



ALTADENA TOWN COUNCIL

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730 East Altadena Drive • Altadena, California 91001

March 30, 2022

Commissioner, Amanda L. Ray
16th Commissioner CHP
601 North 7th Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

Captain Derek Moulton
Altadena Area CHP
2130 Windsor Avenue
Altadena, CA 91001

Dear Commissioner Ray and Captain Moulton:

The March 31, 2020 death of Edward Bronstein while in custody of the California Highway Patrol at the Altadena Station and subsequent lack of transparency has outraged our community. We, the members of the Altadena Town Council (ATC), are writing as representatives of the 47,000 residents of Altadena and wish to express our concerns, as well as make several requests on behalf of Altadena residents.

This disturbing incident brought back memories of George Floyd and many other incidents of police brutality. As such, residents of Altadena have expressed their deep concern to us over this incident. The CHP reports to the Altadena Town Council monthly with statistics on traffic incidents, yet this is the first we have heard of this after a *two-year* period. While we understand there are legal regulations regarding internal investigations that require limited information to be shared with the public, we are confused as to why an incident of this magnitude that occurred in Altadena was never reported to the Council and the community.

Many in our community have expressed feeling unsafe during interactions with officers in the area. We, as representatives of the many residents of Altadena, have been asked to do what we can to ensure that no member of the community will be subjected to any type of violence at the hands of law enforcement. We work to be a bridge for open dialogue and communication between the community, law enforcement and other government entities so that these types of incidents never happen again in our community. The Altadena Town Council, united with the residents of this community, will not tolerate brutality or any unfair practices by anyone, including law enforcement.

We have four requests of the California Highway Patrol in our effort to uphold the safety and quality of life of each and every one of our Altadena residents and surrounding community:

1. An explanation of why we were only made aware of this incident through the press and not directly from the station;
2. That any California Highway Patrol policies, or laws, or state policies, or agreements between law enforcement departments that speak to California Highway Patrol officers' conduct, specifically with regard to use of force, be reviewed and revised as necessary;
3. Better transparency that informs the Altadena Town Council and residents of all use of force or officer misconduct incidents including those that require internal investigations; and
4. Confirmation of an independent investigation into this specific incident with civilian oversight.

Our relationship with the California Highway Patrol is important and we recognize their positive contributions to our community. Our goal is to ensure safety for our residents as well as trust with our law enforcement agencies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Veronica L. Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'V' and a long, sweeping tail on the 's'.

Veronica L. Jones
Chair, Altadena Town Council