

**CORRESPONDENCE
FROM
APRIL 14, 2021
PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMITTEE MEETING**

Flores, Valerie

From: Elise Preston Mallory
Sent: Sunday, April 11, 2021 5:54 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for City Council Meeting on 4.12.21 - Public Safety Committee

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Dear City Council,

I'm writing in regards to the Public Safety Committee Report on the agenda for 4.12.21.

I observed the Special Public Safety Committee Meeting on Wednesday, 4.7.21 as they discussed the process to narrow down the 13 applicants that had submitted to represent a Community Based Organization.

As you know, your deadline for this submission was 3.15.21. During this meeting, the committee decided to narrow the 13 applicants down to 6 that they would submit to the whole council for discussion.

The process seemed simple at the start as each councilmember was asked who their top 6 candidates were. The plan was to then discuss each candidate and determine the next steps.

Councilmembers Kennedy, Hampton and Madison followed the process and offered their 6 candidates. Mayor/ Committee Chairman Gordo then failed to follow the rules and started offering names that were not on the list of candidates for the community-based organizations openings. He also started maneuvering the process to expand the pool from 6 candidates to 7.

It was highly alarming as this whole process played out in front of everyone watching.

This Police Oversight Commission has been needed in Pasadena for a number of years. It is vital that everyone believe that the process is fair and each person involved in the process is altruistic without an agenda other than selecting the best candidates for the job. The on-going question is if the commission had been put in place 5 years ago when it was first brought forward, would Anthony McClain still be here today?

When the Mayor/ Committee Chairman so openly disregards the rules and starts trying to bend and change things when we're all watching, major concern and distrust is implanted in the whole process. Major distrust is also planted in the on-going viability and impact of this important commission.

Each Councilmember has the opportunity to select a candidate to represent their district. This candidate does not need to live within their district. They just need to be a resident of Pasadena. This being said, if a councilmember has a candidate they want to guarantee is on the Oversight Committee, that councilmember can appoint that person.

The point of this comment is to let you know that WE ARE WATCHING! We want, need and expect the Oversight Commission to do the job that are outlined in committee responsibilities. We need you to select the best people for the job. We need to know that you will truly hear the feedback that will come from this Commission and implement changes that will improve Pasadena overall and make it a better place for everyone to live, work and visit.

We expect you to set rules and follow the rules, publicly and behind closed doors. Please remember that WE ARE WATCHING, and as you move through this process, we expect no more shenanigans like we observed Wednesday night.

Best,

Elise Preston Mallory
Pasadena Consumer and Volunteer

Flores, Valerie

From: Charlotte Lacey
Sent: Sunday, April 11, 2021 9:21 PM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Support for Patrice Marshall McKenzie

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To whom it concerns,

As the current City of Pasadena Human Relations Commission Chair, I would like to offer my support for Patrice Marshall McKenzie for placement on the Pasadena Police Oversight Commission, representing AKA Pasadena Chapter. I understand that the Safety Committee has decided to interview the top candidates this Wednesday and I'm sure that her interview will go well. She is a woman above many who is responsible, knowledgeable, and inspiring. Her addition to this commission will make it diverse and inclusive of many voices within our community. I hope that you choose Patrice to make this group smart, contemplative, and progressive.

Thank you.

--

Charlotte Lacey

Pasadena Humane Special Events Manager
City of Pasadena Human Relations Commission Chair
Junior League of Pasadena Past President '18 - '19, Community Director '20 - '22
Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts Member
Association of Fundraising Professionals Marketing, PR & Social Media Chair

Flores, Valerie

From: Margaret Starbuck
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2021 12:24 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment 4/14/21

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I ask that the 3 POC seats on the Public Safety Committee be filled by BIPOC Pasadena community members who have been leading the work of police accountability and reform, and that these community members represent organizations in the community who have a documented history of working toward police accountability and true public safety.

Sincerely
Margaret Starbuck

Flores, Valerie

From: pasadena1,
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2021 10:33 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Safety Committee Meeting - April 14, 2021

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This is public comment for the Public Safety Committee Meeting on April 14, 2021, Item 1

Alexis Abernathy has a life-long professional obsession with race. She makes money promoting the concept of “implicit bias” which is the claim that all Whites are secretly racist.

In my opinion, Abernathy is incapable of fairly evaluating white police officers as individuals without giving consideration to their race and the race of whomever the police officer interacted with.

As a result of Abernathy’s professional obsession with race and her often declared intent to evaluate people partially based on racial group membership rather than as individuals, Alexis Abernathy is not qualified to be on the Commission.



Armenian National Committee of America – Western Region

April 12, 2021

Public Safety Committee
City of Pasadena
100 N. Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91101

Dear Public Safety Committee Members,

On behalf of the Armenian National Committee of America – Western Region (ANCA-WR, the largest and most influential nonpartisan Armenian American advocacy organization in the western U.S., I am writing to enthusiastically recommend Shoghig Yepremian's candidacy for the Pasadena Police Oversight Commission.

Ms. Yepremian has a long track record of active involvement with a number of community organizations. She has been serving on the Armenian National Committee of America - Pasadena Chapter Board since 2011. She was the Board Chair for four consecutive years. She has been again serving as the Board Chair from 2018 to present.

Additionally, she is currently serving as the Board Chair of the Pasadena Armenian Genocide Memorial Project (construction completed in April 2015). She also serves the Upper Hastings Ranch Neighborhood Association in Pasadena as a Block Captain as well as on the City of Pasadena Police Chief Advisory Council. She is a graduate of City of Pasadena Citizen Police Academy.

Given Ms. Yepremian's extensive involvement and proven leadership in a diverse set of community organizations, we strongly believe that she will bring much value add and representation to the Pasadena Police Oversight Commission.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us at (818) 500-1918 or info@ancawr.org.

Sincerely,

Nora Hovsepian, Esq.

Chair

Flores, Valerie

From: paula kelly
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 1:18 PM
To: Flores, Valerie; Hampton, Tyron
Subject: Public Safety Committee Special Meeting 04-14-21

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Dear Ms. Flores:

I'm unable to attend this important meeting, but am requesting that my comments be entered into the record during the meeting:

I am a resident of District 1 and a member of the Pasadena NAACP.

Now is the time to take real meaningful action to address systemic racism in this country! A step in the right direction involves the Police Oversight Committee. Please consider the following in your deliberations today:

Support the assignment of Florence Annang to serve on the Committee;
People of color that have experience with local police issues should serve on the Committee; and
Those who are selected to serve on the Committee should be involved with organizations based in Pasadena that are involved with police reform.

Sincerely,
Paula Kelly

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Flores, Valerie

From: Nikk W
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 1:30 PM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Letter of Support for Patrice Marshall McKenzie

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Hello,

I am writing in support of Patrice Marshall McKenzie to serve on the Police Oversight Commission. As outlined in my previous letter, Patrice has been serving the Pasadena Community since childhood. This makes her a unique candidate as she has seen the City of Pasadena through the eyes of a child, adolescent and now adult. Patrice has had the opportunity to experience the various aspects of the community in a variety of ways. This perspective would provide a robust amount of experience to the Police Oversight Committee.

Patrice is dynamic and proactive. She utilizes these characteristics to further inspire others to become involved in the community. She has the demonstrated ability to interface with people in a manner that is both inspiring and empowering. In addition, she is thoughtful and courageous which are two characteristics that would enhance the mission of the Police Oversight Committee. Therefore, it is with great pleasure that I support Patrice Marshall McKenzie.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nicole M. Raines, JD, MA, LMFT
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

Flores, Valerie

From: Blair Miller
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 1:57 PM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Pasadena Public Safety Committee, April 13, 2021, Item #1 - Support of Florence Annang

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Mayor Gordo and Council Members Hampton, Kennedy and Madison,

I am writing to recommend the selection of Florence Annang for the Community Police Oversight Commission.

I have known Florence since we worked together to advocate for street safety along the Fair Oaks corridor. What is outstanding to me about Florence is her combination of tireless commitment to the community with true leadership.

Florence leads by example. She is a community builder, an advocate, a cheerleader, and a visionary. She sees the ways the community can come together to create safety, and she will put in the work to make it happen.

Florence has a very high "Emotional IQ". She will be able to work constructively with all of the members of the Commission.

I urge you to select Florence Annang as a member of the Police Oversight Commission.

Thank you,

Blair Miller

Flores, Valerie

From: Mike Sanders
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 2:15 PM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Juliana Serrano for City of Pasadena Community Police Oversight Commission

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April 13, 2021

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to let you know that I strongly support Juliana Serrano becoming a member of the Community Police Oversight Committee for the City of Pasadena. Juliana has been working at All Saints Church in this arena for a long while and understands the issues. She is an excellent communicator, leader and woman of impeccable character.

I highly recommend Julianna for a position on the City of Pasadena's Community Police Oversight Commission. It would be a huge asset to the Commission to have Julianna Serrano representing the residents in our community.

Regards,

Mike Sanders
Pasadena Resident since birth

Pasadena, California. 91107-4916

I am writing in support of Juliana Serrano for a seat on the Pasadena Community Police Oversight Commission.

As an active parishioner at All Saints Church, I have worked closely with Juliana throughout her tenure. I have watched her skills develop and deepen during that time. Her involvement with local, state, and other issues broadened greatly over this time. She has a keen understanding of how the various parts the City of Pasadena function and interrelate. Juliana's role at All Saints calls upon her to develop strong community relationships. She also has in depth knowledge of county and state government and has working relationships with many officials. Juliana builds effective relationships at all levels.

As a lifelong supporter of peace and justice initiatives, Juliana is eminently qualified for this role. She is smart, fair, level headed. She would put her tireless energy into this effort.

Selecting her for this Commission would be a wise choice and one you will never regret.

Very Truly Yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Erica S. Tamblyn', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Erica S. Tamblyn

Flores, Valerie

From: Dan Huynh
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 3:27 PM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Public Safety Committee Item 1: Support for Community Candidates

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Dear Mayor Gordo and city council members Hampton, Kennedy, and Madison

I am writing in strong support of the candidates Florence Annang, Juliana Serrano, and Patrice Marshall Mckenzie for the community seats on the Community Police Oversight Commission. Throughout their many years of service and community organizing within Northwest Pasadena and the city at large, they have shown an unwavering dedication to making our city safer and more just. I urge you to nominate and confirm these civic leaders.

Thank you,
Dan
District 3

Flores, Valerie

From: David Beard
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 3:49 PM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: In support of Patrice Marshall McKenzie

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Dear committee members, I am writing you today as a life long resident of the city of Pasadena to voice my support for Patrice Marshall McKenzie to the Community Police Oversight Committee.

Patrice Marshall McKenzie is a product of Pasadena who has spent years giving back and making a difference within the community through AKA and other connections and organizations that serve the community.

Examples of her service include leading the successful \$516.3 million Measure O Bond campaign for the Pasadena Unified School District and being a team leader for the Pasadena Homeless Count. This makes her uniquely qualified for this role on the Pasadena Police Oversight Commission Committee.

Patrice Marshall McKenzie connects and engages with her community and will be a champion for their needs on the commission.

In addition to the above, Patrice Marshall McKenzie has extensive background and experience in public service, community engagement, and knowledgeable about local government.

Patrice Marshall McKenzie is fluent in serving, interacting, and leading diverse communities and working to facilitate consensus building and shared decision making.

Thank you for your careful consideration of her candidacy and for all that you do to keep our city safe, and to ensure people of all demographics are represented within our cities leadership.

Humbly submitted,
David W. Beard

Pasadena, Ca. 91103.

Flores, Valerie

From: Ruth Richardson
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 3:55 PM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Citizens Police Oversight Commission

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Hi,
My name is Ruth Richardson and I am representing the East Pasadena Indivisible group Rooted in Resistance. We are so proud that the City of Pasadena has finally agreed to allow our citizens to have oversight over the actions of the men and women policing our community. We have been very concerned about the problematic actions in the past of our police towards the you g people of color in this city. The members of Rooted in Resistance believe that:

The 3 Community Organization “POC” Seats should be filled by people of color!

The 3 Community Organization “POC” Seats should be organizations and their reps who have been doing the work of Police Reform publicly in the community!

The 3 Community Organization “POC” Seats should be organizations that are based in Pasadena!

We are personally supporting the NAACP Branch’s representative FLORENCE ANNANG and also Julianna Serrano, All Saints Church and Patrice Marshall McKenzie, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

We ask the Public Safety committee to choose organizations and their representatives to sit at the table WHO HAVE BEEN DOING THE WORK OF POLICE REFORM AND RACIAL JUSTICE!

It has taken a very long time to get to this point. The NAACP branch was instrumental through the forming and presenting to the community and our political class “The Bill Of Rights in the summer of 2020 with NDLO, that has brought us to a journey where we are now here at the beginning of Pasadena’s first Police Oversight Commission with a Independent auditor. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT ON THIS CRITICAL JOURNEY OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRUST FOR OUR COMMUNITY! WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER!

Ruth Richardson
Rooted in Resistance

Flores, Valerie

From: sue griffin
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 4:00 PM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Support for Patrice Marshall McKenzie -Pasadena Community Oversight Committee

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Good afternoon,

I will get to the point of my email. I wholeheartedly believe that Ms. Marshall-Mckenzie will be a great fit for the Community Oversight Committee because of her dedicated service to the community and the state of California at-large.

She is a fair person who stands for what is right for the area, and doesn't side with POC if they are in error. Patrice Marshall McKenzie connects and engages with her community and will be a champion for their needs on the commission. In addition to the above, Patrice Marshall McKenzie has extensive background and experience in public service, community engagement, and knowledgeable about local government. Patrice Marshall McKenzie is fluent in serving, interacting, and leading diverse communities and working to facilitate consensus building and shared decision making.

She will serve the community well!

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sue C. Griffin - Resident of Pasadena, California 91103

Flores, Valerie

From: Mark Maier
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 5:20 PM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Public comment for Public Safety Meeting April 15 Agenda item 1

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To Public Safety Committee Members:

I write in support of Juliana Serrano for a position on the Pasadena Community Police Oversight Commission. I have worked closely with Ms. Serrano on matters related to public policy in the City. I have found Ms. Serrano to be a level-headed yet compassionate citizen. She is ideally suited for the difficult tasks that lie ahead for this Oversight Commission bringing a much-needed viewpoint as a Latina.

Thank you for this consideration.
Mark Maier

Pasadena 91104

Flores, Valerie

From: Paul J
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 6:12 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Pasadena Public Safety Committee, April 14, 2021 - Support of Florence Annang to the Community Police Oversight Commission

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Mayor Gordo and Council Members Hampton, Kennedy and Madison,

I am writing in strong support of **Florence Annang** to be elected to the Community Police Oversight Commission.

The purpose of the Commission is to enhance, develop, and strengthen community-police relations, and review and make recommendations regarding the ongoing operations of the police department to the chief of police, city manager, and/or city council. By definition the members of the Commission need to be representative of the Pasadena Community and be involved in organizations that are involved in community and police reform.

I have known Florence for over 20 years, first through our Family Foundation's involvement in Harambee Ministries in Northwest Pasadena. I have followed Florence and supported her causes and been inspired ever since. Florence is a tireless and highly influential community leader and representative of the NAACP. Her participation on the Commission would signal true community representation.

Florence has dedicated her adult life to helping underserved youth thrive and pushing the City of Pasadena to realize its full potential of becoming a model community for all. I can think of no one better to serve on the Community Police Oversight Commission. I urge you to support her election.

Sincerely,

Paul C. Johnson
Pasadena Resident

Flores, Valerie

From: Mo Hyman
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 7:06 PM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Police Citizens Oversight | Support of Juliana Serrano

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Esteemed City Council Members:

I reside in Mr. Hampton's district, and I also serve the community as the Executive Director of College Access Plan.

I strongly support Juliana Serrano's application to serve on this committee. Given her extensive work on social justice and racial equity in our community and the level of respect afforded her by her peers, there is no one more qualified than she.

Finally, it is essential that our Latinx community is represented on this important body. Please select Juliana Serrano for service.

Monique Hyman

From the Desk of
Lois J Gaston

Duarte, CA 91010

E Mail

April 13, 2021

Mayor Victor Gordo and City Council Members,

This is a letter of recommendation in support of Florence Annang, a candidate for the Community Based Organization position on the Community Police Oversight Commission (CPOC).

Ms. Annang is an effective, dedicated Executive Board member of the NAACP Pasadena Branch #1054. I have known her in that capacity for more than ten (10) years. She exemplifies the unbiased, well rounded community service volunteer needed to fill this new position.

Florence has earned the respect and trust of much of the Pasadena and surrounding areas' diverse populations, including those of all ages, economic positions, and education backgrounds. Equally important is her relationship with an expanded network of racially diverse individuals and groups who reside, work and/or own businesses in Pasadena and Los Angeles County.

I have worked closely with Florence on the NAACP Pasadena's Executive Board and Finance Committee; observed her planning and organizing skills as a lead coordinator of the Ruby McKnight Williams Committee (our annual major fundraising event); observed her timely actions when she recommended programs that benefited small businesses and the elderly during the current pandemic; and witnessed her lead community-wide rallies that brought citizens and law enforcement together for productive dialogue and follow up that helped bring about peaceful

Ms. Annang is an outstanding NAACP member and will be an ideal CPOC member. She understands the root causes and the devastating effects of social injustice, inequality and bias. She values our citizens and our civil servants. This gives her an advantage that CPOC needs. She is a good listener who is in tune with persons whose voices are often not heard or considered. Flo is well informed and knowledgeable of the governing bodies, elected officials, public and private school administrators, religious leaders and social organization officers.

I highly recommend Florence Annang for this role. She is experienced in team building and communication techniques that help remove barriers of racial, religious, economic, gender and social discrimination through fairness and the democratic process. Please contact me direct at _____ or at _____ for additional information. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lois Gaston

Lois Gaston, NAACP Life Member
NAACP Pasadena Executive Board Member
Pasadena/Duarte ACT-SO Co-Chairperson
Former Mayor City of Duarte

City of Pasadena
Public Safety Committee

April 14, 2021

Dear friends,

I am writing in enthusiastic support of Juliana Serrano's appointment to the Police Oversight Commission as the leader of her sponsoring CBO. We sponsored her because we believe her presence is essential to the commission doing its work at the highest level.

Juliana has years of experience working on the state and local level on police oversight. Her experience is not just in knowledge of the issues but in building strong relationships across the spectrum of residents and public officials in Pasadena and the San Gabriel Valley. She is able to synthesize the lived experience of every segment of our city's population with the experience of police and civic officials. She understands both the current complexity and the varied history of policing, both locally and nationally. She is well versed on current movements of reform and the best thinking and practices coming from reform movements across the country.

As a team member, Juliana does not hesitate to acknowledge the limits of her knowledge, asks questions that break open the conversation and names elephants in the room. She is part of and deeply connected with the portions of our community that have experienced the brunt of police violence and will bring those concerns to the table in a passionate, practical and creative form.

Juliana has engaged and will continue to engage this work as a member of the staff of All Saints Church. It is not so important that All Saints be represented at the table – as opposed to some other community of faith – but it is important that her work and All Saints' position in the community has enabled her to build deep relationships across the multifaith and nonprofit communities in Pasadena and the San Gabriel Valley. It will not just be All Saints Church that Juliana brings to the table but countless other faith communities and organizations with which she has had and continues to have significant contact ... some of which All Saints founded and many of which All Saints Church is partners in ministry with.

All Saints Church has a generations-long commitment to courageous justice. That is a commitment that we do not hold by ourselves but share with an incredible network of communities and organizations throughout this region. Juliana Serrano has been a primary connecting tissue for that network for more than a decade. She is absolutely necessary for this Commission to do its best work and represent all of Pasadena. Thank you for your consideration of Juliana Serrano for this important position.

Faithfully,
The Rev. Mike Kinman
Rector, All Saints Church

Flores, Valerie

From: director Friends In Deed
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 7:09 AM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: In support of Juliana Serrano

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Dear City Council,

Now more than ever, the police oversight commission is so vitally important to the safety and security of our community. I can think of no better person to serve on this commission than Juliana Serrano.

Having known her for more than a decade, having worked with her in the community on several issues of justice, I know Juliana to be a fair person, yet firm in her beliefs. She is a listener and a doer. She's not afraid to stand up for what is right, even in the face of pressure. And, she is a Latina woman, which brings much needed diversity to such an important commission.

I strongly and proudly endorse the candidacy of my friend and partner in justice, Juliana Serrano, for the police oversight commission.

Sincerely,
Rabbi Joshua Levine Grater

--
Rabbi Joshua Levine Grater
Executive Director, Friends in Deed

Pasadena, CA 91104

pronouns: he/him/his

www.friendsindeedpas.org

'Doing Together What We Can't Do Alone'

Flores, Valerie

From: Sara Ligorria-Tramp
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 7:40 AM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Police Oversight Commission

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I'm writing to make known my support for Patrice Marshal, Julliana Serrano, and Florence Annang as the community based members of the Pasadena police oversight committee. It is vital that the members of the PPOC are rooted in our community, are representative of the people who live in our community, and understand the unique needs of the community. --

Sara Ligorria-Tramp

Flores, Valerie

From: Jeanette Mann
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 8:42 AM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Recommendation of Appointment of Juliana Serrano to Pasadena Community Oversight Committee

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Dear Committee Members,

My name is Jeanette Mann, and I am writing in support of recommending Juliana Serrano to the City Council for appointment to the Pasadena Community Oversight Committee. I believe Ms. Serrano is very well qualified for a this position because of her background and experience as a woman of color as well as her long history of social justice work as a Senior Associate for Peace and Justice at All Saints Church, and her service to the city and the community on the Coalition for Increased Civilian Oversight of the Pasadena Police, on the Pasadena Police Chief's Community Advisory Committee, and on the Executive Committee of Pasadenans Organizing for Progress.

As a former Trustee at Pasadena City College and a long-time active community member, I know how important it will be to have a Latina on the Community Oversight Committee. According to a recent study by UCLA, thirty-five percent of the people arrested by the Pasadena police are Latino; appointing a Latina to the Oversight Committee would send a very strong message to the member of the Latino community that they and their community are valued by the city, that they will be heard.

Several very well qualified women will be considered today by the Public Safety Committee—but I believe that Ms. Serrano is uniquely qualified and urge you to recommend her for appointment to the Pasadena Community Oversight Committee.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Mann

Pasadena, CA 91104

Flores, Valerie

From: Taylor Paez
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 9:38 AM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Public Safety comment 4/14/21

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Hello,

I'm writing to comment on agenda item #1 for the Public Safety Committee meeting today. I would like to express my support for Florence Annang, Julia Serrano, and Patrice Marshall McKenzie for the 3 Community Organization seats for the Police Oversight Commission. The seats should be filled by people of color who have been doing the work of police reform and racial justice within Pasadena. Pasadena's diversity is one of the things that makes it so great, and we need to be better at listening to the voices of the marginalized as we aim to be the best we can be.

Thank you,
Taylor Paez

Flores, Valerie

From: Sonja Berndt
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 9:39 AM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Public Safety Commission Meeting April 14, 2021– Correspondence on Agenda Item #1

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CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS AND NOMINATION OF COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES TO THE COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT COMMISSION*

Dear Members of the Public Safety Committee:

Based on the materials made available by this committee, the following two candidates are uniquely qualified to sit on the CPOC and should be nominated to the City Council:

Florence Annang – Ms. Annang has shown exceptional volunteerism in our City. She has vast experience and knowledge related to our African American and Latino populations and has earned their respect. She has exhibited a willingness to be the voice of the marginalized populations in our City. She has past experience as a bridge builder, participating in community discussions with our police department. Her application demonstrates her willingness to take on the hard work of ensuring fairness and transparency in the policing of all members of our community.

Juliana Serrano – Ms. Serrano has a long history of fighting for marginalized populations in our City and has experience working with diverse populations. She has vast knowledge of issues related to policing and the need for police reform through training, workshops and conferences as well as her participation in the Coalition for Increased Civilian Oversight of Pasadena Police and the Pasadena Police Chief’s Advisory Committee. She also has knowledge of mental health issues, which will be critical in examining policies and incidents related to persons experiencing homelessness who also suffer from mental illness. Finally, her list of specific objectives and goals of the Commission is exceptional and shows she has a unique understanding of the needs of our community as well as her role as commissioner.

Thank you.

Sonja K. Berndt
Pasadena

Flores, Valerie

From: Bonnie James
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 9:44 AM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Community Police Oversight Committee Hearing

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Hello Valerie, Mayor, and City Council Members,

I wanted to again write in to support Florence Annang and Julianna Serrano for the Community Police Oversight Committee. I also want to voice my support for Patrice McKenzie Marshall. These women are already doing work in our community to promote racial justice and police reform. I believe that electing these women of color onto the Community Police Oversight Committee will not only help foster trust and promote accountability between the community and police, but will also show that the Mayor and City Council members are also invested in building trust and accountability for the community and police.

Thank you for your time,
Bonnie James
District 5 resident

Flores, Valerie

From: Giancarlo DiMassa
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 9:53 AM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Juliana Serrano for Pasadena Community Police Oversight Commission

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I wanted to send a letter of strong support for Juliana Serrano to serve on the Pasadena Community Police Oversight Commission.

I am a Pasadena resident, and I have known Juliana for almost a decade through her work at All Saints Church. She is the Senior Associate for Peace and Justice at All Saints and works diligently to advocate for the marginalized in our community. Juliana has the ability to be fair, yet firm. She also has the important skill to see different sides of a situation.

I cannot say enough positives about Juliana and her work for our community. I hope you will select her for the Commission.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Giancarlo DiMassa

Pasadena, CA 91106

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Confidential Protected by California Evidence Code 1157

Fact Sheet
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated



Quick Facts

<i>Founded</i>	<i>January 15, 1908 at Howard University, Washington, DC</i>
<i>Incorporated</i>	<i>January 29, 1913</i>
<i>Motto</i>	<i>"By Culture and By Merit"</i>
<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Ivy Leaf</i>
<i>Colors</i>	<i>Salmon Pink and Apple Green</i>
<i>Official magazine</i>	<i>Ivy Leaf @ magazine, first published in 1921</i>
<i>Mission</i>	<i>"Service to all mankind"</i>
<i>Website</i>	<i>http://www.aka1908.com http://www.aka-elo.org</i>
<i>Social Media</i>	<i>Facebook: @akaelo1960 Twitter: @AKA_ELO1960 Instagram: @aka_elo1960</i>

Brief History of Alpha Kappa Alpha

Founded in 1908, **Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated** is America's first and oldest Greek-letter organization established by African-American college-educated women. Headquartered in Chicago, IL, it is one of the world's leading service organizations. Alpha Kappa Alpha's mission is to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards, promote unity and friendship among college women, to study and help alleviate problems concerning girls and women in order to improve their social stature, to maintain a progressive interest in college life and to be of service to all mankind. The Sorority serves all mankind through a nucleus of more than 300,000 women in 1026 in graduate and undergraduate chapters in 55 nations and in all 50 states.

Brief History of the Pasadena Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha

The Pasadena Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha (named Eta Lambda Omega) was chartered on March 6, 1960 by 32 women and celebrated 60 years of service in the City of Roses in 2020. Since its chartering, the Pasadena Chapter has worked to make a difference in our community and help it to be better because of AKA's involvement. Each year, the chapter donates over \$30,000 in scholarships to college bound students in the San Gabriel Valley with total giving exceeding a half million dollars. The Pasadena Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha has also been home to a number of members who have served locally on boards and commissions in Pasadena and Altadena, led numerous Pasadena community-based organizations, as well as held international leadership positions within the Sorority.

Pasadena Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Program Highlights

The chapter's current membership boasts 125 women who are working to make an impact in the greater Pasadena area by implementing and supporting programmatic and civic activities that include:

- Annual Scholarship Workshop to prepare 250+ students to successfully apply for and win competitive scholarship dollars for college. (now in its 15th consecutive year)
- Annual Career STEAMposium (500 participants in the first virtual event held March 2021)
- Hosted 10 Consecutive Annual Health Summit events to provide free screenings at Jackie Robinson Center for 10 years.

- Host Annual Food & Clothing Drives to benefit Union Station Homeless Services
- Support Caregivers & Essential Healthcare employees at Huntington Hospital in 2020
- Women's Hygiene & Diaper Drives
- Convening and Leading Partner Organizations via the NAACP Ad Hoc Committee, Pasadena Good Trouble Alliance to host a 7-part financial literacy workshop series
- Donate 300+ Backpacks Filled w/School Supplies to students at the Annual Holden Block Party & Resource Fair
- Donate 150+ Pairs of Shoes for Underserved Youth via Shoes that Fit Annually
- Host Voter Registration, Voter Educational Workshops, and Voter Outreach activities

The Pasadena Chapter has also been in integral in leading the organizing efforts of the Annual AKA Legislative Day at the State Capitol since 1999. Sorority members statewide attend and participate by providing testimony during hearings on bills of interest to the organizations' members and by engaging the legislative staff regarding pending legislation. Alpha Kappa Alpha's interest in the State of California's legislative agenda, its budget and electoral process is buoyed by its desire to have a positive impact on policies affecting the well-being of women, children and communities in which its members reside, and as it pertains to the Sorority's international program initiatives.

Alpha Kappa Alpha's 2018-2022 Program Targets

Alpha Kappa Alpha's current programmatic theme is *Exemplifying Excellence Through Sustainable Service*. Led by our International President, Dr. Glenda Glover, the Sorority will have an opportunity to address community needs with programs in five target areas. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® is dedicated to implementing programs of service that enhance the social, economic, and educational well-being of the local, national and international communities. Programs remain the heart of AKA. The size and scope of services provided to our communities have grown and significantly improve the quality of life for all who reside within our service areas.



The International Program includes five program targets that are designed to advance the mission of Alpha Kappa Alpha with excellence and underscore our commitment to sustainable service. The five program targets for 2018-2022 are:

- Target 1: HBCU for Life: A Call to Action**
- Target 2: Women's Healthcare and Wellness**
- Target 3: Building Your Economic Legacy**
- Target 4: The Arts!**
- Target 5: Global Impact**

The Signature Program is #CAPSM which is the abbreviation for College Admissions Process. It is designed to assist students in their efforts to enter college by providing a hands-on approach that includes all the steps from researching various colleges to actually completing the application process. In addition to the program targets, the Exemplifying Excellence Through Sustainable Service administration is pleased to continue Community Impact Days. Chapters will engage in simultaneous activities that will benefit the community and continue our commitment to lifelong service. A significant feature of this programmatic thrust is the launch of AKA UniversitySM! This exciting new platform will serve as the umbrella under which education, training, and leadership development will emerge so that members can enhance their personal development and provide more impactful service to the community.

Supporting Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Alpha Kappa Alpha will continue its focus on education with an emphasis on historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs).

- Chapters will promote and market historically black colleges and universities and encourage students to attend HBCUs as a sustainability measure. Activities will include researching and publishing information regarding prominent Alpha Kappa Alpha women and other notable individuals who attended HBCUs.
- Recognizing that HBCU funding is one of the primary obstacles that threaten the long-term growth and survival of HBCUs, members will be encouraged to financially support HBCUs. Alpha Kappa Alpha will implement an AKA HBCU Endowment Initiative in partnership with EAF, in which an endowed scholarship will be established at each accredited four-year HBCU. The goal is to stamp the Alpha Kappa Alpha brand of financial support on each HBCU campus to help students remain in school, complete their course of study, and receive their college degrees.

Supporting the #CAPSM Program/KAAP

Alpha Kappa Alpha will assist students as they seek admission to college by providing guidance and support in completing the application and enrollment process through the 2018-2022 Signature Program, #CAPSM.

Too many African-American high school students lack the basic support needed to navigate through the college admissions process. Through #CAPSM, chapters will partner with local high schools and youth groups to bridge the gap between high school and college by demystifying the college application and enrollment process. This educational initiative will extend to all colleges and universities, both HBCUs and non-HBCUs.

#CAPSM is a step-by-step approach to facilitate college admission from researching various institutions and submitting applications through completion of the enrollment process. Chapters will assist students in completing college applications, preparing for the ACT and SAT, writing compelling personal statements, identifying scholarships and other financial aid, and compiling a portfolio to track college admission results. Through #CAPSM, Alpha Kappa Alpha will improve the trajectory of the lives of talented young people by increasing their potential for success and laying the foundation for positive, productive, and fulfilling lives.

Supporting Women's Health Issues and Wellness

Alpha Kappa Alpha will continue to raise community awareness of critical health issues impacting African-American women. The primary focuses will be breast cancer awareness and prevention, heart health, nutrition and wellness, and care for the caregivers.

- **Breast Cancer Awareness and Prevention** will focus specifically on early detection through mammograms to improve the survival rate of women diagnosed with breast cancer. Alpha Kappa Alpha will own a digital AKA Mobile Breast Cancer Screening Unit that will travel to various locations and provide mammogram screening. Chapters will partner with local clinics, rural health centers, and hospitals to emphasize the need for African-American women to receive regular mammograms.
- **Heart Health** remains a focus as the sorority enhances its commitment to healthy hearts through fitness activities and walking. Chapters will be encouraged to form walking clubs and to invite the community to join the walking initiatives.
- **Nutrition and Wellness** will emphasize healthy lifestyles including prenatal, childhood, adult, and senior nutrition programs. The focus will be on structured nutrition initiatives, and chapters will partner with local nutritionists and dieticians to design healthy eating plans and safe diets for longer, healthier living.
- **Care for the Caregivers** places emphasis on taking care of those who take care of others. Chapters will emphasize the need for caregivers to practice preventive healthcare as well as self-care behavior to eliminate the vulnerabilities and risks associated with the stress of caregiving.

Financial Freedom Legacy Workshops

Alpha Kappa Alpha will emphasize financial planning, asset accumulation, and wealth building including savings and investments, managing debt, and improving credit.

- **Personal Financial Planning and Asset Accumulation.** Financial Freedom Legacy Workshops will be conducted in partnership with local certified financial planners who will share information on saving, investing, and retirement planning. Chapters will train community residents on ways to perform financial assessments to achieve their financial goals.
- **Credit Repair and Monitoring.** This initiative will focus on ways to repair credit and improve credit scores including how to check for inaccurate or outdated information in credit reports, and how to protect against both identity theft and unauthorized credit history use.
- **Entrepreneurship and the Black Dollar 365.** This initiative will highlight and promote successful African-American owned businesses with an aim toward spawning new entrepreneurial ventures in our communities by encouraging intentional support and leveraging the power of the black dollar 365 days a year.
- **Operation AKA Assist.** This initiative will focus on implementing programs to assist those in need in various communities by directing attention to the plight of the homeless, including homeless children, and homeless veterans. Chapters will partner with or adopt a shelter, a transitional home or an organization that provides assistance to these needy populations.

Arts and Culture

Alpha Kappa Alpha will expose students to arts enrichment and culture by focusing on visual and performing arts and by showcasing talent through the exploration of writers, entertainers and various other artists.

- **Salute to the Harlem Renaissance** will celebrate the contributions of African-American artists during the Harlem Renaissance through student research and chapter sponsorship of student talent showcases. This initiative will correlate with HBCUs and African-American culture and will include colleges with art collections.
- **Salute to the Black Arts Movement** will focus on student research and celebration of African-American artists during the Black Arts Movement. Chapters will champion activities that express the movement message and highlight members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority who served as leaders and participants. Activities will include art events, poetry slams, dancing, painting, and performing arts.

International Impact

Alpha Kappa Alpha will engage in programming designed to enhance the international footprint of the sorority.

- **National Global Impact Day.** Chapters will engage in a community service project that has an international impact and will partner with organizations that make a difference worldwide.
- **Global Assistance Activities.** Chapters will engage in global partnerships that provide assistance to the underserved in international areas populated with people of color. These partnerships include: **Soles 4 Souls.** Chapters will collect gently-worn shoes and transport the shoes to specified locations. Soles4Souls mission is to create sustainable jobs and provide relief through the distribution of shoes around the world.

Lions Club International. Chapters will participate in an eyeglass initiative designed to prevent blindness, help restore eyesight, and improve eye health and eye care for millions of people around the world by donating used eyeglasses in partnership with local Lions Clubs.

Pillowcase Project. Chapters will continue to use pillowcases to make dresses for little girls and will expand the sorority's efforts to include shirts for little boys. The pillowcase dresses and shirts will be sent to Haiti to provide clothing for children in need.

- **Refugees in America Assistance Program (RAAP).** Chapters will focus on refugees of color in the United States by partnering with organizations engaged in support activities that assist refugees and their families to integrate into American life. This includes literacy classes, educational training, and other necessary transitional support.

Flores, Valerie

From: Zachary Hoover
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 11:46 AM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Public Comment in support of Juliana Serrano for Police Oversight Commission

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Dear Pasadena City Leaders:

I speak to you today as the Executive Director of LA Voice, a faith based organization working with over 75 congregations across LA County, including the City of Pasadena, on issues of housing, justice reform, immigration, and racial equity. I am also a member and Chair of the Board of Deacons, Emeritus at First Baptist Church of Pasadena under the leadership of Pastor John Jay Alvaro.

I have known Ms. Serrano for eight years. In that time, I have come to know her as a thoughtful, powerful, clear headed advocate for the transformation of systems that do not serve all people's humanity. We have worked together in faith settings and on issues of officer involved shootings, among other things. She has over a decade living and serving in Pasadena and is close to the ground—exactly what you want in a healthy oversight body—rather than interested in her own positioning. Juliana would bring her experience as a woman of color from an immigrant family with her to this leadership role, something we can all agree we need more of in our governmental bodies. As a former county Probation Commission member, I know that the task of this oversight body will not be easy. It will require difficult negotiations, tension, and disappointing both the public and the elected leaders of the city from time to time. I believe that Ms. Serrano would be a powerful and effective, dedicated and disciplined servant of the people of Pasadena in this role. My experience tells me she will welcome partnership with community, police, electeds, and bureacratic leaders to further the goals of human dignity and racial equity in our beloved city. I pray that this endeavor is successful and believe it is more likely to be so with people like Juliana forming the body. With respect, Rev. Zachary Hoover

Rev. Zachary Hoover
Executive Director, LA Voice
Member, PICO California
Faith in Action Nat'l Network

Flores, Valerie

From: Pam Cosse
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 11:51 AM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: Public Safety Committee - Community Police Oversight Commission April 14, 2021 @ 4:00 pm

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To whom it may concern:

Please find my correspondence/comments regarding the Community Police Oversight Commission regarding Dr. Alexis Abernethy.

Thank you.

Pamela Finney Cosse

Dr. Alexis Abernethy is just what the Community Police Oversight Commission needs. Having served alongside Alexis in the Pasadena-Altadena Chapter of The Links, Incorporated I can attest to her many qualities that make her hands down the best and most qualified for the Oversight Commission. With the cry around the nation of police accountability with citizen involvement by selecting Alexis she will bring an authenticity to the committee. Besides the obvious, that she is a proud and unapologetically African American women, she is also highly educated (but relatable) with a PhD in clinical psychology who regularly serves the community through various nonprofit organizations. However, one quality that shines through is her heart for people. Her compassion, fairness, willingness to entertain all sides and openness allows her to build trust in various situations. As you've heard from others, read about her previous pertinent experiences, etc. she is definitely the best qualified. If ever there was a time to select a candidate who can help bring accountability and transparency to police oversight now is the time with Alexis being the correct choice. I look forward to congratulating Alexis and the commission on her selection. Thank you.

Flores, Valerie

From: Jerzy Messan
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 11:58 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment on Behalf of Hood Liberation

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City of Pasadena,

On behalf of Hood Liberation, I am submitting the following for my comment card:

The 3 Community Org. "POC" Seats should be filled by organizers of from communities of color!

The 3 Community Org. "POC" Seats should be filled by organizations and their representatives who have worked on police reform and racial justice publicly in the community!

The 3 Community Org. "POC" Seats should be filled by organizations based on Pasadena!

My choices are Patrice McKenzie Marshall, Julianna Serrano, and Florence Annang for members of the Police Oversight Commission.

Best,

Jerzy Messan

--

Jerzy Messan

Pronouns: He/Him/His

Site Coordinator | UCLA Vice-Provost Initiative for Pre-College (VIP) Scholars Program

Flores, Valerie

From: Cybele Garcia Kohel
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 11:59 AM
To: Flores, Valerie
Cc: pop@poppasadena.org
Subject: Public Safety Committee comments 4-14-21

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Ms. Flores,

Please include my comments with the public comments for the Public Safety Committee meeting today.

I am a resident of NW Pasadena, and I strongly support BIPOC women be appointed to the Community Police Oversight Commission. In particular, nominees Annang and Serrano have direct experience in policing issues, and the specific local contextual knowledge needed. I urge they be appointed to the Commission.

Sincerely,
Cybele Garcia Kohel
District 3, 91104

Cybele Garcia Kohel, MSC
Poet, Writer, Cultural Worker

Please read my latest: <https://www.culturalweekly.com/acknowledgement-on-race-and-land/>

4/14/21

Dear Members of the Public Safety Committee,

I highly recommend Juliana Serrano as a representative from All Saints Church for appointment to the Community Police Oversight Commission.

Juliana has the skill, experience, and community connections to engage in the work of the commission. In her current position as the Senior Associate for Peace & Justice and the Office for Creative Connections, Juliana has become deeply embedded in the Pasadena community and created a wide-ranging network of individuals and organizations, making her a trusted and effective liaison to receive feedback and complaints from the community. She has actively engaged in the work of strengthening community-police relations for several years, which includes working towards the accountability of those tasked with the safety and well-being of all who live, work, and participate in the community life of Pasadena.

Of note, Juliana has engaged in and led the often-difficult work of changing cultural and organizational norms as a facilitator, liaison, and participant. I have personally partnered with and benefitted from Juliana's facilitation and ability to address difficult conversations and topics with clarity, compassion, and commitment to long-term outcomes.

As the Junior Warden of All Saints Church, I am exceedingly proud to have Juliana Serrano represent our church, congregation, and community. One of the central values of All Saints is Courageous Justice, and her participation on the commission is a direct expression of our commitment to "audacious examination and challenging of power and privilege in the world and in our church; to pursue truth relentlessly, not for retribution but toward trust and reconciliation." Trust and reconciliation – the ideal that we strive for and will not rest until we achieve. While I believe that its important to the values of All Saints to have Juliana participate on the commission, its even more important for the well-being of the community to have her perspective and talent serving us all in this role.

Sincerely,

Julianne Hines
Pasadena, CA 91107

Flores, Valerie

From: Ada Ramirez
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 12:33 PM
To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: On selecting Juliana Serrano as member of Pasadena Police Commission

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Dear Safety Committee Members,

My name is Ada Ramirez and I have lived in Pasadena for almost 6 years. I have the distinct pleasure of having worked with Ms. Juliana Serrano, she was my direct supervisor at All Saints Church here in Pasadena, for 5 years.

Juliana Serrano is a woman of action, a thoughtful, courageous and intelligent leader and activist. Her attention to detail, her ability to listen in the deepest sense of the word and analyze information along with her sense of justice make her an ideal candidate for this position.

In addition, the fact that she is a woman of color, gives her a much needed perspective within our local government and police department.

I truly hope you select Juliana to be a member of this commission, her ability to discern and communicate will be assets for this newly created commission.

Sincerely,

--

Ada Ramirez
English / Spanish Interpreter and Translator
Spanish Copy Editor and Proofreader