

July 13, 2020

Dear [REDACTED],

During your Special Session, you and the rest of the Oregon State Legislature Joint Committee on Transparent Policing and Use of Force Reform will have the opportunity to truly protect the lives and Civil Rights of Oregonians.

Oregon police murder or violate the civil rights of Black Oregonians almost daily. On July 9, 2020, Portland Precinct Commander Mike Leisure said that Portland Police are being harmed “by cans of chili thrown by protestors”. On the same day, Cory Darling, Chief of Police in Sunriver, stated their police officers “really enjoy yoga”. These police leaders are making a mockery of Black Oregonian Lives. Their violence on Black Oregonians is reprehensible and the community – the people of Oregon – demand better TODAY.

In concert with Rep. Leslie Herod of Colorado, our Oregon community organization, **Pearl United for Black Lives Matter**, demands:

- End to qualified immunity at state level for law enforcement officers. Personal liability up to \$25,000 each time they violate constitutional rights. No longer allow law enforcement officers to shield themselves from justice using qualified immunity.
- End choke holds and all related police actions at the neck and airway.
- Peace officers must be required to wear body cameras at all times while in contact with a member of the public. Camera footage must be released to families and the public within 21 days.
- Peace officers must be reprimanded (including termination) when willingly failing to activate /reactivate or tamper with body cameras, while in contact with a member of the public, or if related to interaction at hand
- If a police officer fails to follow body camera guidelines, they should be terminated and only be eligible for reinstatement if exonerated by a court.
- Peace officers intervene when another officer is using unlawful physical force and requires the intervening officer to file a report regarding the incident. If a peace officer fails to intervene when required, the P.O.S.T. shall decertify the officer.

Pearl United for Black Lives Matter further demands that, in response to a protest or demonstration, a law enforcement agency and any person acting on behalf of the law enforcement agency:

- Shall not discharge kinetic impact projectiles and all other non- or less-lethal projectiles in a manner that targets the head, pelvis, or back.
- Shall not discharge kinetic impact projectiles indiscriminately into a crowd.
- Shall not use chemical agents or irritants, including pepper spray and tear gas.

Lastly, **Pearl United for Black Lives Matter** demands Oregon maintain a statewide, public-facing database with data collected in a searchable format and publish the database on its website. Any state and local law enforcement agency that fails to meet its reporting requirements is subject to suspension of its funding by its appropriating authority.

Thank you for protecting Oregonian Black Lives. We passionately defend the Lives and Civil Rights of Black Oregonians, and all Oregonians. We trust you and your colleagues will enact legislation as written above.

Sincerely,
Pearl United for Black Lives Matter
Pearl District, Portland, Oregon