

## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

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**From:** Bridgette Ramirez  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 10, 2022 3:20 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; Gordo, Victor; De La Cuba, Vannia; Stewart, Jana; Mellem, Araceli; Hampton, Tyron; Bell, Cushon; Williams, Felicia; Dyson, Darla; Kennedy, John J.; Porras, Susana; Masuda, Gene; Sullivan, Noreen; Rivas, Jessica; Morales, Margo; Madison, Steve; Suzuki, Takako; Wilson, Andy; Thyret, Pam; Flores, Valerie; Community Police Oversight Commission; onhstaff@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Justice for #ANTHONYMCCLAIN. 4/10/22

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Pasadena Mayor and City Councilmembers,

Hear the voices of the people! I believe it is never too late to do the right thing. It is not too late for justice in this case.

On August 15, 2020, Pasadena police officer Edwin Dumaguindin shot Anthony McClain in the back as he fled the scene of a traffic stop for a vehicle that he was not driving. As Anthony lay on the ground, injured with gunshot wounds, a second Pasadena police officer, Ronald Soreno, knelt on his back, not rendering Anthony lifesaving medical aid in this moment, but instead causing him additional, fatal harm. #AnthonyMcClain was murdered by the Pasadena Police Department in August of 2020. Over one year later, the City of Pasadena has failed to hold any of the parties involved accountable.

We, the community, ask: What are you waiting for?

How can it be that more than one year later the officers who killed #AnthonyMcClain have received no disciplinary action? How is it that, much like #GeorgeFloyd, what we have seen on video is not enough to say that the behavior of these officers was completely unacceptable and warrants their no longer patrolling the streets of Pasadena as “servants” of the public?

**We urgently demand that the officers who murdered #AnthonyMcClain be fired immediately.**

It is apparent that former Police Chief John Perez chose the interest of the police department over the residents of Pasadena. It is still unclear whether or not an investigation into these officers’ conduct was ever performed during his tenure and/or what the outcome was. Chief Perez failed to do his job and certainly failed to do it satisfactorily. He failed to lead a police force that knows how not to shoot residents in the back and then how not to kneel on their bleeding bodies.

Likewise, it is also apparent that the City Manager, Steve Mermell, chose in his tenure not to discipline any of his police personnel, nor to ensure that their conduct was to the standard of the City’s residents. He has allowed the Pasadena police department to act with a complete and total lack of supervision.

**We demand that the incoming Police Chief and incoming City Manager demonstrate that they will hold the Pasadena Police Department accountable by firing the officers who murdered Anthony McClain.**

The time for accountability is long overdue—it is NOW. The lives of your Black residents are at stake. We urge you to act.

Signed,

Bridgette Ramirez

RECEIVED

Ken Kules' Comments – City Council 4-11-2022 Agenda Item #12  
OVERVIEW OF INVESTIGATIONS OF POLICE OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTINGS

2022 APR 11 AM 9:17

The investigation of the Anthony McClain incident has not been as thorough as it should have been and further investigation should be conducted. Specific areas of concern include:

- The summaries of key witness statements were contradictory and confusing
- There are potential witnesses that were not interviewed
- The circumstances surrounding recovery and investigation of the firearm have not been fully explored
- Critical video recordings from body cameras have not been made public

The summaries of key witness statements were contradictory and confusing

Witness 4 "...saw a man, who appeared to be chasing another man, running south on Raymond Avenue. The man had a black gun in his hand and was wearing a white T-shirt, black back-pack or vest, and black pants." It's unclear which man she was referring to as having a "black gun in his hand." The description doesn't fit either Officer Dumaguindin or Mr. McClain: Dumaguindin wore black pants and black shirt and McClain did not have a black back pack/vest.

Witness 8 appears to be the source of the assertion in PPD's Incident Video that "a witness provided a voluntary and recorded statement confirming that they were within close proximity at the time of this incident and they saw the individual who was running from the police throw the firearm." The statements in the DA's report differ from that assertion:

*"Uh, he ran by my window, like blood; he was already shot by the time he got by my window."  
Witness 8 explained to [Officer] Gordon that she could tell he was bleeding because he was wearing a white shirt. Witness 8 then stated, "I didn't - I didn't see him throw anything, though. I was told that was what happened cause I seen it [the firearm] after the fact."*

It is difficult to understand exactly what the witness saw that led her to draw the conclusion that Mr. McClain threw a firearm (her statement suggests that attention was focused on Mr. McClain instead of looking in the direction of the trajectory of a firearm being thrown over the roof of the car and across the street).

There are potential witnesses that were not interviewed

A man wearing white shirt & black shorts shown in the La Pintaresca Park surveillance video<sup>1</sup> in frame marked 19:53:52 was watching from a position directly across the street from Mr. McClain's position (see Attachment 1). He was only about 5 feet from the place that the first "dark mark" in that video appeared and in frame marked 19:54:10 - 18 seconds later - he can be seen standing at the curb only a

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<sup>1</sup> Building Surveillance Video posted at <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/police/archive-critical-incident-briefings/critical-incident-ois-20008867-august-15-2020/>

few feet from the final position of the firearm that was shown in the DA's report. His testimony would be vital to the investigation.

There was also a woman that is shown getting out of her car as Mr. McLain was running by in frame marked 19:53:52 that would have had the best view of Mr. McClain's actions and would be a key witness regarding whether Mr. McClain threw a gun across the street.



The circumstances surrounding recovery and investigation of the firearm have not been fully explored

The DA's report says that "At 8:05 p.m., PPD Officer Connor Duncan located a firearm near the west curb of Raymond Avenue..." At 03:09:32 (8:09:32 p.m.) in the Officer #3 video<sup>2</sup> - 4-1/2 minutes after the firearm was reported to have been found - the area where the firearm was reported to be found can be seen:



<sup>2</sup> Officer #3 BWC posted at <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/police/archive-critical-incident-briefings/critical-incident-ois-20008867-august-15-2020/>

It appears that there are people in the area but there are no signs of an ongoing investigation of a found firearm on the west side of Raymond Avenue and investigations appear to be focused on the east side of Raymond Avenue.

The La Pintaresca Park surveillance video ends at 20:05:20 (about 8:05 p.m.) and, in the last 10 frames (27 seconds), Officer Duncan can be seen searching the area where the firearm was reported to be found (see Attachment 2). In the second-to-last frame he shines his light at the location of the dark spot in the street but he doesn't bend over to look more closely at the ground. The last frame shows him shining his light away from the dark spot area. An examination of later portions of the video can help explain the circumstances surrounding the collection of that crucial evidence and the extended video should be shared on the PPD incident web site.

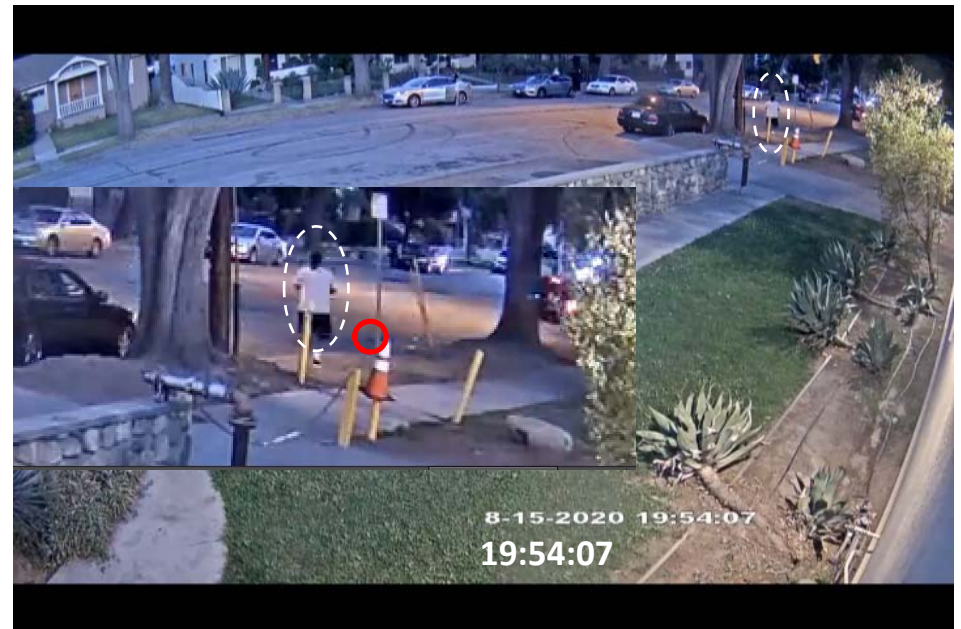
Critical video recordings from body cameras have not been made public

The body camera videos of Officers Duncan, Montiglio and McFarland that are central to the DA's investigation should be made available on PPD's incident web site.

# Attachment 1: Witness that was near the dark spots



Attachment 1 (cont.): Witness that was near the dark spots

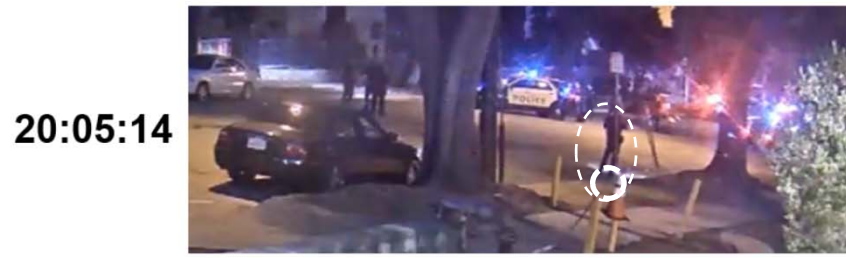
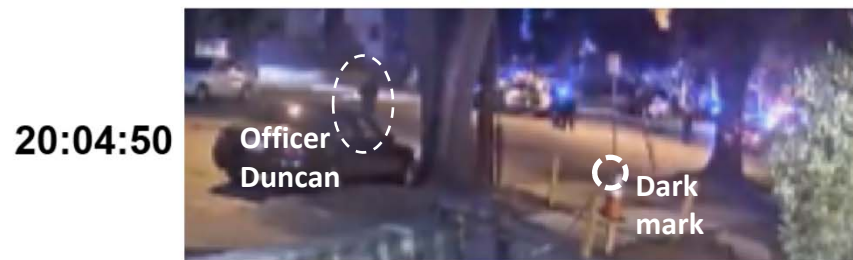


Attachment 1 (cont.): Witness that was near the dark spots





# Attachment 2: Magnified Portions of La Pintoresca Park Surveillance Camera Video Frames



## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

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**From:** Janee Lennox  
**Sent:** Monday, April 11, 2022 2:58 PM  
**To:** Mellem, Araceli; Wilson, Andy; Bell, Cushon; PublicComment-AutoResponse; Community Police Oversight Commission; Dyson, Darla; Williams, Felicia; Masuda, Gene; Stewart, Jana; Rivas, Jessica; Kennedy, John J.; Morales, Margo; Sullivan, Noreen; onhstaff@gmail.com; Thyret, Pam; Madison, Steve; Porras, Susana; Hampton, Tyron; Suzuki, Takako; De La Cuba, Vannia; Flores, Valerie; Gordo, Victor

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Pasadena Mayor and City Councilmembers,

On August 15, 2020, Pasadena police officer Edwin Dumaguindin shot Anthony McClain in the back as he fled the scene of a traffic stop for a vehicle that he was not driving. As Anthony lay on the ground, injured with gunshot wounds, a second Pasadena police officer, Ronald Soreno, knelt on his back, not rendering Anthony lifesaving medical aid in this moment, but instead causing him additional, fatal harm. #AnthonyMcClain was murdered by the Pasadena Police Department in August of 2020. Over one year later, the City of Pasadena has failed to hold any of the parties involved accountable.

We, the community, ask: What are you waiting for?

How can it be that more than one year later the officers who killed #AnthonyMcClain have received no disciplinary action? How is it that, much like #GeorgeFloyd, what we have seen on video is not enough to say that the behavior of these officers was completely unacceptable and warrants their no longer patrolling the streets of Pasadena as “servants” of the public?

**We urgently demand that the officers who murdered #AnthonyMcClain be fired immediately.**

It is apparent that former Police Chief John Perez chose the interest of the police department over the residents of Pasadena. It is still unclear whether or not an investigation into these officers’ conduct was ever performed during his tenure and/or what the outcome was. Chief Perez failed to do his job and certainly failed to do it satisfactorily. He failed to lead a police force that knows how not to shoot residents in the back and then how not to kneel on their bleeding bodies.

Likewise, it is also apparent that the City Manager, Steve Mermell, chose in his tenure not to discipline any of his police personnel, nor to ensure that their conduct was to the standard of the City’s residents. He has allowed the Pasadena police department to act with a complete and total lack of supervision.

**We demand that the incoming Police Chief and incoming City Manager demonstrate that they will hold the Pasadena Police Department accountable by firing the officers who murdered Anthony McClain.**

The time for accountability is long overdue—it is NOW. The lives of your Black residents are at stake. We urge you to act.

Signed,  
JL

## **McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)**

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**From:** Camile Lewis  
**Sent:** Monday, April 11, 2022 3:02 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** ANTHONY MCCLAIN

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**We Want The Officer Who MURDERED ANTHONY MCCLAIN FIRED!!!  
That Officer Shouldn't Be Working Any "Beat" In Pasadena!!!**

Sent from my iPhone

## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

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**From:** Kareena K  
**Sent:** Monday, April 11, 2022 3:48 PM  
**To:** Mellem, Araceli; Wilson, Andy; Bell, Cushon; PublicComment-AutoResponse; Community Police Oversight Commission; Dyson, Darla; Williams, Felicia; Masuda, Gene; Stewart, Jana; Rivas, Jessica; Kennedy, John J.; Morales, Margo; Sullivan, Noreen; onhstaff@gmail.com; Thyret, Pam; Madison, Steve; Porras, Susana; Hampton, Tyron; Suzuki, Takako; De La Cuba, Vannia; Flores, Valerie; Gordo, Victor  
**Subject:** SAY HIS NAME. JUSTICE FOR #ANTHONYMCCLAIN.

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Pasadena Mayor and City Councilmembers,

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**We demand that the incoming Police Chief and incoming City Manager demonstrate that they will hold the Pasadena Police Department accountable by firing the officers who murdered Anthony McClain.**

The time for accountability is long overdue—it is NOW. The lives of your Black residents are at stake. We urge you to act.

Signed,

Kareena K.  
91101

**Jomsky, Mark**

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**Subject:** FW: Item #12: Police related shootings

**From:**

**Sent:** Monday, April 11, 2022 3:53 PM

**To:** Gordo, Victor <vgordo@cityofpasadena.net>; Madison, Steve <smadison@cityofpasadena.net>; Rivas, Jessica <jerivas@cityofpasadena.net>; Masuda, Gene <gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net>; Williams, Felicia <fwilliams@cityofpasadena.net>; Hampton, Tyron <THampton@cityofpasadena.net>; Kennedy, John J. <JohnJKennedy@cityofpasadena.net>; PublicComment-AutoResponse <publiccomment@cityofpasadena.net>

**Subject:** Item #12: Police related shootings

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Dear Mayor and City Council members,

I live in Northwest Pasadena, an area of the city where most police-involved shootings and beatings take place and where racial profiling by police is common. I am writing to urge you to take seriously California AB 392, which took effect in Jan. 1, 2020. It says that lethal force should be used only "when necessary in defense of human life" and prohibits police from firing on fleeing felons who don't pose an immediate danger. AB 392 also encourages officers to employ alternative, less lethal methods and de-escalation tactics.

In keeping with this law, I urge you to fire Officer Dumaguindan who shot Anthony McClain in the back while running away. While this killing was declared lawful by the District Attorney, this officer did not show the kind of judgment and self-restraint that should be required of police officers in our city. I agree with Council member Hampton who said that a police officer doesn't have to be found guilty of murder to be fired.

I also deplore the savage beating of Christopher Ballew, who was stopped by Pasadena police in Altadena for having tinted windows in his car. A video shows Pasadena police savagely beating this unarmed black man in a fit of rage and using the f word repeatedly as they broke his leg. The officers who committed this egregious act were not disciplined. It should therefore come as no surprise that residents of Altadena are speaking out against the violence of Pasadena police.

I was also appalled by the killing of Reginald Thomas, a mentally ill father of five who was taidered to death when his family called for help in the middle of the night, and also by the killing of Kendrec McDade, an unarmed young Black man.

The police who committed these acts of unwarranted violence were not disciplined and still remain on the force. The message is clear: police can kill and brutalize with impunity in Pasadena. It is time for the City Council to make it unmistakably clear that unwarranted use of force by Pasadena police will not be tolerated. An important first step: Fire Officer Dumaguindan.

Respectfully,

Anthony Manousos

## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

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**From:** Sarah Briuer Boland  
**Sent:** Monday, April 11, 2022 4:41 PM  
**To:** Mellem, Araceli; Wilson, Andy; Bell, Cushon; PublicComment-AutoResponse; Community Police Oversight Commission; Dyson, Darla; Williams, Felicia; Masuda, Gene; Stewart, Jana; Rivas, Jessica; Kennedy, John J.; Morales, Margo; Sullivan, Noreen; onhstaff@gmail.com; Thyret, Pam; Madison, Steve; Porras, Susana; Hampton, Tyron; Suzuki, Takako; De La Cuba, Vannia; Flores, Valerie; Gordo, Victor  
**Subject:** Accountability

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DA Gascon will not press charges but we demand you hold your police officers accountable for murdering Anthony McClain. Fire Edwin Dumaguindin and his team. NOW.

Bring back in-person city council meetings.

Return public comment to the start of the meeting. This unilateral move by Mayor Gordo is an egregious attempt to silence us but as long as you refuse to listen we will keep demanding, louder and more vociferously.

History will not look kindly upon your violation of democratic principals and human rights. Or do you not think that black lives are human and deserving of protection?

--  
"...the changes we have to have in this country are going to be for liberation of all people--because nobody's free until everybody's free." Fannie Lou Hamer

## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

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**From:** Una Lee Jost  
**Sent:** Monday, April 11, 2022 5:07 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; Flores, Valerie; vedlacuba@cityofpasadena.net; Bell, Cushon; Dyson, Darla; Porras, Susana; Sullivan, Noreen; Morales, Margo; Suzuki, Takako; Thyret, Pam  
**Subject:** 2022-04-11 Pasadena City Council Meeting - Public Comment, Agenda 12  
**Attachments:** CAPTA\_AdvocacyGoals\_2021-23.pdf; NPTA\_PositionStatement\_SayTheirNames.pdf

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[NOTE: Please disregard my email correspondence sent earlier today as it included the incorrect date in the subject heading. My apologies for any inconvenience.]

Dear Councilmembers,

I'm Una Lee Jost, PUSD parent, and longtime resident of Pasadena, District 4.

I'm also a member of the PTA, the nation's largest volunteer-led child advocacy association working to drive improvements in the education, health and well-being of all children and families.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Agenda 12, "Overview of Investigations of Police Officer-Involved Shootings."

I'm troubled to hear the County will not bring any charges for the killing of Anthony McClain that occurred during a traffic stop in 2020.

This was a tragic end to the life of 32-year-old Anthony McClain, a Black father of three minor children who are still grieving his death today.

I would like to highlight several PTA statements adopted in recent years.

The State PTA's Advocacy Goals includes commitments to:

"Advocate to achieve justice for all children, youth and families to have their essential needs met"; and

"Advocate for shared power and belonging for all children, youth and families to address the impacts of systemic and institutionalized injustice."

In the wake of the national 2020 George Floyd protests described by Amnesty International as "the largest social movement in U.S. history,"

the National PTA also adopted a Position Statement entitled:

"Say Their Names: Addressing Systemic or Institutional Racism."



In the Statement, the PTA recognized that action at the local level has direct impact on our communities, and called for working to ensure more comprehensive guidelines and training are required on the use of force by law enforcement officers.

Says the PTA,

“We can eradicate racism and social injustices when we unite as a community regardless of skin color, race, language or culture.

PTA reaffirms our commitment to advocate for all children, including and specifically for Black and Brown children to eliminate the negative impacts of institutional racism.”

I therefore add my voice in support of the requests of Pasadenans Organizing for Progress (POP!) and its Coalition for Increased Civilian Oversight of Pasadena Police (CICOPP), a volunteer organization that actively supports constitutional policing and works to bring greater transparency and accountability of Pasadena’s Police Department (PPD) to the public, and whose members include:

- ACLU SoCal/Pasadena Chapter;
- Interdenominational Ministerial Association;
- All Saints Church, Office of Community Connections; and
- Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice.

Specifically, I add my voice in urging the Council to:

**SUPPORT** the recommendation of the Community Police Oversight Commission with regards to selection of the Independent Police Auditor (IPA) to advise the Commission.

A partnership of the Oversight Commission and the IPA is critical for the work ahead, so it’s imperative the Council show and give a clear signal of support for our Oversight Commission and the Commission’s recommendations.

Thank you for your consideration.



# Our mission is to **POSITIVELY** **IMPACT** the lives of **ALL CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

## **ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS 2021-23**

- Build and sustain school communities where everyone feels welcome and valued by promoting, practicing, and embracing inclusiveness at all levels of PTA with a focus on diversity and equity.
- Represent, inform, and mobilize members and the public to advocate for the protection, education, health, safety, and well-being of all children and youth.
- Strengthen our voice for children, youth and families by rebuilding, retaining, and increasing membership.
- Support and develop leaders.
- Promote and build collaborative and inclusive family engagement to create positive outcomes for every child and youth.
- Serve our members through relevant programs to honor our legacy of improving the lives of children, youth, and families.

## **ADVOCACY GOALS 2021-23**

- Advocate to achieve justice for all children, youth and families to have their essential needs met.
- Advocate for shared power and belonging for all children, youth and families to address the impacts of systemic and institutionalized injustice.
- Advocate for a full and culturally responsive curriculum to meet the diverse needs of our student population.
- Elevate the student voice to create an inclusive, positive and supportive school climate.
- Promote physical and mental wellness beginning in early childhood.
- Advocate for stable and sustainable public school resources to bring California within the top 10 states in per-pupil funding.

*California State PTA connects families, schools and communities. We are part of the foundation of our public-education system and a trusted messenger to millions of members, parents, families, educators and allied agencies throughout the state. PTA is the nation's largest volunteer-led child-advocacy association working to drive improvements in the education, health and well-being of all children and families.*



**California State**  
**PTA**  
everychild.one voice.®

For more information and resources, visit [www.capta.org](http://www.capta.org).

## SAY THEIR NAMES: ADDRESSING INSTITUTIONAL OR SYSTEMIC RACISM

Institutional racism is racism embedded as a routine practice within society or an organization, cumulatively and disparately impacting historically disadvantaged peoples.

Ongoing institutional racism and deeply embedded injustices, prejudices and inequities in the fabric of our nation have caused the violent deaths of innocent Black and Brown men, women and children over the years at the hands of a percentage of police officers and ordinary citizens.

National PTA stands firmly against racism in all forms and the culture of oppression that permeates the United States. As an association that represents all children, we must **listen**, **educate** and **advocate** beyond rhetoric and rise to correct all inequities and injustices.

In 1970, the National Congress of Parents and Teachers and the National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers came together as one association because they understood the power of unity in our efforts. In the spirit of that unity, let us come together at all levels—national, state and local—to examine our policies, procedures and programs and eliminate any practices that disenfranchise or discourage Black and Brown families. We must look within ourselves and then call upon all other institutions to do the same if we are to end the practices that so adversely affect our children.

National PTA recognizes that African Americans have suffered from institutional racism for over 400 years. While civil rights legislation and grassroots advocacy have created progress, recent events compel us to recognize additional work is needed. As a nation born out of a need to be liberated and free to live out our true creed, we must acknowledge that racism is a learned behavior. We believe in fundamental human rights and loudly condemn systems that impede any individual's right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness as unconstitutional. Further, we view the systemic harm, abuse and attack on individuals and communities of color and other marginalized groups in the United States reprehensible and as civil rights violations.

As a nation, we continue to suffer from a legacy of racial division, dismissiveness, dissension and skepticism, failing to remedy past sins. This continued suffering raises profound questions in generation after generation regarding fairness and integrity in all of our institutions as they relate to Black and Brown communities.

National PTA believes that it is our duty to disrupt the systems that propagate institutional racism. We call upon our PTA members to **listen**, **educate** and **advocate** to demand meaningful change to end institutional racism. Our efforts must be intentional, purposeful and relentless until every individual enjoys the freedoms guaranteed to all Americans.

*Position Statement: Say Their Names: Addressing Institutional or Systemic Racism*

*Adopted: July 2020*

**Listen**

National PTA and its constituent associations must work with community-based organizations whose mission and purpose are to address and dismantle deeply rooted issues related to race and culture.

National PTA and its constituent associations will hold courageous conversations with our membership and communities to understand the impact of institutional racism and how it affects the well-being of children of color. These conversations will include racism, social justice, equitable education, juvenile justice, affordable housing, food sustainability, economic wealth and affordable health care for families of color.

**Educate**

National PTA and its constituent associations must educate themselves and their communities on the disparities among students of color compared to their white peers related to issues such as housing, healthcare, environmental and community planning, criminal justice and employment. This knowledge is essential to understand the impact of institutional racism on school performance, which is manifested in attendance, discipline, academic achievement and graduation rates of students of color.

Federal and state policymakers, school district leaders, school administrators and educators should review bias in curriculum, policies, practices and programs to identify and address those that perpetuate inequities toward children or communities of color, resulting in Black and Brown students experiencing lower school achievement rates, commonly known as the “achievement gap” or “opportunity gap.”

**Advocate**

National PTA and local and state PTAs/PTSAs must advocate at all levels to eradicate the negative impact of institutional racism.

National PTA strongly urges federal, state and local public officials to invest in educating students and teachers on the history and impact of institutional racism. Professional development and training must be provided for all school staff on implicit bias and culturally appropriate curriculum. School staff should also be provided professional development in mental health, trauma-informed care and restorative justice to provide a safe, inclusive environment for all students.

We recognize that action at the local level has a direct impact on our communities. Local advocacy should focus on issues such as disparate discipline; equitable education for immigrant children; recruitment and retention of Black and Brown teachers; housing development policies; access to healthcare; juvenile and criminal justice; and other such issues which are relevant to local schools, communities and states. We will work to ensure more comprehensive guidelines and training are required on the use of force by school resource officers, other law enforcement officers and security personnel.

*Position Statement: Say Their Names: Addressing Institutional or Systemic Racism*

*Adopted: July 2020*

National PTA will support its constituent associations with resources to strengthen advocacy at the local level to address issues of equity and disparate outcomes for children of color.

We can eradicate racism and social injustices when we unite as a community regardless of skin color, race, language or culture. PTA reaffirms our commitment to advocate for all children, including and specifically for Black and Brown children to eliminate the negative impacts of institutional racism.

## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

---

**From:** Brittney Pollock  
**Sent:** Monday, April 04, 2022 1:24 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; Gordo, Victor; De La Cuba, Vannia; Stewart, Jana; Mellem, Araceli; Hampton, Tyron; Bell, Cushon; Williams, Felicia; Dyson, Darla; Kennedy, John J.; Porras, Susana; Masuda, Gene; Sullivan, Noreen; Rivas, Jessica; Morales, Margo; Madison, Steve; Suzuki, Takako; Wilson, Andy; Thyret, Pam; Flores, Valerie; Community Police Oversight Commission; onhstaff@gmail.com  
**Subject:** SAY HIS NAME. JUSTICE FOR #ANTHONYMCCLAIN. [04/04/2022]

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Pasadena Mayor and City Councilmembers,

On August 15, 2020, Pasadena police officer Edwin Dumaguindin shot Anthony McClain in the back as he fled the scene of a traffic stop for a vehicle that he was not driving. As Anthony lay on the ground, injured with gunshot wounds, a second Pasadena police officer, Ronald Soreno, knelt on his back, not rendering Anthony lifesaving medical aid in this moment, but instead causing him additional, fatal harm. #AnthonyMcClain was murdered by the Pasadena Police Department in August of 2020. Over one year later, the City of Pasadena has failed to hold any of the parties involved accountable.

We, the community, ask: What are you waiting for?

How can it be that more than one year later the officers who killed #AnthonyMcClain have received no disciplinary action? How is it that, much like #GeorgeFloyd, what we have seen on video is not enough to say that the behavior of these officers was completely unacceptable and warrants their no longer patrolling the streets of Pasadena as "servants" of the public?

We urgently demand that the officers who murdered #AnthonyMcClain be fired immediately.

It is apparent that former Police Chief John Perez chose the interest of the police department over the residents of Pasadena. It is still unclear whether or not an investigation into these officers' conduct was ever performed during his tenure and/or what the outcome was. Chief Perez failed to do his job and certainly failed to do it satisfactorily. He failed to lead a police force that knows how not to shoot residents in the back and then how not to kneel on their bleeding bodies.

Likewise, it is also apparent that the City Manager, Steve Mermell, chose in his tenure not to discipline any of his police personnel, nor to ensure that their conduct was to the standard of the City's residents. He has allowed the Pasadena police department to act with a complete and total lack of supervision.

We demand that the incoming Police Chief and incoming City Manager demonstrate that they will hold the Pasadena Police Department accountable by firing the officers who murdered Anthony McClain.

The time for accountability is long overdue—it is NOW. The lives of your Black residents are at stake. We urge you to act.

Signed,

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Brittney Pollock  
they/them, she/her  
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