cops did and he was drug through the mud physically, literally, and now he's facing jail time. And he's young. He's a young man.

And so -- again, thank you guys for being here. We just want to continue to hold up these -- these stories and these experiences.

Ms. Hovis: Thank you.

STATEMENT BY SUKAINA HUSSAIN

Ms. Hussain: Good afternoon. My name is Sukaina Hussain, S-U-K-A-I-N-A, H-U-S-S-A-I-N. I shared some comments with the board this morning, but I wanted to reiterate to you all. Thank you again for the time to hear us out. I know some people had to take off but they're with us in spirit. They're from all over California. They're making their way back.

I wanted to highlight what was brought up before, the significance of the stories that my black and brown brothers and sisters have shared and how much of themselves they're putting out there so that all of us can live in a better community.

And I'm speaking on behalf of immigrant families who are communities of color who have come from militarized states, who have come from environments where they're being targeted for the way they look, who are daily met with tanks in the street with automatic weapons in their face, whose children have to walk by army and militants just on the way to school or to the grocery store.

And they came here. My family is from an immigrant background (unintelligible). And unfortunately we know it's going to be difficult for families coming from other countries in the future. But for those who are here, came here seeking that safe
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<td>haven and seeking a way to provide a better opportunity for their families.</td>
<td>sufficient descriptive data in order to compile it and interpret in a way that can identify how these officers may be profiling folks, then that extra five or ten minutes that it's costing them right now could save an extra 500 lives in a couple years, and it will all be worth it then.</td>
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<td>So I know that the role of law enforcement is to provide that peace, to serve and protect. And if we're continuing to militarize, we're not serving that purpose. So I hope the investment in this regulation really provide them education and training into making our community safer instead of more militarized.</td>
<td>So I'm asking you all, when you hear that argument about time consumption that you let it bounce off your ears because we're looking towards the future. And in doing that, we have to spend the necessary time focusing on those variables that are causing so many of our people to suffer here.</td>
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<td>I also wanted to speak to the piece around religion. I know there was some discussion with the board on what the identifier looks like. I do agree it's important to be able to collect data to name their specific religion, backgrounds and ethnicities. Nationalities are being targeted. However, it may be visible what religion I am but may not be for another person of color. So I think in order to make sure we're not falling into the trap of continually stereotyping and going down this rabbit hole of stereotyping by filling the box, but there should even still be a narrative space for why the officer chose to identify the person of that religion. Was it a cross or symbol or something specific they were wearing that caused them to feel they were of religious background. And maybe use that to identify if there are wrongful assumptions being made, if there are stereotypes that are being mislabeled. And put those learnings into trainings on how we're miscategorizing individually or how we're correctly or incorrectly identifying backgrounds to have more accurate information and learning ahead. Thank you.</td>
<td>I appreciate you all for hearing us out today. I ask that you keep in mind the stories you heard and the pain you heard when you're making those decisions and finalizing the regulations.</td>
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<td>MS. HOVIS: Thank you.</td>
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<td>STATEMENT OF TAYMAH JAHSI</td>
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| MS. JAHSI: Hello. My name is Taymah Jahsi, spelled T-A-Y-M-A-H, last name, J-A-H-S-I. I'm with PICO, specifically Faith in the Valley here in Fresno. We represent over 120 congregations here in the Valley. Many of them went with us to the Capitol to make sure AB 953 passed. And we went there with the expectation with racial profiling not ending tomorrow but sometime in the future. Maybe our grandchildren wouldn't have to face some of the pain we face. So when I hear officers say it's too time-consuming, I view that as an excuse. Because what's more time-consuming is burying your child. I've done that before. We heard from Mrs. Friday who's done that. And if we have the opportunity to collect today is so important because my family has continually had to go through racial profiling, even in front of my house where we lived in a very affluent neighborhood and we might have been one or two black families. I watched my brother get beat up by nine or ten cops because they didn't believe that was his house. And I had to testify and watch these cops lie in court, and it was traumatizing. Because he was in a car with another non-black person, so they pulled him over and assumed it wasn't his car. So that was my first unfortunate incident with the police. And then it continued, where I was always pulled over because of who I was, because of being black and driving in a car down a street where they felt I didn't belong. Now we fast-forward here to Fresno, California, where I live now. I'm a business owner. I'm an entrepreneur. I'm also part of the African American media. So I came here today, and we wanted to make sure to have a story. But I think it's also important I share my story. And just last year, at the end of the year, we were pulled over coming from my shop. We were terrified. Me and my husband were very terrified. We were in our car, which was a Mustang. The officer asked what were we doing in a Mustang, why were we there,
where were we coming from. I was asked these -- this
myriad of questions as if I didn't even belong being a
business owner or even in my car.

So that is not just happening to me but a whole
bunch of people that look like me, a whole bunch of
other black and brown folks that look like me. And I
was shaking and I was terrified. And I shared it on
Facebook. I couldn't get over it for weeks. And every
time I saw an officer, all I could do was be fearful and
look forward. And even when I was pulled over, I didn't
know if we were going to be shot. No one was around.
I'm looking around to see where I could -- who's
watching and what I can do.

No one should feel that terrified when they're
pulled over by an officer. And loudly I remember
speaking to the officer, letting him know, "Officer, I
can't -- my license. It's in the back in my purse." And
I was very scared to reach back. I'd already watched the
Sandra Bland. Myself being a part of the media, it was
a very terrifying experience for me.

I've been stopped, my son's been stopped, my
husband has been stopped, everyone's been stopped in my
family. For what?

And also being 15 years as an educator, as a
state-mandated reporter, it was very important for me to
write out paperwork. And when something happens in the
classroom, you had to write it out. Time is nothing.
Time is of the essence. And it's very important for us
to take our time when we must write that report. When
we must be a part of the solution versus the problem.
If I didn't write about things that happened to
my students, and they would tell me about stuff going on
at home, should I be that teacher that says, heck, I
don't have time to write that out? Should I have done
that?

So that's why it's so important for us to look
at time as not an issue but part of it, to take the time
to write that information down so we can see where the
problem is and look forward to solutions.

MS. HOVIS: Thank you.
So since the public hearing is slated to go
until 4:30, we sit and stay here until 4:30. That's how
it works. So we will be here.

Thank you for being here everybody who came,
honestly. I'm just really pleased to see that -- the
energy and commitment to ensure that AB 953 is
effectively implemented because it's certainly
-consuming our lives. And it's just really great to have
members of the public so participatory. So thank you so
much.