

Email Templates for Black Lives Matter and Justice Issues

Disclaimer: I am a white college student in WA. It is not my intention to speak for Black people but rather amplify their demands and stories. Everything is written by me, unless otherwise stated (underneath the headings). If you find any of this information to be out-of-date, inaccurate, or would like to suggest better wording, please let me know. I try to keep templates up-to-date and write new templates regularly.

I intend for these email templates to be used as jumping-off points. I encourage you to use these as frameworks to make a personal appeal to your legislators. The more individualized your message, the more likely they are to count the issue towards their next meeting agenda. Introduce yourself and explain why you care about the issue and why it (may) affect you personally.

Share this URL: <https://tinyurl.com/emailtemplatesforblm>

Contact me: claire.christensen@comcast.net

DEFUND SPD QUICKLINKS:

- **[Response to Aug 5th Vote Failing to defund SPD by 50%](#)**

[BLM Email Templates for Individuals](#)

[Jacob Blake](#)

[3 Trans Women Attacked in LA \(Updated 8/19\)](#)

[Breonna Taylor \(Updated 8/9\)](#)

[Breonna Taylor PHONE SCRIPT \(Updated 7/19\)](#)

[Elijah McClain: to the Governor and Mayor \(Updated 6/25\)](#)

[Elijah McClain: to the District Attorney \(Updated 6/25\)](#)

[Sean Reed \(Updated 6/17\)](#)

[Jamel Floyd \(Updated 6/10\)](#)

[Justin Howell](#)

[Said Joquin \(Updated 7/21\)](#)

[Tony McDade: to the Mayor \(Updated 6/25\)](#)

[Tony McDade: to City Council](#)

[Dion Johnson \(Updates Pending\)](#)

[Jamarion Robinson](#)

[David McAtee](#)

[Dominique Fells & Transphobia in Philadelphia](#)

[Riah Milton & Transphobia in Ohio](#)

[Derrick Scott](#)

[Manuel Ellis \(Updates Pending\)](#)

[Oluwatoyin Salau: to the Mayor \(Updated 6/27\)](#)
[Oluwatoyin Salau: to the Governor](#)
[Brayla Stone and Transphobia in AK](#)
[Merci Mack and Transphobia in TX \(Updated 7/12\)](#)
[Matthew Tucker](#)

BLM Legislative Email Templates

[Defund SPD: Response to Aug 5th Vote NOT to defund SPD by 50%](#)
[Defund SPD: to the Mayor \(Updated 8/4\)](#)
[Defund SPD: to Councilmembers \(Updated 8/4\)](#)
[Defund SPD Phone Script \(Updated 6/23\)](#)
[To Senators Regarding DHS in Portland](#)
[Remove Police from Bellingham Schools](#)
[LGBTQ Anti-Discrimination Laws in TX *IN PROGRESS*](#)
[Defund Bellingham PD](#)
[Qualified Immunity](#)
[Mandatory Minimums: Legislative Level](#)
[Mandatory Minimums: Congressional Level](#)
[Defund LAPD](#)
[To NYPD regarding nooses hanging from trees in Van Cortland Park](#)
[To WA Senators regarding 2021 legislative session proposals](#)
[Revoke NYC Suspension of Habeas Corpus](#)
[Revoke Licenses of officers who killed George Floyd](#)
[Support IN's declaration of racism as a public health crisis](#)
[White Supremacist Threats in Bellingham WA](#)
[Bradley County TN Jail Lack of COVID-19 PPE](#)

Non-BLM Legislative Email Templates

[ICE Citizen's Academy Course on How To Arrest Immigrants](#)
[HDQ Neutral: to the City](#)
[HDQ Neutral: to the Detention Facility](#)
[Graham Blumenthal Bill / EARN IT Act](#)
[H.R. 6691 Coronavirus Regulatory Repeal Act of 2020](#)
[Arts & Culture Funding and Support](#)

> Auto-Emails & Other Templates

> Education Resources

> Demands of Specific Organizations

> Donations, Petitions and Businesses to Support

> [Possible Upcoming Topics](#)

BLM Email Templates for Individuals

All templates are written by me unless otherwise stated. Most demands for action draw from change.org petitions (to determine the needs and desires of families) and relevant news articles. Updated as often as possible.

Jacob Blake

Info from [petition](#), [article](#), [instagram post](#). Writing heavily influenced by @ya_gurl_al on TikTok

To: [Wisconsin DOJ](#)
michael.graveley@da.wi.gov (Kenosha DA Graveley); mayor@kenosha.org (Mayor Antaramian); dgm398@kenoshapolice.com (Chief Miskinis)

Dear [RECIPIENT],

My name is [NAME] and I am from [CITY/STATE]. I am writing regarding the shooting of 29-year-old Jacob Blake on August 23rd. What happened to Blake is part of the larger epidemic of police violence and brutality against Black people in America.

I ask you to

- (1) Ensure that the investigation carried out by your department into the officers who shot Jacob Blake is thorough, timely, and transparent;**
- (2) Ensure the officers responsible are fired, arrested and charged.**

For the past few months, our country has been fighting hard against systemic racism in our law enforcement. The shooting of Jacob Blake was even more evidence of that racism. Justice must be served now, tomorrow, and the next day until Police Departments agree to begin correcting our broken law enforcement system which they uphold. This investigation will be watched closely by thousands of concerned citizens like myself who will continue to demand justice for Jacob Blake and his family.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

3 Trans Women Attacked in LA (Updated 8/19)

Info from [petition](#), [article](#), [hrc report](#)

To: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org

Mayor Garcetti,

My name is [NAME] and I am [INTRODUCE YOURSELF] from [CITY/STATE]. I am writing regarding the recent attack on three trans women in Los Angeles. On Sunday August 16th on Hollywood Boulevard, three trans women of color Joslyn, Jaslene, and Eden were physically assaulted and robbed by three men. One of the men posted a series of videos of the attack, which have since been deleted.

This attack was part of a larger epidemic of violence towards trans women of color in America. The Human Rights Campaign reported that “2020 has already seen at least 26 transgender or gender non-conforming people fatally shot or killed by other violent means.” LA too has a history of violence, oppression, and discrimination against trans women, especially trans women of color. I urge you to push for more anti-discrimination legislation and bring justice to Joslyn, Jaslene, Eden, and other trans women of color who face violence and hate on the basis of their identity every day in LA.

Specifically, I ask you to:

- (1) Publicly address the issues of transphobia and anti-trans violence in LA right now;**
- (2) Push for all the men involved in the attack against Joslyn, Jaslene, and Eden to be arrested and charged for assault, robbery, and attempted murder;**
- (3) Push for anti-racist and anti-discrimination policy for trans people within LA legislature.**

Violence against all women must not be ignored. As Mayor, it is your obligation to serve and protect the people of LA. Please reflect this with your response to this attack and other attacks on trans women.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

Breonna Taylor (Updated 8/9)

Note: the demands section is from the template at defund12.org. Information is from the change.org petition for Breonna Taylor.

Update 6/17: Mayor Fischer withholding information ([source](#)).

Info from [NYT article](#), standwithbre.com.

To: Greg.Fischer@louisvilleky.gov; attorney.general@ag.ky.gov;
JCooke@louisvilleprosecutor.com
[Contact Gov Beshear](#)

Hello [RECIPIENT],

My name is [NAME] and I am writing regarding Breonna Taylor's Case. Her death was murder. There have been months-long nation-wide calls for her murderers to be arrested and charged, yet they are still free. LMPD's incident report contained multiple errors, including listing Taylor's injuries as "none" even though she was shot eight times.

In accordance with the desires of Taylor's family and millions of Americans, I ask you to use your position to demand:

- (1) Revoke the pensions of the officers who murdered Breonna Taylor: Brett Hankison, Jonathan Mattingly, and Myles Cosgrove;**
- (2) Fire, arrest, and charge officers Hankison, Mattingly, and Cosgrove.**

It has been nearly five months since Breonna Taylor was murdered, and her family has received lies and ignorance instead of justice. Please use your power to ensure that officers Hankinson, Mattingly, and Cosgrove are brought to justice.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

Breonna Taylor PHONE SCRIPT (Updated 7/19)

Demands from [here](#).

502-735-1784 is a line run by Standwithbre.com automatically talks you through multiple calls to every office related to this case. If you are not used to making calls, start with this and use the script below. Here is who this line connects you to:

1. KY Sen. Brandon Smith
2. KY Rep. Kevin Bratcher
3. KY Rep. Regina Huff
4. KY Sen. C.B. Embry Jr.
5. KY Sen. Jimmy Higdon
6. KY Rep. Richard Heath
7. KY Rep. Chris Fugate

LMPD Non-Emergency Line (502) 574-7111 OR (502) 574-2111

Mayor Greg Fischer (502) 574-2003

Governor Beshear's office: (502) 564 2611

District Attorney Tom Wine: (502) 595 2300

Attorney General Daniel Cameron: (502) 696-5300

Senator Rand Paul: (202) 224-4343 / (270) 782 8303

Representative John Yarmuth: (202) 225 5401

Kentucky Senators General Hotline: 1-800-372-7181

My name is [NAME] and I am calling from [CITY, STATE]. I am calling regarding the murder of Breonna Taylor. I am asking [RECIPIENT] to use their power to ensure that the Public Integrity Unit of LMPD fires officers Brett Hankinson, Jonathan Mattingly, and Myles Cosgrove and that the Attorney General Daneil Cameron arrests and charges them for murdering Breonna Taylor. I am also asking [RECIPIENT] to ensure those officers' pensions are revoked. There have been months-long nation-wide calls for her murderers to be arrested and charged, and they must be brought to justice to stop systemic racism from allowing LMPD to get away with this. Thank you.

Elijah McClain: to the Governor and Mayor (Updated 6/25)

Script slightly modified from @ijeomaolu on instagram. Info from this [article](#).

Background Info: Elijah McClain was a 23-year-old, unarmed black man who died days after Aurora police detained him while he was walking home from a convenience store last summer. He was unarmed and innocent. Police put him in a chokehold and injured him. He had a heart attack in the ambulance and died a few days later.

To: Governorpolis@state.co.us; mcoffman@auroragov.org

Hello Governor Polis and Mayor Coffman,
My name is [NAME] and I am writing on behalf of Elijah McClain.

We demand the following:

- (1) Officers Nathan Woodward, Jason Rosenblatt, Randy Roedema, Matthew Green, and Sgt Dale Leonard of the Aurora Police Department and Lt. Peter Chichuniec and Medic Jeremy Cooper of Aurora Fire Rescue are fired immediately and charged for the murder of Elijah McClain;**
- (2) A public apology and admission of guilt on behalf of prosecutor Dave Young, who is still arguing that McClain's death was not a homicide.**

Your neglect of Elijah McClain's case is willful ignorance of the systemic racism within Aurora PD. Your failure to hold officers accountable perpetuates police violence. It is disappointing that Governor Polis only opened an investigation after the pressure of millions of Americans.

Also, thank you for banning carotid holds. I urge you to formally add the ban to city code, not just Aurora police policy.

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[CITY, STATE, ZIP]

Elijah McClain: to the District Attorney (Updated 6/25)

Info from [here](#).

To: [Contact District Attorney Dave Young](#)

My name is [NAME] and I am writing to Dave Young regarding the Elijah McClain Case. I urge Young to make a public apology and admission of guilt for McClain's death. Furthermore, I urge Young to charge to the highest degree all officers involved, including homicide charges for the officer(s) who physically handled McClain. The officers are: Officers Nathan Woodward, Jason Rosenblatt, Randy Roedema, Matthew Green, and Sgt Dale Leonard of the Aurora Police Department and Lt. Peter Chichuniec and Medic Jeremy Cooper of Aurora Fire Rescue.

Dave Young continues to argue that the evidence does not support a homicide ruling. Young's statement that "The forensic evidence revealed that the cause of death was undetermined" is bizarre. The autopsy report says "Most likely the decedent's physical exertion contributed to death. It is unclear if the officer's action contributed as well." This is ridiculous; if the police had not attacked Elijah McClain, he would be alive today. As a legal professional you should be able to see the wording of the report is an attempt to sidestep justification for homicide charges, and to ultimately cover for the officers responsible for McClain's death.

Sean Reed (Updated 6/17)

Info and some wording from this [document](#), [article](#).

Background info: Sean Reed was a Black veteran suffering from PTSD who was killed in Indianapolis by IMPD following a high speed chase on May 6th, 2020. Reed live-streamed the entire event on Facebook. The footage shows officers failing to follow the correct pathways for arrest. Reed was shot 15 times, including after he had fallen to the ground. Following his death police officers attempted to destroy the footage of his live-stream.

To: [Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett](#)
City Council: City-County.Council@indy.gov

Hello [RECIPIENT],

My name is [NAME]. I am writing on behalf of Sean Reed, who was killed by IMPD officers De'joure Marquise Mercer and Steven Scott. IMPD has made Indianapolis an unsafe place for Black people.

I am aware that there is already an investigation underway. I urge you to:

- (1) Ensure that officer De'Joure Marquise Mercer is fired for excessive use of force and improper handling of the situation, and officer Steven Scott is also fired for bystanding while Mercer killed Reed;**
- (2) Increase community engagement and de-escalation training at IMPD;**
- (3) Require all IMPD officers to use body cameras and have them turned on at all times;**
- (4) Commit to adopting actively anti-racist legislation; and**
- (5) Commit to systematically defunding the Indianapolis PD and investing in community-based support programs like crisis de-escalation, affordable housing, mental health services.**

The fact that IMPD still denies their officers did anything wrong despite live video evidence is proof of corruption and systemic racism within IMPD.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

Jamel Floyd (Updated 6/10)

*Update June 10: The Bureau of Prisons declined to comment. The Department of Justice and Medical Examiner are investigating the death. Video and other evidence is being preserved. The family has ordered a private autopsy ([source](#)).
Info from the [gofundme](#) and [petition](#).*

Online contact form for Bill De Blasio:
<https://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/mayor-contact.page>
Mayor De Blasio,

My name is [NAME], and I am writing on behalf of Jamel Floyd.

I am sure you are familiar by now with the events of the death of Jamel Floyd. On Wednesday, June 3rd 2020, Metropolitan Detention Center staff pepper sprayed Jamel Floyd to death while he was in his cell. This is an excessive use of force and an abuse of power.

We urge you to ensure:

- (1) An independent investigation of Jamel Floyd's death on behalf of the family;**
- (2) Individual staff members found to be physically responsible for Floyd's death and bystanding staff to be appropriately charged for the crime(s) they committed.**

Please do all you can to bring justice to Jamel Floyd, the people of New York City, and the country.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

Justin Howell

Information and some words taken from [here](#), [here](#), and [this change.org petition](#).

To: Austin PD Contact Form: <http://www.austintexas.gov/email/police3>

Subj: Ban the use of "non-lethal" ammunition and tear gas by Austin PD

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is [NAME], and I am writing on behalf of Justin Howell to demand that Austin PD immediately ban the use of "non-lethal" ammunition and tear gas in protests.

On June 6th 20 year-old Justin Howell was shot in the head by Austin Police Department while standing in front of APD Headquarters recording a video. The shots caused permanent brain damage and a fractured skull. APD Police Chief Brian Manley said the person standing next to him threw a water bottle and then his backpack at the officers, and one of the officers then fired their ammunition toward the two, hitting Howell. The protestors who tried to carry him to receive medical attention were also fired at by officers.

It is extremely disturbing to me that the APD is taking such an excessive and dangerous approach to protest management. It is especially vile that officers that continued to fire after protesters tried to carry Howell to medical attention.

The public cares about this. As of June 8th, over 7 thousand people have donated over \$180 thousand to a GoFundMe put together by Howell's family, and over 40 thousand have signed a change.org petition demanding justice from the APD.

We demand the following from the Austin Police Department:

- 1. Immediately ban the use of "non-lethal" ammunition and tear gas in protests because it is an excessive use of force and can cause serious, permanent injury;**
- 2. Prioritize non-violence and de-escalation tactics; and**
- 3. APD Police Chief Brian Manley resigns for his lack of leadership and regulation over the actions of his officers**

Sincerely,
[NAME]

Said Joquin (Updated 7/21)

More information [here](#), the [petition](#), the [gofundme](#).

To: mzaro@cityoflakewood.us; manderson@cityoflakewood.us; policefrotdesk@cityoflakewood.us

Hello Mayor Anderson and Police Chief Zaro,

My name is [NAME], and I am [OPTIONAL: OCCUPATION (e.g. college student)] from [CITY, STATE]. I am writing on behalf of Said Joquin.

On May 1st 2020, 28-year-old Said Joquin was pulled over for a traffic stop in the 6400 block of Steilacoom Boulevard in Lakewood. He was shot and killed by officer Mike Wiley of Lakewood PD, before backups arrived. Wiley demonstrated an excessive use of force; there is absolutely no evidence that justifies Wiley's use of a gun in this encounter, especially after backup officers were on their way.

This is disturbing for a number of reasons: first, Wiley murdered a cooperative man during a traffic stop, and second, this is at least the second officer-involved shooting Wiley has been involved in. These two incidents alone are enough to prove Wiley is ill-suited for his position as an Officer.

I ask the Mayor and Police Chief to use their power to:

- 1. Fire and charge Wiley for manslaughter highest degree;**
- 2. terminate Wiley's position at Lakewood PD; and**
- 3. create actively anti-racist policy that holds Wiley and other officers accountable for excessive use of force towards Black and POC citizens.**

Fostering a culture of anti-racism and accountability within Lakewood PD is a monumental task, but it is certainly one which can be achieved. I ask that the City of Lakewood dedicate itself to

providing more support towards community efforts and organizations outside of the police forces in order to prevent police brutality and violence in the future.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

Tony McDade: to the Mayor (Updated 6/25)

Info and some wording from the [petition](#), and this [document](#).

Background Info: On May 27th, 2020, after 11 a.m., a 38-year-old black transgender man, Tony McDade, was fatally shot in the Leon Arms apartment complex by an officer of the Tallahassee Police Department. He was approached and killed by police after acting in self defense against a group of men who were beating him. A video shows police fatally shooting McDade after telling him to stop moving. Many residents of Leon Arms have stated that McDade was unarmed. Early media reports of the incident misgendered him.

To: mayor@talgov.com; ContactUs@talgov.com;

Hello Mayor Dailey,

My name is [NAME], and I am writing on behalf of Tony McDade. There has been little movement in McDade's case since May 27th.

I urge you to do the following:

- (1) Publicly reveal, condemn, and fire the officer who fatally shot McDade;**
- (2) Launch an external investigation into McDade's death;**
- (3) Commit to systematically defunding the Tallahassee PD and investing in community-based support programs like crisis de-escalation, affordable housing, mental health services, and most importantly, transgender support centers; and**
- (4) Create a zero-tolerance policy for police misconduct, and hold any offenders publicly and legally accountable.**

McDade's death is extremely disturbing, especially in the context of recent nation-wide protests calling for justice for the unnecessary deaths of Black people at the hands of police. The systemic and social violence towards LGBTQ people - especially transgender women - both historically and in the present-day, must be addressed. I commend you for creating Tallahassee's first LGBTQ Advisory Board. I urge you to advocate and fund more legislation and programs that support LGBTQ rights in Tallahassee.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

Tony McDade: to City Council

To: [Contact City Council](#)

My name is [NAME], and I am writing on behalf of Tony McDade. There has been little movement in McDade's case since May 27th.

I ask City Council to commit to: systematically defunding the Tallahassee PD and investing in community-based support programs like crisis de-escalation, affordable housing, mental health services, and most importantly, transgender support centers; and create a zero-tolerance policy for police misconduct, and hold any offenders publicly and legally accountable.

McDade's death is disturbing, especially in the context of recent nation-wide protests calling for justice for the unnecessary deaths of Black people at the hands of police. The systemic and social violence towards LGBTQ people - especially transgender women - both historically and in the present-day, must be addressed. I urge you to advocate and fund more legislation and programs that support LGBTQ rights in Tallahassee.

Dion Johnson (Updates Pending)

Info and some wording from this [document](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

THE CASE IS CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW BY THE FBI. UPDATES PENDING

To: mayor.gallego@phoenix.gov council.district.3@phoenix.gov

DPS: <https://www.azdps.gov/contact/duty>

[List of City of Phoenix Contacts](#)

My name is [NAME], and I am writing on behalf of Dion Johnson:

~~———— Dion Johnson was a 28-year-old Black man who was shot and killed by a DPS trooper in Phoenix Arizona on May 25th 2020. Johnson had pulled over on the side of the highway to get some rest at Loop 101 & Tatum. A DPS Trooper stopped behind him, approached the vehicle, and shot and killed Johnson in an alleged struggle. The Trooper was reportedly not equipped with a dash cam or body camera. Johnson was unarmed. In the words of Arizona State Rep. Reginald, "the troopers stood there for an agonizing six minutes while the life of the only other witness to this shooting slipped away."~~

~~The Phoenix Department of Public Safety is not the appropriate agency to run the investigation into an officer involved shooting because of implicit bias and a conflict of interest. As of June 5th, Arizona State Rep. Reginald Bolding sent a letter asking the The U.S. Department of Justice to step in and investigate. Bolding's letter is also signed by Rep. Dr. Geraldine Peten and Arizona Commissioner Sandra D. Kennedy.~~

We demand the following:

- ~~(1) That the DPS turn the investigation over to the Department of Justice;~~
- ~~(2) Transparency and accountability from the police who are currently investigating the shooting;~~
- ~~(3) That the names of the officers involved are released; and~~
- ~~(4) That the officers involved are immediately fired for excessive use of force,~~

~~(5) That DPS revises Agency policies to include the following two requirements: using dash cams or body cameras during all interactions, and calling for medical assistance whenever a person is injured.~~

~~The DPS actively makes Phoenix a dangerous place for Black people. The fact that a Black man was killed by DPS for taking a nap on the side of the road, and the investigation was initially carried out by the same agency responsible for his death, is not an isolated tragedy; it is a symptom of systematic racism within DPS.~~

~~Please treat this case with utmost priority and bring justice to Dion Johnson, the people of Phoenix, and the people of America.~~

Sincerely,
[NAME]

Jamarion Robinson

Info and some wording from this [petition](#), [investigation report](#), [article](#), [article](#).

To: judge, mayor, prosecutor,

My name is [NAME] and I am writing to urge you to reopen Jamarion Robinson's case.

On August 5th 2016, Jamarion Robinson was killed by U.S. Marshalls in East Point, GA. Robinson was a 26-year-old Black man who had been diagnosed with schizophrenia. US Marshals forcibly entered his apartment on an arrest warrant and shot him to death. Medical evidence and the US Marshals Report determined there were 59 entry bullet wounds to Robinsons body and that flash grenades had been deployed.

A Grand Jury determined not to pursue the case. In December 2018 District Attorney Paul Howard filed a federal civil suit against the Department of Justice for blocking the investigation, in which he also challenged claims by officers that Robinson fired a gun before officers shot him to death. The Department of Justice withdrew the subpoenas.

I urge you to meet the following demands:

- (1) Reopen Jamarion Robinson's case;**
- (2) Ensure District Attorney Paul Howard and Fulton County District Attorney's Office aid in the arrest of all officers involved: S. O'Hare, W. Sauls, S. Schreckengost, M. Belknap, E. Heinze, J. Mauney, K. Hutchins, J. Barnes, E. Smith, M. Stressinger , J. Little, and S. Kindred.**

Robinson's death represents long-standing failures of the criminal justice system and law enforcement. It is an example of excessive force and systemic racism in law enforcement, poor interaction with mentally ill people, a lack of transparency surrounding officers actions, and failure of Police and Marshals to use body cameras when serving arrest warrants. These symptoms of racist systems, in combination with the nation-wide protests over racism-fueled police violence and the

systemically disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Black communities make it imperative that you reopen this case and bring justice to Jamarion Robinson, the people of Atlanta, and America.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

David McAtee

Info and partial wording from the [petition](#), [wikipedia](#), [article](#).

To: Greg.Fischer@louisvilleky.gov; [Contact Governor Beshear](#); [Contact Deputy Chief Robert Schroeder](#)

To [RECIPIENT NAME],

My name is [NAME] and I am writing on behalf of David McAtee.

On June 1st, David McAtee was shot and killed in a crossfire between LMPD, Kentucky US National Guard, and protester(s) during protests for George Floyd and Breonna Taylor in Louisville. LMPD body cameras were turned off. McAtee was a Black man who was running a weekly BBQ stand unaffiliated with the protests.

I support Governor Beshear's order of an investigation, however it should not be carried out by the LMPD. LMPD is not fit to investigate a case in which they are involved. I support Mayor Fischer's firing of Police Chief Conrad.

I urge you to:

- (1) Identify the guardsman who fired the shot that killed McAtee; and**
- (2) Take LMPD's investigation of the case to the State Department of Justice; and**
- (3) Immediately ban the use of "non-lethal" ammunition in the KC National Guard and LMPD's management of protests.**

Please bring justice to David McAtee and stop enabling officers to kill protesters and bystanders.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

Dominique Fells & Transphobia in Philadelphia

Info from [petition](#), [article](#), [article](#), [legislation](#).

To: james.kenney@phila.gov

Hello Mayor Kenney,

My name is [NAME] and I am writing on behalf of Dominique "Rem'mie" Fells, a Black trans woman who was murdered and thrown in the Schuylkill River on June 9th.

I ask you to:

- (1) Declare racism and transphobia public health crises in Philadelphia; and**
- (2) Continue pushing for policy that actively protects trans people and punishes discrimination in Philadelphia.**

The murder of Fells is part of a larger epidemic of murders of Black trans women in America. I support your past amendments to the Fair Practices Ordinance, which help increase inclusivity and decrease discrimination of transgender and gender non-conforming individuals. I urge you to push for more anti-discrimination legislation and bring justice to Dominique Fells and other trans Black women who have been killed.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

Riah Milton & Transphobia in Ohio

To: [Contact Governor Mike DeWine](#),

My name is [NAME] and I am writing on behalf of Riah Milton and transgender people across the country. On June 9 in Liberty Township, OH, Milton was fatally shot several times during an armed robbery attempt. Local media and police both dead-named and misgendered her several times.

I am sure you are aware of the June 14th rally for Black Trans Lives in Brooklyn which 15,000 people attended. The systemic discrimination and targeting of Black Trans women in this country can no longer be ignored. According to the Human Rights Campaign, 14 transgender or gender non-conforming people have already been fatally shot or killed in 2020.

Ohio is not a safe place for Black Trans people. I urge you to truly serve and represent your people by:

- (1) Ensuring justice is brought to Riah Milton and other Black Trans people who are attacked, murdered, or discriminated against in Ohio;**
- (2) Creating a LGBTQ Board/Commission for Ohio which advises the Governor about issues of concern affecting the LGBTQ community and recommends policies and legislation;**
- (3) Advocating for anti-racist policy within Ohio legislature;**
- (4) Advocating for anti-discrimination policy for LGBTQ people within the Ohio legislature.**

I also suggest you add an LGBTQ Issues section to the "Select Issue" box on this contact form.

Derrick Scott

Info from [here](#), [here](#), [here](#).

To: mayor@okc.gov

My name is [NAME] and I am writing on behalf of Derrick Scott.

On May 20th, 2019 Derrick Scott, a Black man, died after being arrested and pinned down by Oklahoma City Police. Body camera footage was released a full year later showing Scott repeatedly telling officers “I can’t breathe” and them responding “I don’t care.” They pinned Scott to the ground with their hands and knees for 13 minutes, even after he became unresponsive. An hour later he was pronounced dead at the hospital. A coroner reported the cause of death was a collapsed lung.

The footage is especially disturbing amongst recent cases of Black victims saying “I can’t breathe” while being killed by police, including George Floyd, Javier Ambler, Anton Black, Manuel Ellis, and Eric Garner.

The fact that the footage was only released after immense pressure from the local Black Lives Matter Chapter shows that Oklahoma City PD knew the officers involved were at fault. This was not just a tragic incident. It is a symptom of systemic racism within Oklahoma City PD and Government.

I urge you to:

- (1) Order the officers involved Scott’s death to be immediately fired for excessive use of force;**
- (2) Launch an external investigation of the officers’ role in Scott’s death and charge the officers;**
- (3) Order a top-down investigation of racism and discrimination within Oklahoma City PD;**
- (4) Create actively anti-racist policy within Oklahoma City legislature; and**
- (5) Commit to increasing diversity in the Oklahoma City legislative body.**

Sincerely,
[NAME]

Manuel Ellis (Updates Pending)

Update June 10: Gov Inslee ordered a new investigation into Ellis’s death after video footage surfaced. The Case is being taken to the State level ([source](#)). I am waiting for updates on the case to update the letter template.

To: victoria.woodards@cityoftacoma.org; Marty.Campbell@piercecountywa.gov;
Governor.JayInslee@governor.wa.gov

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is [NAME] and I am writing on behalf of the family of Manuel Ellis who was murdered by Tacoma Police on March 3rd, 2020.

I ask the City of Tacoma to:

- ~~(1) Honor Lawyer James Bible and Pierce County prosecuting attorney’s requests for the investigation to be taken over by the State;~~**

~~(2) ensure officers Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masyih Ford, and Timothy Rankine are fired and convicted to the highest degree; and
(3) ensure Police Chief Donald Ramsdell is fired for his failure to justly address the officers' roles in Ellis's death.~~

Investing in programs like Project PEAGE is a start, but it is not enough to serve justice for Manuel Ellis, Lakewood residents, and Americans.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

Oluwatoyin Salau: to the Mayor (Updated 6/27)

Information from this [article](#), [petition](#), [article](#).

To: mayor@talgov.com; ContactUs@talgov.com

Hello Mayor Dailey,

My name is [NAME] and I am writing regarding Oluwatoyin Salau and transphobia in Tallahassee. The news that transgender woman Oluwatoyin Salau's kidnapper, abuser, and murderer has been identified and charged is a step towards justice for her family. However, more must be done to protect transgender people in Tallahassee.

Tallahassee has historically seen violent and systemic transphobia in its institutions. Through the rest of your terms, I ask you to:

- (1) Commit to divesting public funding from police and invest in community organizations like TANF, SNAP, and supplemental social security;**
- (2) Pass local anti-discrimination protections for LGBTQ people;**
- (3) Advocate for anti-discrimination policy for LGBTQ people within Tallahassee legislature.**

The systemic and social violence towards LGBTQ people - especially transgender women - both historically and in the present-day, must be addressed. I commend you for creating Tallahassee's first LGBTQ Advisory Board. I urge you to advocate and fund more legislation and programs that support LGBTQ rights in Tallahassee.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

Oluwatoyin Salau: to the Governor

Information from this [article](#), [petition](#), [article](#).

To: GovernorRon.Desantis@eog.myflorida.com

Hello Governor DeSantis,

My name is [NAME] and I am writing regarding transphobia in Florida. The news that Tallahassee transgender woman Oluwatoyin Salau's kidnapper, abuser, and murderer has been identified and charged is a step towards justice for her family. However, more must be done to protect transgender people in Florida.

Florida has historically seen violent and systemic transphobia in its institutions. Through the rest of your term, I ask you to:

- (1) Commit to divesting public funding from police and invest in community organizations like TANF, SNAP, and supplemental social security;**
- (2) Pass state-wide anti-discrimination protections for LGBTQ people;**
- (3) Advocate for anti-discrimination policy for LGBT people within Florida legislature.**

The systemic and social violence towards LGBTQ people - especially transgender women - both historically and in the present-day, must be addressed. I was disappointed to hear that you failed to acknowledge LGBTQ and Hispanic victims of the PULSE Nightclub massacre. I urge you to advocate and fund more legislation that supports LGBTQ rights in Florida, as well as publicly acknowledging the reality of anti-LGBTQ discrimination.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

Brayla Stone and Transphobia in AK

Information from the [petition](#), [statement](#), [article](#), [article](#).

To: [Contact Governor Hutchinson](#),

My name is [NAME] and I am writing regarding transphobia in Little Rock. On June 25th, 17-year-old transgender woman Brayla Stone was murdered and found near Gap Creek Drive in Little Rock. Black transgender women like Brayla Stone face disproportionate violence on the basis of their gender and race. According to the Human Rights Campaign, 16 other transgender or gender non-conforming people have been "fatally shot or killed by other means" in 2020. Eight of those occurred between May 3rd and June 9th, setting a horrifying record for that amount of time.

Arkansas has passed shamefully few bills or rulings against gender discrimination, none of which specifically protect transgender people. The only law of note is the Anti-Bullying Law which protects children in elementary and secondary school from discrimination on the basis of gender or gender identity. There is an urgent need for LGBTQ protections and anti-discrimination laws in Arkansas.

Legislation is also not the only area in which the LGBTQ community must be supported. Providing funding or grants to LGBTQ shelters and aid organizations, education, and legislative representation are crucial steps towards making Arkansas safe for LGBTQ people.

Throughout the rest of your term, I ask you to:

- (1) Pass state-wide anti-discrimination protections for LGBTQ people;**
- (2) Advocate for anti-discrimination policy for LGBT people within Arkansas legislature;**
- (3) Provide direct funding or offer grants to local LGBTQ organizations in Arkansas;**
- (4) Create a congressional Subcommittee for LGBTQ Issues.**

Sincerely,

[NAME]

Merci Mack and Transphobia in TX (Updated 7/12)

Information from [article](#), [article](#).

To: [Dallas Mayor Johnson](#), [Dallas City Council](#)

optional: modify for [Texas Governor](#)

Hello Mayor Johnson,

My name is [NAME] and I [INTRODUCE YOURSELF, YOUR VALUES]. I am writing regarding transphobia in Dallas. On June 30th, a 22-year-old black transgender woman named Merce Mack was murdered and found in a parking lot in Dallas. Black transgender women like Merce Mack face disproportionate violence on the basis of their gender and race. She is the 19th transgender or gender non-conforming person to be “fatally shot or killed by other means” in 2020, and the fourth to be killed during pride month this year.

Your silence on Merce Mack’s murder, and your inability to serve and protect Dallas’s transgender and gender non-conforming community is unacceptable. I ask you to please:

- (1) Make a public statement addressing Merce Mack’s murder and the danger of transphobia in Dallas, and apologizing for your initial silence;**
- (2) Advocate for anti-discrimination policy for LGBT people in Dallas legislature;**
and
- (3) Show financial support by providing direct funding or offering grants to local LGBTQ organizations in Dallas.**

Transgender and gender non-conforming people of Dallas deserve your attention and commitment to speaking out against transphobic hate crimes and actively working to protect them legally, financially, and socially. If it seems like I am asking for a lot, it’s because I am. Dallas and the rest of the US has long-failed transgender people - especially Black transgender

people - and legislators like you have a lot to make up for. During the rest of your term, please commit to my demands above.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

Matthew Tucker

Info from the [petition](#), [here](#), here, here.

To: LGonzalez@riversideca.gov

Hello [RECIPIENT NAME],

My name is [NAME] and I am reaching out about the Matthew Tucker case. In Temecula on May 4th 2016, Matthew Tucker was murdered by two Riverside police officers, Rosa Calderon and Michael Hamilton, in his own home. Matthew was a Black 18-year-old who had called the police because he was suicidal. Officers Hamilton and Calderon found Matthew with a knife. Instead of speaking with his mother to understand the situation, or calling for backup, or calling for a crisis intervention expert, Hamilton and Calderon pulled their weapons. When Matthew refused to drop his knife, they fired multiple shots at him. The Coroner says the fatal shot was fired while he was already on the ground.

Violence should neither have been threatened nor used against Matthew while he was suicidal and in a heightened emotional state. Hamilton and Calderon used violence unnecessarily, and acted carelessly towards Matthew's life and wellbeing.

This case has gotten more attention during the recent movement to hold Police accountable for their racial biases and the lives that are lost as a consequence of them. Nearly 1 million people have signed a petition demanding that Michael Hamilton of Riverside Police Department (who has since been promoted to Sergeant) be fired for his reckless use of force on May 4th that ended Matthew's life. I am asking you to take accountability for your Officers actions and fire Sgt. Hamilton immediately.

I believe the Police should not be responsible for dealing with suicidal people because they are clearly not trained or prepared to do so. However, while Police are still responsible for that, Riverside PD should take a close look at its protocol for crisis intervention and better train it's officers. Police must not get away with killing a suicidal person like Hamilton did.

Sincerely,

[NAME]
[CITY, STATE, ZIP]
[EMAIL/PHONE]

BLM Legislative Email Templates

Defund SPD: Response to Aug 5th Vote NOT to defund SPD by 50%

To: council@seattle.gov
To Seattle Councilmembers,

My name is [NAME] and I am a [OCCUPATION/INTRODUCE YOURSELF] and resident of Seattle's [YOUR SEATTLE DISTRICT, IF APPLICABLE]. I am contacting you regarding the August 5th 2020 Budget Amendment Vote. I am encouraged by the votes to cut SPD executive pay, defund homeless sweeps, fund the Green New Deal Oversight Board, and require SPD to share employee pay information >\$150,000/yr.

However, I am extremely disappointed in the Council's failure to vote to cut SPD's Budget by 50%. Specifically, I am disappointed in Councilmembers Herbold, Morales, Strauss, Lewis, Mosqueda, and González who went back on their public pledges to defund SPD by 50%.

I will continue pushing to defund SPD by 50%. The fact that Councilmembers publicly pledged to follow the demands of a Black- and Brown-led movement during economic, social, and health crises yet did not follow through is a clear message to the Black and Brown communities that their demands are not yet valued.

Based on the other provisions passed August 5th, I have faith the Council will soon listen to the demands of the Black and Brown led movement to defund SPD in the 2021 Budget. Please continue to push for radical reform within Seattle's Budget.

Sincerely and respectfully,
[NAME]
[CITY, ZIP]

~~Defund SPD: to the Mayor (Updated 8/4)~~

To: jenny.durkan@seattle.gov

Mayor Durkan,

My name is [NAME] and I am a constituent of City Council District [~~FIND YOUR DISTRICT NUMBER HERE~~]. I am writing in response to Mayor Durkan's proposal to cut SPD's 2020 Budget by only 5%.

~~I ask the Mayor and City Council to modify the 2020 Budget Ordinance in accordance with the People's Budget Summer 2020 Campaign:~~

- ~~1. Approve a budget that defunds the SPD by at least 50% for the rest of 2020;~~
- ~~2. Transfer \$85 million from the Police Budget to Black and Brown working-class communities;~~
- ~~3. invest in these social services: affordable housing, community based anti-violence programs, mental health services, and drug rehabilitation services.~~

~~I also urge the Mayor and City council to reduce funding for the Seattle PD's in the 2021 Proposed Budget Ordinance on October 3rd 2020, to be at least 50% of the original proposed 2020 Budget.~~

The Seattle PD has more funding than it needs. Please change this to better reflect the needs of the Seattle community. I also want to thank you for all you are doing to respond to Seattle residents' concerns with the Budget and SPD's use of force. I understand there are a lot of demands right now but I hope this is the push you needed to push the City of Seattle towards a safe, anti-racist, and all-welcoming future.

Sincerely,
[FULL NAME]
[EMAIL]
[CITY, STATE, ZIP]

~~Defund SPD: to Councilmembers (Updated 8/4)~~

~~WA City Budgeting [Pledge](#), Councilmember González's [Statement](#)
If your councilmember is González, Herbold, Strauss, Lewis, omit or modify demand #1.~~

To: [find your councilmembers](#), or email them all at council@seattle.gov

Hello Councilmember [~~COUNCILMEMBER NAME~~],

My name is [NAME] and I am a constituent of City Council District [~~DISTRICT #~~]. I am writing in response to Mayor Durkan's proposal to cut the Seattle Police Department's Budget by only 5%.

~~A 5% cut of SPD is not enough. At the Wednesday 8/5 Vote on SPD Amendments, I ask all City Councilmembers to modify the 2020 Budget Ordinance in accordance with Councilmember Sawant's People's Budget Summer 2020 Campaign:~~

- ~~1. Approve a budget that defunds the SPD by at least 50% for the rest of 2020;~~
- ~~2. Transfer the \$85 million from the Police Budget to Black and Brown working-class communities, specifically to: "fund community-based organizations doing~~

~~restorative justice, youth programming, and other socially constructive work in the community; fund community-driven work to develop alternatives to violent, racist policing; fund affordable housing in communities impacted by gentrification and displacement; fund renters rights and the fight against evictions; fund the Green New Deal Oversight Board; transfer the 9-1-1 center out of SPD and into civilian control” (Sawant, 8/2020)~~

~~3. Sign Councilmember Juarez’s WA City Budgeting Pledge to fight systemic racism.~~

~~Systemic racism is an urgent public health crisis, and I urge you to reflect that with your votes at the Budget Amendment Vote this Wednesday August 5th.~~

Sincerely,
[FULL NAME]
[EMAIL]
[CITY, STATE, ZIP]

Defund SPD Phone Script (Updated 6/23)

(206) 684-4000

Hello. I’m [NAME] from [NEIGHBORHOOD, ZIP], [DISTRICT]. I’m calling in response to Mayor Durkan’s proposal to Defund the Seattle Police by only 5% for the remainder of 2020. Mayor Durkan needs to listen to Black Lives Matter/Seattle King County, who are calling for 25-50% funding cuts. A 5% cut is not enough.

To Senators Regarding DHS in Portland

Info from [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

What’s happening: Federal agents from the Department of Homeland Security are entering Portland and removing protesters in unmarked vehicles, denying them miranda rights, using non-lethal weapons improperly, arresting people with no warrant, beating, and tear-gassing people (NYTimes). The Federal agents are “Apparently cobbled together using personnel from Customs and Border Protection, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Transportation Security Administration and the Coast Guard, these “rapid deployment teams” are formally tasked with securing federal buildings from graffiti and vandalism in tandem with the Federal Protective Agency, which is ordinarily responsible for the job” (NYTimes). Acting secretary of the Department of Homeland Security Chad Wolf is responsible for and vocally defensive of DHS involvement. “DHS has also authorized domestic surveillance of Americans on the basis of the president’s June executive order on the protection of statues and monuments” (NYTimes).

To: [Contact Sen. Murray](#), [Contact Sen. Cantwell](#), [Find your Reps](#)

Hello Senator [NAME],

First, thank you for all you are doing to provide COVID relief. [THANK THEM SPECIFICALLY FOR THEIR WORK CONCERNING COVID, PROTESTS, OR THIS ISSUE]. I am contacting you about the actions of Federal officers, specifically: officers removing protesters in unmarked vehicles, denying them miranda rights, using non-lethal weapons improperly, arresting people with no warrant, beating, and tear-gassing people (NYTimes).

The origin of these events is concerning to me. It is reported that the Federal agents in Portland were recruited from CBP, ICE, and TSA, and the Coast Guard. One governmental agency should not be able to supplement its agents with agents from another agency, because it gives one agency enough power to create a nationwide secret police force as they have done here. DHS Secretary Chad Wolf and his deputy have admitted Portland is merely a test-run for nation-wide federal crackdowns, and already plan to expand this operation to Chicago. I urge you to condition the final passage of the 2021 Homeland Security Funding Bill on a complete halt to operations in Portland and other cities and the dissolution of the response force.

Just as communities don't need militarized Police forces, the Federal government does not need so many militarized government agencies. Systemic racism exists within all these agencies, and combined with cultures of brutality and prejudice, it makes these agencies extremely dangerous to Black and POC Americans as well as all protesters. Please do everything else you can to remove power from these Federal officers.

Remove Police from Bellingham Schools

To: Greg.Baker@bellingshamschools.org; board@bellingshamschools.org; Jacqueline.Brawley@bellingshamschools.org

It is important for these emails to the Bellingham School District to be personalized. So instead of providing an email template, I encourage you to read the Safer Bellingham Schools [website](#) and use this [document](#) on Police Presence in Schools to write your own email. There is also this [petition](#), but keep in mind that personal emails are much more effective. The website gives instructions for where to focus your email and how to structure it. It took me about 20 minutes to write one.

LGBTQ Anti-Discrimination Laws in TX *IN PROGRESS*

Information from [legislature](#), [the survey](#).

This can be quickly adapted to any other state, just look up your state's anti-discrimination legislation and look for a section on gender (or lack thereof)

To: [Dallas Mayor Johnson](#), [Dallas City Council](#)

~~Look for gender expression, and neither does Dallas for public sector employment. Yet, the 2012 National Transgender Discrimination Survey reported 55% of trans women are discriminated~~

against in hiring. There is an urgent need for protections and anti-discrimination laws for transgender people in Dallas and Texas as a whole.

Throughout the rest of your term, I ask you to:

- (1) Pass city-wide policy prohibiting employment discrimination on the basis of gender and gender expression;**
- (2) Advocate for anti-discrimination policy for LGBT people within Dallas legislature;**
- (3) Provide direct funding or offer grants to local organizations supporting transgender/LGBTQ people in Dallas;**

Legislation is also not the only area in which the transgender community must be supported. Providing funding or grants to transgender/LGBTQ shelters and aid organizations, education, and legislative representation are crucial steps towards making Texas safe for the transgender and LGBTQ communities.

Transgender and gender non-conforming people of Dallas deserve your attention and commitment to speaking out against transphobic hate crimes and actively working to protect them legally, financially, and socially. If it seems like I am asking for a lot, it's because I am. Texas and the rest of the US has long failed transgender people—especially Black transgender people—and legislators like you have a lot to make up for. During the rest of your term, please commit to my demands above.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

Defund Bellingham PD

Some demands taken from this [petition](#).

To: First, find your [ward](#) (WWU area is in Ward 5), then find your [Councilmembers](#) for that ward. and cmail@cob.org, mayorsoffice@cob.org

Hello [RECIPIENT],

My name is [NAME] and I am a resident of Bellingham Ward [WARD #]. I am writing to urge you to commit to the following:

- 1. Make at least a 50% cut from Bellingham Police Department's 2020 budget;**
- 2. Never again increase police funding or to increase the police department's budget;**
- 3. Redirect the money cut from BPD to schools, healthcare, and grants/funding for Bellingham's community programs; and**

4. Protect and expand current investment in community-led health and safety strategies, instead of investing in policies.

I ask you to fight systemic racism and LGBTQ discrimination within the Bellingham Police Department, in combination with the disproportionate effects of COVID-19 on Black and Brown community members. The Bellingham Police do not deserve the funding they have, because they do not serve our community's needs, and instead pose an active threat towards marginalized community members.

Bellingham portrays itself as an all-accepting space for LGBTQ and BIPOC, but that is impossible until the racist and discriminatory Police Department is dismantled. Increasing accountability within BPD will NOT solve systemic issues and will only increase their budget. What has always been done will not work. We need radical change that begins with redirecting funding from BPD to community-based organizations, healthcare, and schools.

Sincerely,
[FULL NAME]
[EMAIL]
[CITY, STATE, ZIP]

Qualified Immunity

Some info from [here](#).

To: [Contact Your Reps Here](#)

My name is [NAME] and I am writing to urge you to support legislation that allows plaintiffs to bypass qualified immunity, specifically H.R. 7120 George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2020. Qualified immunity is one of the biggest barriers to holding law enforcement officers accountable in court.

Colorado recently passed a landmark law ending qualified immunity. SB20-217 “allows a person who has a constitutional right secured by the bill of rights of the Colorado constitution that is infringed upon by a peace officer to bring a civil action for the violation [...] Qualified immunity is not a defense to civil action” (<http://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb20-217>).

I ask you to:

- (1) **Support or create similar legislation in [YOUR STATE]. Because of qualified immunity, victims of police misconduct are unable to vindicate their civil rights in court.**
- (2) **Support H.R. 7120 George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2020, specifically Sec. 102 which reforms qualified immunity.**

Qualified immunity would work in a system without the “blue wall of silence,” but because police do not hold each other accountable, qualified immunity is a way to avoid holding law enforcement officers accountable for violating people's civil rights.

Mandatory Minimums: Legislative Level

What this is about: According to FAAM, mandatory minimums are “sentences, created by Congress or a state legislature, which the court must give to a person convicted of a crime, no matter what the unique circumstances of the offender or the offense are.” ([source](#))

THIS TEMPLATE IS WA-SPECIFIC, BUT FEEL FREE TO CHANGE IT TO FIT YOUR STATE

To: [find your WA Legislative District Senator](#)

Subj: Repeal or Reduce Mandatory Minimums for Drug Crimes

My name is [NAME] and I am writing in support of repealing or amending Mandatory Minimum Sentencing for drug crimes.

Washington state currently has mandatory minimums for drug crimes outlined in RCW 9.94A.517. They are based on the type/weight of the drug and do not consider other important case-specific factors of the case like whether the offender is nonviolent or a drug addict, not dangerous to the community, or played a minor role in the crime. Mandatory Minimums were introduced by the Reagan Administration to crack-down on poor communities of color and disguise it as a War on Drugs. They are outdated, discriminatory, and need to go.

I ask you to:

- (1) Propose a repeal of RCW 9.94A.517, or amend it to consider case-specific details;**
- (2) Consider FAAM’s two alternatives for Mandatory Minimums: sentencing ranges for each crime depending on the offender’s criminal record or seriousness of the crime, or flexibility to sentence inside, above, or below that range.**

Mandatory Minimums: Congressional Level

What this is about: According to FAAM, mandatory minimums are “sentences, created by Congress or a state legislature, which the court must give to a person convicted of a crime, no matter what the unique circumstances of the offender or the offense are.” ([source](#))

More info on [21 U.S. Code § 841](#).

THIS TEMPLATE IS WA-SPECIFIC, BUT FEEL FREE TO CHANGE IT TO FIT YOUR STATE

To: [find your State Senators](#), or if you live in WA, [Contact Patty Murray](#), [Contact Maria Cantwell](#)

Subj: Repeal or Reduce Mandatory Minimums for Drug Crimes

My name is [NAME] and I am writing in support of repealing or amending Mandatory Minimum Sentencing for drug crimes under 21 U.S.C. § 841.

The Mandatory Minimum Sentencing for drug crimes under 21 U.S.C. § 841 are based on the type/weight of the drug and do not consider other important case-specific factors of the case like whether the offender is nonviolent or a drug addict, not dangerous to the community, or played a minor role in the crime. Mandatory Minimums were introduced by the Reagan

Administration to crack-down on poor communities of color and disguise it as a War on Drugs. They are outdated, discriminatory, and need to go.

I ask you to:

(1) Propose a repeal of 21 U.S.C. § 841, or an amendment considering case-specific details;

(2) Consider FAAM's two alternatives for Mandatory Minimums: sentencing ranges for each crime depending on the offender's criminal record or seriousness of the crime, or flexibility to sentence inside, above, or below that range.

Defund LAPD

This template was not written by me, but I do not remember the source I got it from. I am currently trying to find it. The LA City Council meets every monday in June to determine the Budget, so sending these emails now is especially relevant.

To: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org

CC: controller.galperin@lacity.org

Subj: Restructure Budget and DEFUND POLICE

Hello Mayor Garcetti,

My name is [NAME]. I am emailing to demand the restructuring of the Los Angeles Police Department.

I demand the mayor, controller, and all city council members redirect funding from the police department directly to those in need.

It is absolutely absurd that at \$1,857,330,549, the police budget is larger than the allocations to the fire department, Office of Emergency Management, Department of Transportation, Bureau of Street Services, and the Housing and Community Investment Agency COMBINED.

Defunding the police and restructuring the budget is an absolute necessity now more than ever. There are 58,936 DOCUMENTED houseless people in Los Angeles. There are healthcare workers without proper equipment. More than 30% of Los Angeles County residents have filed for unemployment.

While LAPD has more funding than it knows what to do with, there are communities who desperately need funding and every day they don't receive it, their quality of life worsens.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

To NYPD regarding nooses hanging from trees in Van Cortland Park

To: [Contact Mayor DeBlasio](#), [Contact NYPD](#)

My name is [NAME] and I am writing to urge you to take action on the recent horrifying appearance of several nooses hanging in Van Cortland Park on Thursday night June 18th.

In the context of the six Black people who were found hanging from nooses in trees last week - Robert Fuller, Malcom Harsch, and four others - these nooses should be perceived as a death threat. They were put there in the context of lynchings. It is extremely unlikely for suicidal people to hang themselves publicly, especially in the context of Black people's collective historical trauma of lynchings which often involved hangings from trees.

New York has historically been hostile and violent to it's Black residents, and this is no exception. This must stop. Ignoring this is white supremacy.

I urge you to investigate the appearance of these nooses and watch for further death threats.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

To WA Senators regarding 2021 legislative session proposals

To: find your WA State Senator <http://leg.wa.gov/Senate/Senators/Pages/default.aspx>

SHORT VERSION: I am writing regarding Sen. Solomon's proposals for 2021 legislature to: ensure police fired for misconduct cannot be rehired, prohibit chokeholds, prohibit WA law enforcement from receiving military equipment, require body camera use statewide, prohibit police from covering badges, require state data collection on use of force, and strengthen de-escalation and anti-bias training.

These proposals fail to address the root cause of police violence. In addition to these surface-level reforms, I urge you to make a long-term commitment to the Black Lives Matter Seattle-King County Chapter's demands, including that "all law enforcement at demonstrations turn on their body cams and leave them on throughout the entirety of their shift," "the City establish a de-escalation team," and "the City Council, the state legislature, and Congress all consider efforts to decrease funding for police and instead increase funding for health and social services" (BLMSKC, 6/3/20).

LONG VERSION: I am writing in regard to 32nd District Senator Jesse Solomon's plans to incorporate the following proposals into 2021 legislature: ensure police who are fired for misconduct cannot be rehired, prohibit chokeholds, prohibit WA law enforcement from receiving military equipment, require body camera use statewide, prohibit police from covering badges, require state data collection on use of force, and strengthen de-escalation and anti-bias training."

These proposals fail to address the root cause of police violence. In addition to these surface-level reforms, I urge you to make a long-term commitment to the Black Lives Matter Seattle-King County Chapter's demands, including that "all law enforcement at demonstrations turn on their body cams and leave them on throughout the entirety of their shift," "the City establish a de-escalation team," and "the City Council, the state legislature, and Congress all consider efforts to decrease funding for police and instead increase funding for health and social services" (BLMSKC, 6/3/20).

To sum up: thank you for your proposals to reduce police violence and increase police accountability, but they are not enough. I urge you to create a long-term policy advising process with the BLMKC in which continues to meet their demands to defund

police and invest in social services that reduce the armed police presence in the neighborhood.

Revoke NYC Suspension of Habeas Corpus

Template mostly taken from [this instagram post](#) by @brooklynmack5

Brief explanation: NYC Criminal Court Judge James Burke agreed to a request by the NYPD to allow for the detention of anyone arrested in the Bronx, Brooklyn and Manhattan without criminal charges longer than the 24-hour maximum mandated by state law. This means New Yorkers can now be arrested and detained indefinitely without the right to argue that they are being illegally detained, imprisoned, or confined. More info [here](#) and [here](#).

[Contact Mayor DeBlasio](#)

[Contact Governor Cuomo](#)

[Find Your Reps](#)

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is [NAME] and I am a [OCCUPATION (e.g. college student)] in [CITY, STATE]. I am writing on behalf of the people of New York City regarding the City's suspension of Habeas Corpus.

On June 5th, Manhattan Judge James Burke denied a writ from legal aid to release hundreds of protesters who have been detained for days. He has suspended Habeas Corpus in NYC, stating it is "a crisis within a crisis"

Article 1, Section 9, Clause 2 of the US Constitution (mirrored in the NY State constitution Article 1, Section 4) states, "The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it." Public safety does not require it. Public safety is not in jeopardy because of peaceful protests and marches. Our rebellion stands no threat to the people of this city. If your argument is looting and rioting, the cases of looting in NYC have nearly disappeared after curfews were put into place two days ago.

The greatest public safety threat to New York City is the NYPD. Protestors are being injured and illegally detained daily. People are losing their lives at the hands of the NYPD as they have for decades. Protestors are going missing. Police are escalating situations, attacking, beating, and running protesters over with their vehicles.

The suspension of Habeas Corpus is an attack on our civil liberties and constitutional rights as New Yorkers and citizens of this country.

We demand that the Office of the Mayor:

- (1) Revoke Judge Burke's suspension of habeas corpus & have protesters released,**
- (2) provide whatever resources necessary to process detained protesters and have them released, and**
- (3) seek the immediate resignation of Judge James Burke.**

Sincerely,

[NAME]

Revoke Licenses of officers who killed George Floyd

To: postboard.agency.docs@state.mn.us

CC: erik.misselt@state.mn.us robert.hawkins@state.mn.us mark.bloom@state.mn.us

To the Minnesota POST Board,

My name is [NAME] and I am a resident of [CITY, STATE].

I am calling on you to revoke the licenses of the officers responsible for George Floyd's death: Derek Chauvin, Tou Thao, J. Alexander Kueng, and Thomas Lane.

While the charges on all four officers are a victory in the fight for justice for George Floyd, their actions are so condemnable that they should never again be allowed to serve the Minneapolis Police Department, or any Police Department. Their actions showed a disregard for public safety and were directly against public interest. George Floyd did not get a second chance, so neither should they.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

Support IN's declaration of racism as a public health crisis

This can be adapted to any other city that has also declared racism as a public health crisis.

To: City-County.Council@indy.gov

Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett <https://www.indy.gov/workflow/write-to-the-mayor>

Hello,

My name is [NAME], and I am [OPTIONAL: OCCUPATION (e.g. college student)] and resident of [CITY, STATE]. I am writing in support of Indianapolis City-County Council's June 8th resolution declaring racism a public health crisis in Indianapolis and Marion County.

Thank you for taking the city and nation-wide calls for action into consideration. It is a shame it took five days of rioting and nation-wide upheaval to get to this point. I urge Indianapolis City-County Council to view this as a first step in addressing racism and commit to making anti-racism policy a regular and vital part of Indianapolis's legislature.

Thank you again,

[NAME]

White Supremacist Threats in Bellingham WA

Info from [here](#)

To: mayoroffice@cob.org; cmail@cob.org

Subj: Concerning White Supremacist Activity in Bellingham

To Mayor Fleetwood and the City Council,

My name is [NAME], and I am writing regarding the recent threatening presence of white supremacist groups in Bellingham.

Bellingham's residents in the Lettered Streets Neighborhood have found fliers from a white supremacist group on their doorsteps. The Lettered Streets Neighborhood Association says they've heard fliers have also shown up in other parts of the city.

Furthermore, the June 5th armed presence of the white supremacist group Proud Boys in downtown Bellingham is extremely disturbing. While no violations of Washington State laws occurred, the event should be taken as an intentional terrorist threat to the safety of Bellingham residents. Events like this should be treated with the utmost concern.

I urge you to do the following:

- (1) Make recurring public statements concerning the events;**
- (2) Create a zero-tolerance policy for white supremacist threats;**
- (3) Create actively anti-racist policy within Bellingham legislature; and**
- (4) Commit to increasing diversity in the Bellingham legislative body.**

These events are especially disturbing in the context of the current nationwide protests regarding the systematic targeting, killing, and denial of justice for Black and POC by the police. Bellingham should not tolerate this kind of white supremacist presence because it puts Black and POC residents at risk during a time when they are already disproportionately vulnerable to COVID-19, and at greater risk due to the political climate.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

Bradley County TN Jail Lack of COVID-19 PPE

Information from the [petition](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#).

To: [Contact Bradley County Sheriff's Office](#)

To Bradley County Sheriff's Office,

My name is [NAME] and I am reaching out regarding the reported conditions at Bradley County Jail. Inmates of the Jail are demanding an investigation into the unsafe and inhumane conditions they are forced to live in: COVID-19 positive inmates are housed with healthy inmates, inmates are not provided face covers, not provided cleaning supplies or hand sanitizer.

In the words of the inmates themselves, "The Eighth Amendment of the United States Constitution provides protection against cruel and unusual punishment. The BCSO is currently violating the Constitutional rights of every inmate currently housed in the Bradley County Jail" (from a Change.org Petition). Furthermore, the Mayor of Bradley County himself strongly

encouraged people to wear face covers when “in crowds or in public” which would apply to a jail where inmates are forced in close proximity with others.

Please provide all inmates at Bradley County Jail with proper Protection Equipment, cleaning supplies and face covers.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

Non-BLM Legislative Email Templates

I highly recommend using govtrack.us to see upcoming bills and for tracking bills progress. It also provides brief email templates and call scripts for supporting or opposing bills.

ICE Citizen’s Academy Course on How To Arrest Immigrants

To: [find your congressional senators and representatives](#) ([WA Patty Murray](#), [WA Maria Cantwell](#), [WA 98225 Rick Larsen](#))

Hello [SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE NAME],

My name is [NAME], and I am [INTRODUCE YOURSELF, YOUR VALUES]. I am writing to you regarding ICE’s recent announcement that it will offer a Citizen’s Academy training course on how to arrest immigrants. The six-hour course will include training in "defensive tactics, firearms familiarization and targeted arrests." This is deeply concerning to me, given the current racial tension in this country. By offering this course, ICE is attempting to recruit white supremacists to make citizens arrests, and further divide this country. They are trying to pin us against each other. This course would put immigrants in danger by giving white supremacists more entitlement to act hostile towards immigrants and POC. Please speak out against this and do everything you can to prevent ICE from offering this course.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

HDQ Neutral: to the City

Information and arguments from [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

To: GReyes@ci.adelanto.ca.us; GHernandez@ci.adelanto.ca.us; SEvans@ci.adelanto.ca.us; ECamargo@ci.adelanto.ca.us; JJeanette@ci.adelanto.ca.us

Subj: Stop Using HDQ Neutral in Adelanto Detention Facility & Release Detainees

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is [NAME], and I am writing to you regarding the recent use of HDQ Neutral in Adelanto Detention Facility in San Bernardino County.

A report by Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice and Freedom for Immigrants states employees at the Adelanto Detention Facility in California are spraying HDQ Neutral — which manufacturer Spartan Chemical warns can be harmful as it can cause skin burns and serious eye damage when inhaled — in poorly ventilated areas filled with detainees since May 11th 2020.

It is inhumane to spray chemicals which cause respiratory harm during a pandemic of the respiratory virus COVID-19. It is extremely disturbing to me that you are allowing this to happen.

I urge you to:

- (1) Immediately stop the use of HDQ Neutral in Adelanto Detention Facility;**
- (2) Release detainees, starting with the most vulnerable individuals; and**
- (3) Deny the proposed expansion of Adelanto Detention Facility.**

GEO Group, Inc., the company that runs Adelanto Detention Facility, was previously accused of not doing enough to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in its detention centers. Their failure to (1) prevent the spread of COVID-19, and (2) use toxic chemicals in response to complaints, demonstrates poor management.

The public cares about this. As of June 10th when I am writing this, over 52 thousand people have signed a [change.org](https://www.change.org) petition to stop the use of HDQ Neutral in Adelanto Detention Facility.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

HDQ Neutral: to the Detention Facility

Information and arguments from [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

To: Gabriel.A.Valdez@ice.dhs.gov; CRCLCompliance@hq.dhs.gov; JJanecka@geogroup.com

Subj: Stop Using HDQ Neutral in Adelanto Detention Facility

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is [NAME], and I am writing to you regarding the recent use of HDQ Neutral in Adelanto Detention Facility in San Bernardino County.

A report by Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice and Freedom for Immigrants states employees at the Adelanto Detention Facility in California are spraying HDQ Neutral — which manufacturer Spartan Chemical warns can be harmful as it can cause skin burns and serious eye damage when inhaled — in poorly ventilated areas filled with detainees since May 11th 2020.

It is inhumane to spray chemicals which cause respiratory harm during a pandemic of the respiratory virus COVID-19. It is extremely disturbing to me that you are allowing this to happen.

I urge you to:

- (1) Immediately stop the use of HDQ Neutral in Adelanto Detention Facility;**

(2) Release the detainees, starting with the most vulnerable individuals.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

Graham Blumenthal Bill / EARN IT Act

Note: The bill has only been introduced and passed Committee. The Senate will vote next.

Track its progress: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/116/s3398>

Information and arguments from [here](#).

To: [find your senators](#)

Senator [RECIPIENT NAME],

My name is [NAME] and I am your constituent of [CITY, STATE]. I am writing to you regarding the Graham Blumenthal Bill S. 3398, also called the EARN IT Act. I am urging you to vote NO on the Bill if it reaches the Senate.

The Bill would allow a "National Commission on Online Child Sexual Exploitation Prevention" to develop unspecified "best practices" for owners of internet platforms to "prevent, reduce, and respond" to child exploitation online.

- (1) There would be an extremely short timeline to debate and write the best practices once the Commission made recommendations. This would allow a sloppy law that could censor innocent people.
- (2) The Bill undermines Section 230, which enforces that individuals who say something illegal online are held responsible, instead of platforms. The Bill would make platforms more responsible for what users say, which would make them censor and constrict users more.
- (3) The Bill violates the First Amendment rights of both users and platforms. It would lead platforms to become more restrictive in what speech they allow.
- (4) Passing the Bill without first deciding what "best practices" are is risky because it could allow for constriction of internet platforms which would encourage them to restrict the speech of innocent people.

Again, please vote against the Graham Blumenthal Bill if it reaches the Senate.

Sincerely,

Your Constituent [NAME]

H.R. 6691 Coronavirus Regulatory Repeal Act of 2020

Info [here](#) and [here](#).

To: [find your senators](#) ([WA Senator Murray](#), [WA Senator Cantwell](#))

I am writing to urge Senator [SENATOR NAME] to oppose H.R. 6691 Coronavirus Regulatory Repeal Act, which would make most regulatory changes during the pandemic permanent. Permanent deregulation of certain governmental agencies would be devastating. This is especially true for the EPA which was already made dysfunctional by the Trump Administration's budget cuts. Further deregulation would hold back or even reverse progress on environmental issues. It would disproportionately harm Black and Brown communities because environmental injustices systemically fall there due to systemic racism. Please oppose the Coronavirus Regulatory Repeal Act.

Arts & Culture Funding and Support

Demands and info [here](#), petition.

To: [find your senators](#) (WA Senator Murray, WA Senator Cantwell), find your representatives ([Bellingham Area Rep Larsen](#), [Bellingham Area Rep DelBone](#))

My name is [NAME] and I am [INTRODUCE YOURSELF, YOUR VALUES]. First I would like to thank [SENATOR/REP NAME] for their work to support [WHO THEY HAVE SUPPORTED DURING COVID-19. YOU CAN FIND THIS ON THEIR WEBSITES] during COVID-19.

Today I am writing to urge [SENATOR/REP NAME] to dedicate the same financial support to the Arts and Culture sector. The Arts and Culture sector makes up 4.2% of GDP and adds \$877 Billion in value to the U.S. economy. Unemployment from COVID-19 has taken a huge toll on artists and they must be supported throughout the rest of the year to prevent even more damage to the US Economy and the artists' livelihoods.

By August 1st, I ask [SENATOR/REP NAME] to:

- (1) Extend the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation through at least December 31st 2020;
- (2) Subsidize COBRA for those in danger of losing health insurance;
- (3) Dedicate robust relief and investment in the Arts and Culture sector, proportionate to its contribution to the United States economy.

Thank you again for your work to provide support and relief to communities severely affected by COVID-19.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

> Auto-Emails & Other Templates

<https://defund12.org/>
<https://emailforblm.com/>
[50409 Resistbot Usage Guide](#)
[Justice for Julius Jones](#)

[Email Template of NAACP's Demands](#)
[Contact Info for Legislators in Your State](#)
[How To Email Your Mayor About Police Reform](#)
[blacklivesmatters.caard.com MN templates](#)
[Email Seattle City Council to reduce SPD Funding by 50%](#)
[Email Virginia Mason to NOT merge with CHI Franciscan](#)
[Email Congress to pass HR 40](#)

> Education Resources

I highly recommend the starred items, which have MANY more resources for educating yourself

**[The Basic Guide to why BLM is Needed](#) (a google doc if you don't know where to start)

**[Anti-Racism Education & Resources: The Ultimate Document](#) (google doc)

[Abolition Studies](#) (google doc)

[5 Series on Netflix to Educate Yourself](#)

[How to Be an Antiracist](#) (book)

[Me and White Supremacy](#) (book)

[Books and Podcasts about Environmental Justice](#)

[So You Want to Talk About Race](#) (book)

[Things That Make White People Uncomfortable](#) (book)

[University of Washington Lectures Library](#) (video and audio lectures)

[Media to Watch, Read, and Listen](#)

[Seattle Central College - Research on Police Brutality and the Current Uprisings](#)

[The Case for Reparations](#) (article)

> Demands of Specific Organizations

<https://blacklivesmatter.com/>

<https://libguides.seattlecentral.edu/c.php?g=1046607&p=7594343>

<https://m4bl.org/policy-platforms/>

[BLM Seattle-King County Demands](#)

[NAACP Demands](#)

> Donations, Petitions and Businesses to Support

I highly recommend the starred items

**[What You Can Do to Support the BLM Movement](#) (google doc)

**[Mutual Aid Document for Protesters in MN](#) (donate to individuals who need aid)

[Find Black Owned Businesses](#)

[America's Black Owned Businesses](#)

[Black Lives Matter Petitions](#)

[Center for Policing Equality](#) (petitions, places to support, people to contact)

[Black Queer & Trans Organizations to Support](#)

[G.L.I.T.S - securing housing for transgender youth](#) (donate)

<https://webuyblack.com/> (black-owned businesses)
<http://theblackwallet.com/> (black-owned businesses)
<https://officialblackwallstreet.com/directory/> (black-owned businesses)
[Don't buy from companies that support prison labor](#)
[Transgender Organizations to Donate, Elevate, and Support](#) (list in caption)
[Southern Poverty Law Center](#)
<https://justiceforbreonna.org/>
[House of Tulip](#)
[Morris Home](#)

> Possible Upcoming Topics

- Vauhxx Booker (Information from the [petition](#), [interview](#))
- Tyler McClain (calls to action unclear. [petition](#), [gofundme](#))
- Elliot Ave Gentrification Project (Information from the [petition](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#))
- Voter Suppression / USPS budget cuts
- Matthew Tucker
- Emerald Black
- Shali Tilson
- James Scurlock
- Darnell Chaffin
- Desmond Phillips
- Dana Fletcher
- Cash Bail
- Missing indigenous women
- Felony disenfranchisement
- Use of Facial recognition software in police departments
- Stop armed preservation of confederate monuments
- social security income threshold?
- Police unions
- Indigenous peoples day
- Mandate implicit bias and anti-racism training