

Santa Clara Police Department 17 hrs ·

Update to Chief Nikolai's Virtual Townhall Tune in on Thursday, June 11 at 7 p.m.

I am deeply saddened by the events taking place in Minneapolis involving the tragic death of George Floyd and the ensuing violence. The actions of the involved officers should be investigated thoroughly, and the justice system should act swiftly. Most importantly, all officers should never forget that inaction when witnessing potential excessive force is the same as condoning it.

I am proud of the men and women here in the Santa Clara Police Department. We continue to protect and serve all, acting professionally and with integrity. While we have the support of many community members, we realize trust with law enforcement is tarnished when incidents like this occur, regardless of their location.

Several residents and local business owners have reached out to our department with inquiries about our policies, the training of our personnel and practices in place to mitigate police brutality in our community.

Given the sensitive nature of this topic and my sincere desire to have your inquiries addressed in full, it is my preference to take this conversation to the community. I'd like to facilitate a real-time, two-way conversation with residents (virtually) on Thursday, June 11 at 7 p.m. At that time, I plan to address:

• Department policies (available online at www.scpd.org)

• Training (e.g. legislative mandated training through California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training to include Use of Force, de-escalation, implicit bias, etc.)

• Current technology (e.g. body worn camera) as well as less lethal force situations (e.g. pepper spray, rubber projectiles, electric control weapon, etc.) available to our officers

• Community resources (e.g. inquiry and complaint process with Internal Affairs Division, Chief Advisory Committee, etc.)

• Current and future reporting requirements (e.g. AB 748 video/audio recordings, SB 1421 release of records, AB 392 use of force, mandatory reporting of demographics with police contacts, etc.)

• Recruiting efforts to reflect the make-up of our community

• Ways for community members to get to know their Police Department (e.g. Chat with the Chief, Coffee with a Cop, Talk and Tour, etc.), as well as ways to better understand a day in the life of a peace officer (e.g. Citizens' Police Academy)

• Systemic changes in law enforcement

• Next steps to strengthen our community-police partnership

Prior to the meeting, if you have additional topics you would like to see addressed, please email police@santaclaraca.gov.

The meeting details are as follows: Zoom: https://santaclaraca.zoom.us/j/99436944967 Webinar ID: 994 3694 4967 Or, participate by phone at: 669-900-6833

Thank you, in advance, for your participation as we continue to build upon our community-police partnership. - Chief Nikolai