

**Community Forum on Immigration**  
**3/30/2017**

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STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
COMMUNITY FORUM ON IMMIGRATION

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Taken at 7150 W. Vernor Highway  
LA SED Youth Center  
Detroit, Michigan  
Commencing at 6:10 p.m.,  
Thursday, March 30, 2017  
Before Sheila D. Rice, CSR-4163, RPR, RMR  
Notary Public, County of Wayne

**Community Forum on Immigration**  
**3/30/2017**

1 APPEARANCES:  
2 CHAIRPERSON WILLIE E. BELL, District 4  
3 VICE CHAIRPERSON RICARDO R. MOORE, District 7  
4 COMMISSIONER ELIZABETH W. BROOKS, At-Large  
5 COMMISSIONER CONRAD MALLETT, JR., At-Large  
6 COMMISSIONER LISA CARTER, District 6  
7 COMMISSIONER EVA DEWAELESCHE, Appointed  
8 COMMISSIONER REGINALD CRAWFORD, District 3  
9 COMMISSIONER EDGAR VANN, JR., District 2  
10 COMMISSIONER RICHARD SHELBY, District 1  
11 COMMISSIONER DERRICK SANDERS, At-Large  
12 CHIEF JAMES CRAIG  
13 SECRETARY GREGORY HICKS  
14 ROBERT BROWN  
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1 Detroit, Michigan  
2 Thursday, March 30, 2017  
3 6:10 p.m.

4 - - -

5 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Good evening. Thank you.  
6 I'm Commissioner Willie Bell. I'm Chair of the Board  
7 of Police Commissioners from District 4. We're going  
8 to call the meeting to order at this time. It's about  
9 6:11.

10 Do we have a chaplain or a minister in the  
11 house this evening?

12 I'm going to ask my good friend, Commissioner  
13 Shelby, for opening prayer.

14 COMMISSIONER SHELBY: (Invocation)

15 AUDIENCE: Amen.

16 THE COURT: I'm going to start the  
17 introduction of the commissioners to my right.

18 COMMISSIONER CARTER: Good evening. My name  
19 is Lisa Carter. I'm commissioner for District 6.

20 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: Good evening.  
21 Elizabeth Brooks, Appointed.

22 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: Good evening. Derrick  
23 Sanders, Appointed At-Large.

24 COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHÉ: Good evening.  
25 Commissioner Eva Garza Dewaelsche, At-Large.

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1                   CHAIRPERSON BELL: And to my left starting  
2 with the Vice Chair.

3                   VICE CHAIRPERSON MOORE: Good evening,  
4 everyone. My name is Ricardo Moore, Vice Chairman. I  
5 also represent District 7, which is northwest Detroit.  
6 Welcome.

7                   COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: Good evening,  
8 everyone. My name is Reggie Crawford, commissioner of  
9 District 3.

10                  COMMISSIONER SHELBY: Commissioner Richard  
11 Shelby, District 1.

12                  CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.

13                                 And, Mr. Hicks, do we have a quorum?

14                  MR. HICKS: Mr. Chair, yes, you have a  
15 quorum.

16                  CHAIRPERSON BELL: The meeting is called to  
17 order. Once again, I'm going to ask the commissioners  
18 to approve our agenda for tonight's meeting.

19                                 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: So moved.

20                                 VICE CHAIRPERSON MOORE: Support.

21                  CHAIRPERSON BELL: It's been properly moved  
22 and supported.

23                                 Discussion?

24                                 Those in favor, aye?

25                                 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

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1 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Those opposed?

2 Motion carried.

3 CHAIRPERSON BELL: The next item of business  
4 will be the minutes from March the 23rd, 2017.

5 VICE CHAIRPERSON MOORE: So moved.

6 COMMISSIONERS: Support.

7 CHAIRPERSON BELL: It's been properly moved  
8 and supported.

9 Discussion?

10 Those in favor, aye?

11 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

12 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Those opposed?

13 Motion carried.

14 At this particular time we have communication  
15 from the Chief of Police in reference to a personnel  
16 matter, and I'm going to ask our VICE CHAIRPERSON to  
17 move for adjournment, but just inform you we will be  
18 back in session no later than 6:40 timely, because we  
19 scheduled this meeting for 6:30. So I would hope that  
20 you bear with us, but as you well know business comes  
21 before the body we must respond. So we'll be back in  
22 that time frame, whether we're finished or not. And we  
23 might take the matter up later on after we conduct the  
24 main purpose of the meeting, so ...

25 VICE CHAIRPERSON MOORE: Mr. Chairman, I move

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1           that the Board of Police Commissioners meet in a closed  
2           board session under Section 8-E of the Open Meetings  
3           Act to consult regarding personnel issues.

4                        COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Support.

5                        CHAIRPERSON BELL: It's been properly moved  
6           and supported.

7                        Discussion?

8                        Those in favor, aye?

9                        COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

10                      CHAIRPERSON BELL: Those opposed?

11                      Motion carried.

12                      Thank you.

13                      COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Mr. Chair?

14                      CHAIRPERSON BELL: Yes.

15                      COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Can I please invite  
16           everyone to eat while we're in executive session for a  
17           few minutes, and we will be back.

18                      CHAIRPERSON BELL: That would be an order.  
19           Eat and drink in fellowship until we call the meeting  
20           back to order in that time frame. And thank you.

21                      (At 6:13 p.m., the Board went in closed  
22           session. Back in session at 6:33 p.m.)

23                      CHAIRPERSON BELL: Good evening.

24                      Commissioners, the Chair would entertain a  
25           motion to reconvene the meeting.

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1 COMMISSIONER: So moved.

2 CHAIRPERSON BELL: It's been properly moved.  
3 Do I hear second?

4 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: Support.

5 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Support.

6 Those in favor, aye?

7 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

8 CHAIRPERSON BELL: The motion carried. We  
9 are back on schedule with the agenda.

10 I'm going to ask our Vice Chair to address --  
11 The Chair would entertain a motion to address  
12 the issues before us in reference to the personnel  
13 matter as indicated in Chief Craig's communication to  
14 the board.

15 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: So moved.

16 CHAIRPERSON BELL: It's been properly moved.  
17 And second? Do I hear second?

18 COMMISSIONER: Second.

19 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: Second.

20 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Those in favor, aye?

21 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

22 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Discussion?

23 VICE CHAIRPERSON MOORE: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

24 I don't want to go into the details of the closed door  
25 session, but there was a issue dealing with policy in

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1            regards to suspensions without pay that I don't believe  
2            that the commissioners had in front of them. So I  
3            would like -- I would think it would be a proper  
4            decision if we look at the policy for suspensions  
5            without pay.

6                            CHAIRPERSON BELL: Any other discussion?

7                            COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Mr. Chair, I'm  
8            sorry. We couldn't hear him over at this end.

9                            CHAIRPERSON BELL: He indicated there was a  
10           policy -- issue that he was concerned about at this  
11           particular time. That was his concern. That was  
12           Commissioner Moore's concern.

13                           VICE CHAIRPERSON MOORE: My concern is that  
14           we didn't have the policy in front of us dealing with  
15           suspensions without pay, and maybe that was a  
16           preparation issue on behalf of the board. However, I  
17           think that's a very serious issue that we should have  
18           the paperwork and policy in front of us prior to making  
19           such a decision.

20                           CHAIRPERSON BELL: I think the policy is  
21           quite clear. The board has authority to act on this  
22           matter or not act on the matter. So that is clear.  
23           The board has that authority.

24                           VICE CHAIRPERSON MOORE: Right, the board has  
25           that authority, Mr. Chair. However, as it relates to



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1 different entities and items underneath suspensions  
2 without pay what we can suspend without pay for is the  
3 issue.

4 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Is there any other  
5 discussion?

6 COMMISSIONER MALLETT: Mr. Chairman, we can't  
7 hear.

8 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Okay. He's continued to  
9 echo his concern about policy -- us being firm about  
10 suspension with or without pay.

11 I'm stating that the policy is that the board  
12 has that authority. It's clear. That's the basic  
13 policy on any matter. It's a recommendation from the  
14 Chief of Police. So we address it up or down so -- but  
15 he had the part of the discussion on it.

16 So is there any other discussion pro or con  
17 in reference to this matter?

18 If not, I'm going to ask the Chair -- I'm  
19 sorry, the secretary to do a roll call vote to support  
20 the recommendation of the Chief for suspension without  
21 pay.

22 Starting to my -- roll call to the right.

23 MR. HICKS: Commissioner Mallett?

24 COMMISSIONER MALLETT: Mr. Chairman, I was  
25 not here for the discussion so I'm going to abstain.

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1 CHAIRPERSON BELL: You abstain, okay.

2 MR. HICKS: Commissioner Dewaelsche?

3 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Support.

4 MR. HICKS: Commissioner Brooks -- I'm sorry.

5 Commissioner Sanders?

6 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: Support.

7 MR. HICKS: Commissioner Brooks?

8 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: Support.

9 MR. HICKS: Commissioner Carter?

10 COMMISSIONER CARTER: Support.

11 MR. HICKS: Commissioner Bell?

12 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Support.

13 MR. HICKS: Commissioner Moore?

14 VICE CHAIRPERSON MOORE: No.

15 MR. HICKS: Commissioner Crawford?

16 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: Support.

17 MR. HICKS: Commissioner Shelby?

18 COMMISSIONER SHELBY: Support.

19 MR. HICKS: Mr. Chair, the board voting in

20 the affirmative at the requisite number required by

21 charter. The motion passes.

22 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Motion is passed.

23 Okay. The matter has been resolved. The

24 matter was voted up for the recommendation as indicated

25 in the matter to the board from the Chief of Police.

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1           So we can move on to the next item.

2                       I'm just going to ask our staff to stand.

3           Mr. Hicks, I'm just going to ask the staff to stand and  
4           then we can identify -- for the sake of time, we're not  
5           going to do a name person, but we appreciate the board  
6           staff are going to stand at this time so we can see  
7           them to my immediate right. Thank you.

8                       (Applause.)

9                       CHAIRPERSON BELL: And I do want to introduce  
10           our Chief Investigator, Pamela Davis-Drake. And also  
11           -- I'm looking further down. We can pass you, Chief.  
12           We always say he needs no introduction, but we always  
13           continue to introduce the person, but I'm going to say  
14           Chief Craig, the Chief of Police.

15                      CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you. Thank you. Oh,  
16           that's so nice.

17                      (Applause.)

18                      CHIEF CRAIG: I would just ask my staff to  
19           stand and be acknowledged, please. Thank you. Thank  
20           you.

21                      (Applause.)

22                      CHIEF CRAIG: Appreciate it. Thank you.

23                      CHAIRPERSON BELL: If we have any elected  
24           officials in the audience or representative, would you  
25           please stand to be acknowledged.

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1                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: Representing Congresswoman  
2 Brenda Lawrence.

3                   CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.  
4                   (Applause.)

5                   CHIEF JAAFAR: Chief Jaafar representing  
6 Sheriff Benny Napoleon.

7                   CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.  
8                   (Applause.)

9                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: (Inaudible.)

10                  CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.  
11                  (Applause.)

12                  CHAIRPERSON BELL: Sorry about that. Flowing  
13 this paper here now. We're going to move directly into  
14 the community forum on immigration. And I'm going to  
15 do alignment in terms of proceeding now to get the  
16 panel in place.

17                  Thank you for bearing with the musical  
18 chairs, but we're trying to get set up in the proper  
19 order that we've been designated as such.

20                  At this time, I would like to introduce our  
21 immediate past Chair and also commissioner from  
22 District 6 that would be to my right, Commissioner Lisa  
23 Carter.

24                  COMMISSIONER CARTER: Good evening, everyone,  
25 and welcome to the District 6. Thank you all for

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1 coming out, and I just wanted to say that this issue is  
2 so important in this community, and I'm so happy that  
3 the Board of Police Commissioners felt the need to come  
4 to this community and have this dialogue. So thank  
5 you, Board of Police Commissioners, and thank you for  
6 all of you who came out to attend tonight. Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 CHAIRPERSON BELL: I just want to say again  
9 I'm Commissioner Willie Bell. I'm Chair of the board.

10 The Board of Police Commissioners consists of  
11 11 commissioners. Basically by charter there's seven  
12 and four appointed by the Mayor. And we have authority  
13 -- supervision and authority in reference to the  
14 Detroit Police Department.

15 And I'm going to sum it up. We have a  
16 handout in the back that gives you an overview of our  
17 Board of Police Commission, also our website. But  
18 basically is that we are the liaison to the community  
19 and police. That is our role since 1974.

20 So the OCI, the chief investigator,  
21 investigates all noncriminal complaints involving  
22 Detroit police officers. So staff is here to address  
23 any concerns you might have at any point in time in  
24 terms of the format this evening. And DPD staff is  
25 here also.

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1                   So as we move right along, I just want to  
2 state that as we address the Board of Police  
3 Commission, as you know police must respect the law  
4 always. No one is above the law. We want to show our  
5 residents, especially our immigrant community, that the  
6 Detroit Police Department is deeply committed to  
7 helping all people when they call the police. When you  
8 call 911, you want service. We do not question their  
9 immigration status. You know that, but that's why this  
10 forum is important and we highlight that. That's why  
11 Chief Craig is here. That's why other DPD -- that's  
12 why this board is concerned dealing with that.

13                   In conjunction with the Chief and with  
14 approval of the Mayor, we approve the policies, rules  
15 and regulations of the Detroit Police Department. It  
16 is a combined effort to provide quality constitutional  
17 policing in the city of Detroit. And I know we have  
18 that, because you are here and you are concerned and  
19 you're a big part of that to monitor. And you let us  
20 know when we have some concerns in reference to we're  
21 not doing the right thing.

22                   Enforcement of immigration law is the  
23 responsibility of the federal government. It is not  
24 the role of the local police department and local  
25 government. You know that in terms of -- and we want

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1 to make sure that we spell that out.

2 At this time, this meeting is going to be  
3 televised on cable, my understanding also on radio.  
4 Its schedule is going to be available. At this time  
5 the focal point -- and we are so pleased to have this  
6 commissioner serving on this board, and that's  
7 Commissioner Eva Dewaelsche. She's going to give you  
8 -- address why we're here this evening.

9 Commissioner Dewaelsche.

10 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHÉ: Thank you so much,  
11 Mr. Chair.

12 We're very fortunate in this community,  
13 because we have leaders that are very vocal and they  
14 say what's on their mind and they ask for help and  
15 assistance when it's necessary. And actually we had  
16 some people from LA SED, Mary Carmen Munoz and Belda  
17 Garza from Mana who came to one of our board meetings  
18 and said that there were problems in our community and  
19 that the police had to help and explain to our  
20 community what is the policy and also to allay the  
21 fears of our community, because there are a lot of  
22 things happening that people are not aware of.

23 And so I commend this board for agreeing to  
24 come to have a special meeting, because normally we  
25 meet at three o'clock at Headquarters every Thursday.

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1           And one night a month -- I mean the second Thursday of  
2           every month we do meet in the community, but they  
3           agreed to have this special meeting so that we could  
4           come and hear what the concerns are of the community,  
5           what is happening firsthand. So thank you. I want to  
6           give them an applause.

7                                (Applause.)

8                                COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: It was not an easy  
9           task. It took a lot of planning, and so thank you very  
10          much. We try to get a panel of experts and people who  
11          are dealing one-on-one and who this is their job  
12          working with our immigrant community who advocate, who  
13          are leaders in the city, who work for the Chief, who  
14          works for the police department, so that they can  
15          answer your questions and kind of give you an overview  
16          of what it is that each of their departments or areas  
17          work and do to help our community.

18                              Bottom line is that we want -- to the best of  
19          our ability, we want our community to feel all the  
20          members of the city of Detroit, all members to feel  
21          that they are protected and that we have your back and  
22          that you do not have to be fearful or live in fear.  
23          And so we want to be able to educate you on what the  
24          policies and practices are.

25                              And we also have resource tables and people



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1 behind those resource -- manning those resource tables  
2 that have information for you to take home. And I know  
3 that several of our panelists are going to give you  
4 information on things that can help you as a resident  
5 of the city of Detroit and as a community member.

6           So let me begin by -- first, I want to  
7 introduce all five panelists that we have here for  
8 tonight, and then we're going to ask each one to give a  
9 brief presentation of about three minutes. And then  
10 we'll follow that at the end of the presentations with  
11 questions and answers. And we will have a time element  
12 or time limit for the question and answer period,  
13 because we want to give as many people an opportunity  
14 to speak as possible. So it's two minutes. And we do  
15 have Mr. Brown here who works for the commission who  
16 will be timing people who get up to the microphone.

17           And I do want to mention that we have --  
18 Andrea from LA SED is kind of in the back there who  
19 will translate for individuals who need to have this  
20 meeting translated. And there is a section there that  
21 she will be available to do that.

22           Also, if anybody has a question and they  
23 cannot speak English, she will come up and help with  
24 the question and translate as well as the response.

25           As our Chair, Mr. Bell, indicated, it is

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1           being televised, and we will have available the dates  
2           that this will be shown on cable at our website,  
3           correct.

4                           So thank you so much for being here. We can  
5           always count on people to come when we have our  
6           meetings here at LA SED. Thank you so much. Even in  
7           the rain. So thank you so much.

8                           (Applause.)

9                           COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: And let me -- so  
10          for our panelists today we have Chief James Craig from  
11          the Detroit Police Department.

12                          (Applause.)

13                          CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you. Thank you.

14                          COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: And Councilwoman  
15          Raquel Castaneda-Lopez who represents this area,  
16          District 6.

17                          (Applause.)

18                          COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Dr. Agustin Arbulu  
19          who's the director of the state Civil Rights  
20          Department. Thank you.

21                          (Applause.)

22                          COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Mr. Adonis Flores  
23          who is with Michigan United.

24                          (Applause.)

25                          COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: And Mr. Michael

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1 Nowlan who is an immigration attorney with Clark Hill.

2 Thank you all.

3 (Applause.)

4 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: So can we please  
5 begin with Chief James Craig.

6 COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: Eva, if I can  
7 just --

8 CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you very much.

9 CHAIRPERSON BELL: One second. We've got a  
10 little --

11 MS. CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: I think just for this  
12 translation just to say it in Spanish so that they know  
13 that there's translation equipment. I can do it if  
14 you'd like to.

15 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Sure.

16 MS. CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: (Addressing audience in  
17 Spanish.)

18 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you very  
19 much.

20 Chief Craig, please.

21 CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you. And I'll be brief  
22 and I'll certainly welcome any questions.

23 So I'll start out by saying that I'm happy to  
24 be here and entertain any questions or concerns. I  
25 will tell you that nothing, no policies as it relates

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1 to immigration with this department, has changed. As  
2 you will hear during our discussion, the City of  
3 Detroit put in place in 2007 a policy that impacted the  
4 police department. And so I'm going to go through some  
5 key points, because I think it's important.

6 So first and foremost our focus -- and I want  
7 MLive Gus from MLive to get this correctly -- our focus  
8 is never immigration status. I'll say it again. Our  
9 focus is never immigration status.

10 So because -- and I'm going to talk a little  
11 bit about a meeting I had with ICE just last week,  
12 because we wanted to understand some issues. Again,  
13 immigration status should never be the sole focus of  
14 any investigation involving the Detroit Police  
15 Department. We are committed, steadfastly committed to  
16 victims, witnesses and people who seek police services,  
17 and because of that we never ask their immigration  
18 status, never. It's just not what we do.

19 And so during our meeting with ICE on last  
20 week, because there's been a lot of conversation about  
21 a change, this is what was communicated to me. First  
22 of all, ICE has no interest -- and this just doesn't  
23 impact the Detroit Police Department, but they have no  
24 interest in local municipal police departments acting  
25 as immigration officers. They do not want that. It's

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1 very complex training, but that's not something they  
2 want.

3 In fact, what was communicated to me during  
4 that meeting is that in terms of sweeps they don't do  
5 sweeps. What they do as articulated to myself and our  
6 staff is they do selected enforcement.

7 Now, the one change -- and again, this is not  
8 the Detroit Police Department. This is the federal  
9 authorities. They will do selected enforcement, but  
10 along with selected enforcement they will do something  
11 called collateral enforcement. So if they have a  
12 target that they're looking at and they initiate some  
13 kind of stop for investigative purposes and there's  
14 someone else in that person's company, they will, not  
15 DPD, they will look at the status of that individual,  
16 and it's called collateral investigations. And so  
17 again the DPD, as a matter of rule, we don't get  
18 involved in their targeted enforcement efforts.

19 There was a recent event that I've been asked  
20 a couple of times, I think it was a cockfighting  
21 investigation, that was the Border Patrol's  
22 investigation. The Detroit Police Department was not  
23 involved in that. And so I just wanted to reassure you  
24 with that.

25 Another question I get often, so, Chief, if

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1 we're dealing with an undocumented individual, what is  
2 that. So a first time undocumented individual that's  
3 considered what's described as a federal misdemeanor.  
4 We, the Detroit Police Department, do not enforce that.  
5 If that person is here a second time as an undocumented  
6 individual, it is described as a federal felony.  
7 Again, that's not the role that the Detroit Police  
8 Department plays.

9           And I guess there was some conversation that  
10 got back to Mayor Duggan in reference to Cinco de Mayo,  
11 whether or not federal authorities would be conducting  
12 investigations and sweeps. And this came from  
13 Secretary Kelly who's just recently appointed from  
14 Homeland Security. And he made a strong assurance that  
15 there would be no sweeps, no enforcement action at  
16 Cinco de Mayo.

17           Again, the Detroit Police Department we pride  
18 ourselves with being a model for policing across this  
19 country, and as such we value our relationships with  
20 everyone, everyone who lives in the city of Detroit.  
21 Again, immigration is never the focus of any  
22 investigation that we're involved in.

23           So I know you may have more questions so I'll  
24 wait for the appropriate time to go into more detail.  
25 Thank you.

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1 (Applause.)

2 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you, Chief.

3 CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: And next I would  
5 like to ask Councilwoman Raquel Castaneda-Lopez.

6 COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: Thank you. So  
7 I wanted to echo what Chief Craig stated in terms of  
8 the Detroit police force. We are very lucky, because  
9 other municipalities don't have that same policy. And  
10 oftentimes when you see people getting pulled over more  
11 recently that have been partnering with Border Patrol  
12 and ICE have been the State Police. And unfortunately  
13 we don't have the authority to control the State  
14 Police, but I know that several of the state  
15 representatives are trying to reach out to figure out  
16 how to work with the State Police and modify their  
17 enforcement policy.

18 So within the city of Detroit in my role as  
19 council member on the legislative side so I founded the  
20 immigration task force in 2014 and continue to chair  
21 the city's immigration task force. And so some of the  
22 things that we have been working on have been actually  
23 doing quite a few one-on-ones. We also met with Border  
24 Patrol, met with ICE, met with Chief Craig several  
25 weeks ago, also met with Chief Holt at Wayne State

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1 University to talk about how we can develop a more  
2 unified message and unified strategy to make sure that  
3 people are protected and feel safe and were not  
4 enforcing federal policy.

5 And so some of the things that have come out  
6 of those meetings is, one, in relation to the training  
7 that officers get through the academy with the Detroit  
8 Police Department is to work with the Consulates, the  
9 Consulate of Mexico, the Consulate of Yemen and  
10 (Inaudible) representatives from the Bengali and the  
11 West African community to supplement that training and  
12 offer additional kind of cultural awareness, cultural  
13 sensitivity training specific to those populations to  
14 help make sure that our officers are aware of maybe  
15 different cultural cues and communication tendencies  
16 amongst those groups.

17 Another piece is that we are currently  
18 working on the legislation from 2007 and strengthening  
19 that language and maybe narrowing the focus so it's not  
20 so broad to more egregious crimes versus any criminal  
21 investigations. So that's something that's in the  
22 works.

23 In addition, I just met with actually the  
24 Mayor this morning to talk about these issues. And so  
25 we are going to try to introduce also an executive



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1 order that the Mayor would sign on to essentially  
2 recommitting to being a welcoming city and to investing  
3 into the existing immigrant communities and supporting  
4 and making sure that their rights are protected.

5 Outside of kind of city government we've also  
6 been approached by several foundations to explore the  
7 opportunity of funding these type of efforts and  
8 whether that looks like a legal aid fund created for  
9 some of our immigrant families or some type of  
10 resource. However, people can go and get information  
11 about their rights as immigrants in the community,  
12 whether documented or undocumented.

13 So those are still in very early  
14 conversations, the conversations with the foundations  
15 about getting more resources, but so far it looks  
16 positive and there's interest from several of them.

17 In addition to -- I talked about the  
18 executive order, executive legislation, supplementing  
19 training at the Detroit Police Department. We'll also  
20 be setting up with Border Patrol and ICE regular  
21 stakeholder meetings. So if any of you guys have gone  
22 to the CompStat meetings where DPD gives regular  
23 updates about what is happening in the neighborhoods  
24 and different crime stats.

25 The Border Patrol and ICE function a little

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1 bit differently in that they don't necessarily produce  
2 the same type of public records about their tickets and  
3 such, but the director of Border Patrol was really open  
4 to reestablishing like a regular meeting with different  
5 agencies across the city so that people can ask  
6 questions and those community leaders can take back the  
7 information to people in their neighborhoods to help  
8 alleviate some of those fears and be able to better  
9 answer questions of people that they are serving in  
10 their nonprofits and such.

11 My office as well as State Rep Stephanie  
12 Chang have good communication with both the director of  
13 ICE and Border Patrol so that if there are any concerns  
14 or fears of abuse please call our office and let us  
15 know. There's obviously a 1-800 hotline that you can  
16 report that to, but sometimes we can actually get a  
17 quicker response if you call and let us know and we can  
18 call the directors directly to be able to get those  
19 questions answered.

20 In reference to the cockfighting event that  
21 happened, the director of Border Patrol called me on my  
22 cell when it was happening and explained what was going  
23 on. And we were able to communicate and answer  
24 questions that people had about what that was.

25 So I think that is most of it. Some of the

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1 other work that we're doing is really towards building  
2 diverse, inclusive global city in the city of Detroit  
3 as a whole, and that's more about building a movement  
4 of how do we celebrate and welcome the existing  
5 immigrant communities here as well as welcome new  
6 people. And some of those things tie more to  
7 celebrating immigrant heritage, the nationalization  
8 ceremony that we host each year. We host an annual  
9 citizenship workshop where we have attorneys come in  
10 and provide legal services for free to individuals and  
11 assist them in filling out their citizenship  
12 application. They still have to pay the filing fee,  
13 but the services themselves are free.

14 This year the Mayor has agreed to host a  
15 refugee welcoming dinner to welcome all the refugee  
16 families that have been resettled in the city of  
17 Detroit. So we're excited about that. And we also  
18 host an annual reception for all of the consulates from  
19 the different countries to let them know about what  
20 we're doing in the city of Detroit and to answer their  
21 questions that some of their constituencies might have  
22 about the city of Detroit just being welcoming in  
23 general.

24 So that's pretty much -- there's other  
25 things, but I'll wait until you guys have questions.

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1 Thank you.

2 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you very  
3 much.

4 (Applause.)

5 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: And now Dr. Agustin  
6 Arbulu.

7 DR. ARBULU: Buenas noches. Let me speak in  
8 English, please. As the executive director of the  
9 Michigan Department of Civil Rights, our focus are two  
10 areas, and please remember these two areas.

11 One, enforcement investigations in the state  
12 civil rights laws, meaning that if law enforcement,  
13 schools and other places that are viewed as sensitive  
14 locations act informally or formally and result in a  
15 violation of the Elliot Larson's Civil Rights Act or  
16 any other state's civil rights law we will investigate.  
17 And, if found that there have been violations, we will  
18 charge. That's an important area. And I bring that to  
19 your attention it's because we are aware as being a  
20 statewide agency that there have been activities that  
21 school districts have been approached, and they have  
22 been approached in terms of the federal officials  
23 approaching superintendents and principals of schools.

24 We are quite aware of heightened anxiety and  
25 uncertainty that exist in vulnerable communities,

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1 specifically to the Latino community and the  
2 Arab-American community, and we're quite conscious of  
3 that.

4 The second area that's very important to us  
5 is education, is to educate and prevent. And we  
6 welcome the opportunity to come into your communities,  
7 like we do currently once a month at LA SED, and taking  
8 complaints and providing workshops and other  
9 informative sessions that will educate people on their  
10 rights. To us that's very important to pursue those  
11 dual course of action in southeast Michigan and  
12 throughout the state of Michigan in protecting the  
13 rights of all residents and citizens regardless of  
14 their status.

15 The Civil Rights Department does not ask if  
16 you're a resident, legal or not. However, we are  
17 conscious that any formal complaint that gets -- can be  
18 filed you do have to name the respondent. And you  
19 think that further the respondent then knows who the  
20 claimant is. And, therefore, you can sort of see where  
21 that goes.

22 So we have other ways in which we can try to  
23 be effective in terms of protecting these vulnerable  
24 communities that face challenges. We are concerned  
25 about the 287 G program. Although, there are none,

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1           which is basically an arrangement to a law enforcement  
2           and the feds. There are none in Michigan, but we do  
3           watch that. And our concern is the informal  
4           arrangements that exist that, therefore, schools  
5           unintentionally become pawns or an extension of the  
6           federal government, and that could result in a  
7           violation of the Elliot Larson's Civil Rights Act, and  
8           in such situations we will look into it. I mean, I can  
9           talk on and on in terms of our concern in this area.

10                       One other important area is working with the  
11           Michigan Department of Education. It is our intent,  
12           and hopefully over the next few weeks, that we will  
13           arrive at an arrangement in which we will be issuing a  
14           joint statement that will go to all the schools and  
15           providing certain information for them to be aware in  
16           terms of their protection, because we are concerned  
17           that children are being affected and the safety of the  
18           schools are in danger and are a concern to us. So we  
19           are watching that again very carefully.

20                       So thank you very much, and I'll be more than  
21           happy to answer the questions to the extent that I can  
22           bring -- I can speak openly about it. Thank you.

23                       (Applause.)

24                       COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHÉ: Thank you, Doctor.  
25                       Our next presenter is Mr. Adonis Flores.

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1 MR. FLORES: Good afternoon. Buenas tardes.

2 AUDIENCE: Buenas tardes.

3 MR. FLORES: So my title with Michigan United  
4 is immigrant rights coordinator. As an organization,  
5 Michigan United advocates for social justice, not just  
6 for the immigrant community, but for any communities  
7 that are being impacted by different discrimination and  
8 oppression in our current political climate. We're  
9 fighting for climate justice, we're fighting for racial  
10 justice, we're fighting for economic justice and, of  
11 course, we're fighting for justice for immigrant  
12 families.

13 Along the fight for immigrant rights we're  
14 doing two things. We're advocating for policy changes  
15 at the local level, at the state level and at the  
16 federal level for policies that stop separating  
17 families through deportations. And right now there is  
18 not very much that we can do at the federal level. So  
19 our biggest focus is at the local and the state level.

20 We also educate the community. You are the  
21 first line of defense in your rights. So one of the  
22 things we're doing is knowing your rights trainings so  
23 that the people know what are their rights whenever  
24 they're in contact with immigration authorities or any  
25 form of law enforcement. And that training focuses on

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1           creating an emergency plan for your children and for  
2           your loved ones in case of any emergency, in case you  
3           cannot take care of your children, so that they don't  
4           end up in Child Protective Services, so that somebody  
5           that you trust can take care of them, can pick them up  
6           from school.

7                         But on the local level, we're focusing on  
8           approaching our municipalities and county sheriffs to  
9           implement clear, written policies, whether  
10          administrative or through local ordinances, that  
11          protect the civil rights of everyone regardless of  
12          immigration status.

13                        At the moment, the cities that declare  
14          themselves sanctuaries are under attack by this  
15          administration. And our national coalition, the Fair  
16          Immigration Reform Movement, will be fighting those  
17          policies in court to defend the funding for sanctuary  
18          cities. In the meantime, however, we do not recommend  
19          cities to declare sanctuary. Instead, we recommend  
20          that cities implement clear written policies reassuring  
21          all of its residents that all of their rights will be  
22          protected regardless of immigration status.

23                        And so, first of all, I want to thank the  
24          Detroit Police and for being one of those police  
25          departments that the community trusts. There's three



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1 things that we're advocating for. One of them is don't  
2 ask about immigration status during traffic stops. Do  
3 not racially profile people during traffic stops or  
4 assume that there's an immigration -- that they have an  
5 immigration status that is different from -- based on  
6 their race.

7           And the City of Detroit has an actual  
8 ordinance prohibiting any city employee from doing  
9 that. And the Detroit Police adheres to that ordinance  
10 very well. The community does trust the police. On  
11 that we get very little to no complaints from that  
12 ordinance ever being violated.

13           The other policy we're advocating for is for  
14 police departments not to enforce ICE detainers. In  
15 several federal district courts across the country ICE  
16 detainers have already been declared unconstitutional.  
17 They are not required by law. They are voluntary. And  
18 so we're advocating for clear written policies, whether  
19 through local ordinances or administrative, through the  
20 Chief of Police or the County Sheriff that only  
21 judicial warrants get enforced by the local law  
22 enforcement.

23           And lastly, we're also advocating with our  
24 local law enforcement agencies not to participate in  
25 the 287 G program. We anticipate that this

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1 administration will try to revitalize that program.  
2 And that program is very troubling, because it  
3 encourages racial profiling on behalf of law  
4 enforcement.

5 The City of Detroit is not participating in  
6 that program at the moment, and we're hoping that it  
7 won't participate in the future. This program is also  
8 voluntary. It's not mandatory. It's not required by  
9 law. And those three -- participating in those three  
10 policies and creating clear written policies on these  
11 issues can protect the civil rights of everyone in the  
12 city regardless of immigration status.

13 So those are the policies we're advocating  
14 for at the moment. We do know that in the past the  
15 previous administration about 20 percent of ICE  
16 detainees were recognized by the Detroit Police  
17 Department. We don't know what its criteria for that,  
18 but creating a clear policy on which ones should be  
19 recognized and which ones should not will definitely  
20 help in protecting the civil rights of immigrant  
21 families and everyone in the city.

22 And lastly, in the meantime we are  
23 encouraging everyone living in the city to apply for a  
24 city ID. The city ID is for everyone. And Council  
25 Member Raquel Castaneda-Lopez worked really hard to get

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1 the city ID. The Mayor worked really hard to get the  
2 city ID. The police -- the Detroit Police Department  
3 recognizes the city ID as a valid ID for identification  
4 purposes. It's not a driver's license, but it is an  
5 ID. And just recently this week Sheriff Benny  
6 Napoleon, Wayne County Sheriff, agreed to recognize it  
7 as an official city ID. So this is something that the  
8 families can do to protect themselves and protect their  
9 families and their civil rights.

10 And also create an emergency plan. We have  
11 packets for Know Your Rights at the entrance with  
12 instructions on how to create an emergency plan. And  
13 we're doing those trainings -- we're doing about three  
14 to four trainings every week on what are your rights  
15 and how to create an emergency plan for your family in  
16 the worst case scenario in case a loved one gets  
17 deported. We don't want people to wait until that last  
18 minute. We know nobody wants to think about tragedies.  
19 We know nobody likes to plan for funerals, and so  
20 nobody likes to plan for deportations, but it is  
21 important to get prepared in the worst case scenario.  
22 So we're encouraging everyone to come to one of our  
23 know-your-rights trainings and to apply for a city ID.

24 (Applause.)

25 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you. And now

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1 we'll hear a presentation from Mr. Michael Nowlan.

2 MR. NOWLAN: Hello, everyone. I just want to  
3 applaud the Detroit Police Department for their policy  
4 of not looking into immigration status.

5 I want to share with everyone that our U.S.  
6 immigration laws are broken. For many people who are  
7 here, regardless as to how they got here, there is no  
8 line for them to get into. There's no way to fix their  
9 status. Our immigration laws will probably stay broken  
10 for a while.

11 The good news is that as dysfunctional as our  
12 federal government is that means that bad laws probably  
13 won't be passed either. The good -- the bad thing  
14 about Washington, D.C. is it kills good ideas. And the  
15 good thing about Washington, D.C. is it kills bad  
16 ideas.

17 I would encourage all of us who know someone  
18 who is undocumented, spouse, child, friend, to  
19 encourage them to take a more proactive approach in  
20 their status. There's nothing necessarily that they  
21 can do to file to fix their status. But they can't be  
22 like my two-year old daughter who when they get worried  
23 about something they hide under the kitchen table.  
24 There's no secrets under the kitchen table. So what I  
25 would recommend is that they meet with an attorney,

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1           someone who's licensed.

2                         There are many notarios, people who are not  
3 licensed. There is an organization called AILA,  
4 American Immigration Lawyer Association. The website  
5 is AILA.org. If an attorney makes a mistake, we can be  
6 sued and they can get their money back. That's good.  
7 I encourage them to sit with an attorney to discuss  
8 their situation.

9                         There are a few forms that they can sign to  
10 engage an attorney in the event that they are  
11 discovered. There are a few excellent resources that  
12 they can do -- or access. There is  
13 Michiganimigrant.org. There's a resource page that  
14 tells people how to plan in the event that they are  
15 picked up, in the event they're undocumented, they are  
16 held in custody. So Michiganimigrant.org under the  
17 resource page is excellent. There is also an app  
18 called Notifica, N-O-T-I -- I want to spell this  
19 right -- N-O-T-I-F-I-C-A. That app allows people to  
20 send out a text message to 15 people in the event that  
21 they are detained or apprehended. That's a good way to  
22 let people know where you are and what's going on.

23                         I have to give a couple of other tips if I  
24 can. So in this room, with this distinguished panel,  
25 it's pretty obvious that none of us should commit

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1 crimes, but if you're undocumented it's even more  
2 important. You can drive, you can drink, but don't  
3 drink and drive. Don't go to places where there's  
4 likely criminal activity, and don't participate in it  
5 either. If you go to a cockfight and you're  
6 undocumented, that's not a hard one for law enforcement  
7 to figure out.

8           There are -- we have a term called "sensitive  
9 location." This was mentioned earlier. ICE, unless  
10 it's very specific information and they're concerned,  
11 they do not generally go to sensitive locations. These  
12 are schools and universities, these are churches, these  
13 are hospitals and these are demonstrations. ICE  
14 generally doesn't go there. That's not what they're  
15 supposed to do, and that is still in effect today.

16           However, they do have sites called critical  
17 infrastructure sites. They do spend more time there.  
18 Courts are considered critical infrastructure, airports  
19 are considered critical infrastructure, Amtrak, bus  
20 stations. These kinds of places are where you're more  
21 likely to see ICE.

22           So I think that my parting thought would be  
23 again the people who are undocumented should at least  
24 take some practical approach. Maybe there's nothing to  
25 file, but start thinking about what happens if they are

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1 apprehended, how do they take care of their family,  
2 what would be their next steps. It's a lot harder to  
3 make these decisions if you're in custody.

4 Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you. So that  
7 concludes our presentations, and now we're going to  
8 take questions from the audience. But before I do I  
9 just want to introduce a couple of individuals that we  
10 missed earlier.

11 By any chance do we have our state rep here,  
12 because I'm not sure -- I thought I saw her walk in.

13 No? Okay. I just want to make sure if she  
14 is. Oh, there she is, Stephanie Chang. Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: And then we also --  
17 we're going to have someone from the Mayor's office,  
18 Ms. Siyed (ph). She was going to have information on  
19 the Detroit ID application. There she is. Thank you.  
20 Thank you for being here.

21 (Applause.)

22 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: And then I also  
23 would like to know if Lieutenant Gardner is here from  
24 recruiting?

25 Lieutenant, can you take just a few seconds

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1 to tell us real quickly about recruiting, just real  
2 quickly.

3 LIEUTENANT GARDNER: Good evening.

4 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: Good evening.

5 LIEUTENANT GARDNER: It's good to be here on  
6 tonight and get some information, and it's good to see  
7 the representation from the community out here. And  
8 one of the things that I heard was the talking about  
9 having layers of diversity within the city. The  
10 Detroit Police Department is not void of that layer.  
11 We are looking to recruit. We have been on a  
12 recruiting effort for the last three years. And we  
13 would like to see the representation of this community  
14 within our law enforcement.

15 So we do have myself and Sergeant Gonzalez  
16 here on tonight. Those of you who are interested or  
17 know someone who may be interested in a career in law  
18 enforcement we definitely welcome you to come down and  
19 see us. We also have an online application now that  
20 makes it very easy to do it from your home. But truly  
21 again we also need that representation within our law  
22 enforcement agency. So we do welcome you. Thank you.

23 (Applause.)

24 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHÉ: Thank you very  
25 much.



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1                   And then knowing that there have been  
2 meetings with the Wayne County Sheriff we do have  
3 someone representing the sheriff. I wondered if you  
4 could just give a few words on -- it's Officer or  
5 Sheriff Robert Dunlap.

6                   CHIEF JAAFAR: Robert Dunlap, yes. Chief  
7 Dunlap, my partner. I'm Chief Jaafar and he's Dunlap.

8                   COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: He's the Chief.  
9 I'm sorry. The Chief.

10                  CHIEF JAAFAR: We're both chiefs. He's the  
11 Chief of Jails and I'm the Chief of Operations, which  
12 helps. So he can answer any questions with the jails.

13                  CHIEF DUNLAP: Good evening. On behalf of  
14 Sheriff Napoleon, first we say thank you for inviting  
15 us.

16                  And just to share with you, we did have a  
17 meeting with Michigan United and about 20 other  
18 organizations on Tuesday regarding this very issue, but  
19 prior to that on March 13th we received a visit from  
20 ICE, two of their field directors, and they came to us  
21 for two specific request. They requested that the  
22 Wayne County Sheriff's office, which is responsible for  
23 42 communities in Wayne County, provide to them  
24 documentation of every person that's booked into the  
25 Wayne County Jail. And the second request was to allow

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1           them to set up a desk inside of our jail facility so  
2           that they can interview every person that's brought  
3           into the Wayne County Jail.

4                       And so myself and Chief Jaafar along with a  
5           few others made it very clear that it is Sheriff  
6           Napoleon's position that we will not participate in  
7           that and they are not as well.

8                       (Applause.)

9                       CHIEF DUNLAP: So as it was mentioned  
10          earlier, we've also right way implemented the  
11          recognition of the Detroit ID in line with Mayor Duggan  
12          and Chief Craig. We will recognize the Detroit ID as  
13          official governmental ID when you're doing business in  
14          our facilities. Thank you.

15                      (Applause.)

16                      COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHÉ: Thank you very  
17          much. Thank you.

18                      And then finally I just do want to introduce  
19          Ninfa Cancel. She's back there. She represents  
20          District 6 for the Mayor's office. And she's located  
21          at Patton Park.

22                      (Applause.)

23                      COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHÉ: And then we want to  
24          thank Jane Garcia and Mary Carmen Munoz for hosting  
25          tonight's meeting. Thank you so much.

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1 Jane?

2 MS. GARCIA: Gracias. Buenas noches.

3 I can't begin to tell you how much I  
4 appreciate, Chief, your interest in this community and  
5 the whole city of Detroit. We here, we come before you  
6 humbly thanking you all, commissioners, for caring  
7 about everybody in this city, everybody.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. GARCIA: I want to make sure that you all  
10 know that we have Crystal who is at LA SED who really  
11 does help out the immigrants to get their papers in  
12 order. There is no illegal aliens. They are from  
13 outer space. These are human beings, and we care about  
14 them, all of them.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. GARCIA: So I want to make sure that you  
17 know that I say to my community out here, the Mayor and  
18 all the police departments are ensuring that we get the  
19 ID. I say get in line, everybody get their IDs. That  
20 way it makes it easier for everybody. Please join us.  
21 Gracias. Buenas noches.

22 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you, Jane.

23 And now could we start lining up and we'll  
24 start taking questions from the audience, please.

25 I'm sorry. You can start lining up. I was

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1 going to -- my first order is to ask the commissioners  
2 if they have any questions of the presentations thus  
3 far.

4 Commissioner Mallett?

5 COMMISSIONER MALLETT: So this is for  
6 Mr. Nowlan.

7 MR. NOWLAN: Yeah.

8 COMMISSIONER MALLETT: You mentioned that  
9 courts are an area -- you described them as sensitive.  
10 So I wonder, Michael, do you have any advice? I mean,  
11 let's suppose that, one, there is a person who is  
12 undocumented who gets a traffic ticket in the city of  
13 Detroit. They've got their city ID, but they want to  
14 pay this ticket. They don't want to have this parking  
15 ticket or this misdemeanor violation hanging over them.  
16 What are they supposed to do? How are they supposed to  
17 respond? Their intention is to comply and -- but, if  
18 the courts are an area described as sensitive, then how  
19 is the compliance supposed to occur?

20 MR. NOWLAN: And this is -- thank you. And  
21 this is a very sensitive issue in California, for  
22 example. The chief judge for the state courts is very  
23 concerned that ICE is there, that they are grabbing  
24 people who are going to pay tickets or do whatever.

25 In general, something as simple as that,

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1           paying a ticket, you could send someone else down to  
2           pay a ticket, right, to be compliant. The harder one  
3           is you have to appear before the judge. You have to  
4           show up in person. And let's say you can't even afford  
5           counsel. You have to go in person.

6                        I wish I had a better tip for you. Some of  
7           those people are not discovered by ICE, are not picked  
8           up by ICE, but some people are. And I don't want  
9           people to not comply, because then a bench warrant is  
10          issued. Now we've raised all the concern, all the  
11          visibility.

12                       So I don't have a great answer. It's a great  
13          question. I have a mediocre answer.

14                       COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Are there any other  
15          questions from the commissioners?

16                       COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: Yes, ma'am, madam.

17                       COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Commissioner?

18                       COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: Yes, ma'am. Just a  
19          statement. I'm so glad for this forum. It's very  
20          informative. When not my President, Donald Trump,  
21          first signed the first executive order banning  
22          immigration, I consulted -- as a matter of fact at a  
23          board meeting, the Chief and his attorney, Washington,  
24          they were very responsive with the information. I even  
25          at one meeting -- subsequently I misspoke and the Chief

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1 told me I misspoke, and I welcome that on the issue.

2 But I just want to say that all politics are  
3 local, and we the people have the power. So I always  
4 add all power in politics are local. And what occurred  
5 in the City of New York last week, a week before, where  
6 ICE and a number of other agencies involved with their  
7 task force went and raided building after building,  
8 block after block on this issue of immigrants. And I  
9 got a report that there was some individuals who worked  
10 for some of these companies some 12, 15 years they were  
11 even scared to return to work.

12 So just thank God we're in the city of  
13 Detroit and dealing with this issue. And what's coming  
14 out of Washington, make no mistake about it, is  
15 unconstitutional, and I think the courts will  
16 ultimately bear that out. It's un-American and it's  
17 unpatriotic.

18 So that's my statement. Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHÉ: Thank you,  
21 Commissioner.

22 Are there any other questions or comments  
23 from the commissioners?

24 Hearing none, then we'll start with the  
25 questioning. And when you ask your question can you

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1 tell us who you want to answer, or if anyone can  
2 answer.

3 THE INTERPRETER: She wants to ask a question  
4 about the IDs. So that would be to Raquel?

5 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Bring it down.

6 THE INTERPRETER: So she wants to ask a  
7 question about the IDs. So that would be to Raquel?

8 COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: Sure.

9 THE INTERPRETER: First of all, thank you. I  
10 would like to thank you for taking the time to come and  
11 listen to our voices. We are worried in what is  
12 happening in our community. Thank you, all of you, for  
13 being here tonight.

14 My question is -- she's saying that a lot of  
15 people haven't gotten the municipal ID because they're  
16 afraid because their name will be in the system and  
17 they're afraid that ICE will have their name and  
18 address. Is that true? Will they have access to my  
19 information?

20 COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: Thank you so  
21 much for the question. So with the Detroit municipal  
22 ID program, so Director Fayrouz Saad -- this is as an  
23 aside -- who runs the Office of Immigrant Affairs is  
24 getting married so she couldn't be here tonight, But  
25 Taylor Nelson is in the back. She was laughing saying

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1           that she wasn't Fayrouz. So just to clarify, she can  
2           give you the pamphlets.

3                         But in relation to the ID itself so, yes, we  
4           collect information and we keep it on file for two  
5           years. And so what we try to do when we were creating  
6           the law to protect people's identities was to comply  
7           with the state requirements of FOIA, which is the  
8           Freedom of Information Act, but also to protect  
9           people's identity we specifically don't ask and don't  
10          collect information related to people's immigration  
11          status. So there's no way to really track them in a  
12          database, because we don't identify it at all on any of  
13          the documentation.

14                        And if someone submits a FOIA request, which  
15          is a Freedom of Information Act request, then the only  
16          information that's released is eye color, hair color,  
17          height, and I believe the fourth may be ZIP code.  
18          That's at the state level.

19                        In relation to the federal government, the  
20          risk has always existed that if the federal government  
21          decides to subpoena the City of Detroit or New York or  
22          San Francisco they have that power, and that power has  
23          always existed, even under the Obama administration.

24                        So to a certain extent it's always a risk  
25          that if they subpoena us for documentation we then have



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1 to turn it over. However, there are some limitations  
2 to that. The subpoena has to have -- and the attorney  
3 on the board may be able to speak more to this, but  
4 there has to be a reason for the subpoena. They can't  
5 just come and say, hey, give us all of your documents  
6 without really having any reasoning behind requesting  
7 that information.

8 So we had the law checked by multiple  
9 attorneys, and we think it's pretty strong in  
10 protecting people's identity. And people can't just  
11 come to us and get the information without having  
12 actually something from the court system from a federal  
13 level to be able to get more information besides eye  
14 color, hair color, height and then ZIP code. So we  
15 think it's pretty well protected.

16 COMMISSIONER MALLETT: Why does the  
17 information have to be stored? I understood that in  
18 certain municipalities they just issue the ID and then  
19 they delete the information that they've collected.

20 COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: That's a good  
21 question. That was what we were trying to get done.  
22 But, if you look at the City's history, especially  
23 going back to the Kilpatrick administration when there  
24 was unfortunately a lot of corruption and things were  
25 deleted, there was hesitancy to say that we would just

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1           outright delete information. From a personal  
2           standpoint, that's what we're trying to get in, but  
3           from an administrative standpoint the negotiation was  
4           to keep it on file for two years and then to destroy it  
5           after that time frame. So that the records essentially  
6           -- the ID is only valid for two years. So you keep  
7           records for the duration the ID is valid.

8                           COMMISSIONER MALLETT: I see.

9                           COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: The  
10           municipalities, New York being one, who does destroy  
11           documents and denies access to the federal government,  
12           they are actually taken to court to question the  
13           legality of their legislation and denying access to the  
14           state or the federal government to their database.

15                          COMMISSIONER MALLETT: I see.

16                          COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: So we looked  
17           at other cities. New York was the one that prohibited,  
18           for example, parties like if Trump had one office  
19           prohibited and they were going to delete their files  
20           and then they were taken to court for some of the  
21           legalities around that.

22                          And I'm not sure of detail of what their case  
23           in the city of New York, for us it was a compromise to  
24           a certain extent to keep it for those two years. And I  
25           think moving forward once we see how the program plays

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1 out we would like to look at shortening how long we  
2 keep information. But at this point the information  
3 that we do keep is pretty well protected and  
4 safeguarded. And so I'm not sure the attorney wanted  
5 to speak to that.

6 MR. NOWLAN: So my thought would be we want  
7 to keep some of that information for a while to protect  
8 against fraud.

9 COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: That's true.

10 MR. NOWLAN: And then the other thought, too,  
11 so while President Trump said that he wants to hire  
12 more people, he doesn't have the money today to hire  
13 more people. Even when he gets the money, it takes a  
14 long time to find people, train them, give them a desk,  
15 give them a pencil.

16 So I feel that a two-year time frame it would  
17 be very hard I think for ICE to really have a lot of  
18 manpower to go and request all this information and  
19 pour through it. And even if they did I think given a  
20 subpoena to try and look for people who may have an  
21 ethnic name I think most judges would have a problem  
22 with them trying to get that information, at least in  
23 the climate we have right now.

24 COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: Yes.

25 MR. NOWLAN: You can't look at someone and

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1 ask their name and determine whether or not they're  
2 undocumented. I could be an out-of-status Canadian.  
3 I'd look like everybody else.

4 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you. Thank  
5 you very much.

6 COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: We encourage  
7 everyone to get the ID, because it does help you access  
8 basic services and resources in the city of Detroit.  
9 And from what we've been told by Border Patrol,  
10 although they don't officially accept the Detroit ID,  
11 it is a form of identification to prove your identity  
12 and essentially your residency and that may help. So  
13 just an FYI. It's not officially accepted by Border  
14 Patrol, but it is an ID.

15 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you very  
16 much.

17 And, if you wish to identify yourself please  
18 do so, but it's optional. Thank you.

19 Next. Our next question?

20 MS. NELSON: Real quick. Again, I'm Taylor  
21 Nelson. I'm with the Office of Immigrant Affairs. I  
22 just wanted to say something really quick and add onto  
23 the conversation.

24 I want to emphasize again that the City of  
25 Detroit we personally do not even keep the records of

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1 individuals who apply for the Detroit ID. We work with  
2 a third-party vendor. And so that's where all the  
3 records are housed. So we don't even access or have  
4 access to this information. It's not housed within the  
5 City. It's not on, you know, on a Excel spreadsheet.  
6 So it is very secure. And we work with our third-party  
7 vendor to make sure that this information is secure.

8           The one thing I will also add is with the  
9 two-year the -- with the two years -- we'll effectively  
10 keep the data for two years, is that if someone wants  
11 to reapply for an ID who's already had one it makes it  
12 easier for them because that information is stored. So  
13 that is one advantage of having the information for two  
14 years.

15           And as Council Member Castaneda-Lopez  
16 mentioned, after that two-year point the data is  
17 completely erased, and there's no way to identify who  
18 is undocumented with the ID, who is homeless, who is  
19 elderly, who is just a Detroit citizen. We do not keep  
20 this information. And so that's one of the reasons why  
21 we want to encourage everyone to get the ID, because  
22 everyone, regardless if you are undocumented, whether  
23 you are homeless, you identify as elderly or you're --  
24 you know, you are a youth, we want everyone in the city  
25 to get the ID, because not only does it reinforce

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1 Detroit city pride, but it also reduces the stigma so  
2 people with the ID are not targeted because people may  
3 assume that they belong to a certain identity group.

4 So thank you.

5 COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHE: Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHE: I'm so glad that  
8 you mentioned that. I'm a member of Gesu Catholic  
9 Church, and we're looking at how we help with  
10 sanctuary, some kind of activity or support of other  
11 churches. And one of the things that has been told to  
12 us is that we might want to consider applying for the  
13 Detroit ID for the very reason you indicated so that  
14 there is no stigma, everybody has it. And so that's a  
15 great, great point to make. Thank you so much.

16 (Applause.)

17 MS. NELSON: Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHE: Okay. Before we  
19 have the next question, Commissioner?

20 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: The young lady that  
21 just left, the question I had, she said it was a third  
22 party that holds this information. What happens when a  
23 third party ends up being audited or something comes  
24 toward them in law enforcement since they holding this  
25 third-party information? Can anybody answer that?

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1                   COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: I can answer  
2                   that. So, no, I mean although we may not house it  
3                   in-house, it's still the City of Detroit's information.  
4                   So they can't just release it to an auditor. It's --  
5                   the City of Detroit owns the information and although  
6                   they have the IT system --

7                   COMMISSIONER SANDERS: Even if they have a  
8                   subpoena?

9                   COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: No. I mean,  
10                  it's the City of Detroit's information. My  
11                  understanding is the contract we have with the company  
12                  that's not a freedom that they're given. That's not  
13                  something that they have the right to do.

14                 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: Okay.

15                 COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: So it's owned  
16                 by the City, although the IT system is operated by an  
17                 outside contractor.

18                 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: Thank you.

19                 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you very  
20                 much.

21                 Our next question?

22                 THE INTERPRETER: Two things. One, if we are  
23                 detained by police and we show them our ID from  
24                 Detroit, they know that we can't renew our license due  
25                 to our immigration status. Does this mean they can

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1 give us a ticket for not having a valid license?

2 CHIEF CRAIG: I'll answer that. If you're  
3 detained by Detroit police officers, we will not check  
4 immigration status. The only time immigration status  
5 becomes an issue, if you are arrested and processed.  
6 And it was pointed out by the attorney, if you are  
7 processed you're fingerprinted, which every arrestee is  
8 fingerprinted. It goes into the national database,  
9 which is called NCIC. It is that point that the  
10 federal authorities are aware, especially if there's a  
11 federal detainer or federal warrant out for your  
12 arrest. But just a simple detention, you have a city  
13 ID, you're cited, there is no inquiry into immigration  
14 status.

15 THE INTERPRETER: But will she still get a  
16 ticket for not having a valid driver's license?

17 CHIEF CRAIG: An individual driving in the  
18 city of Detroit, state of Michigan without a driver's  
19 license can be arrested. That's discretionary. Some  
20 officers arrest, some don't. But they don't check the  
21 immigration status first.

22 Again, if the law is being broken, as the  
23 attorney pointed out, that is a risk. It's a risk that  
24 if you're breaking the law and you're ultimately  
25 arrested and certainly that can be a factor. You



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1 cannot operate a motor vehicle in the state of Michigan  
2 without a valid driver's license.

3 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: So just to be  
4 clear, let's make it clear, the Detroit ID is not a  
5 substitute for the Michigan driver's license or a  
6 driver's license. It's an ID. So it needs to be real  
7 clear. Thank you.

8 MR. FLORES: And to that I want to add that  
9 Michigan law allows for a citizen to use their country  
10 of origin's driver's licenses if it is translated for  
11 most countries. There's over a hundred countries that  
12 can -- whose driver's licenses will be recognized as  
13 valid license from their country of origin, whether  
14 that is Mexico or most of Latin America. There's only  
15 a few countries that are not recognized as valid  
16 driver's licenses, but it does have to have a copy of a  
17 translation attached.

18 CHIEF CRAIG: I just want to also add on  
19 that, because I don't want people to be left with the  
20 impression just like moving from the state of  
21 California with a California driver's license at some  
22 point you must obtain a Michigan driver's license. I  
23 don't know what the period is, 90 days. Within 90 days  
24 of obtaining residency in the state of Michigan, if  
25 using California, that's where I came from, I had to

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1 get and obtain a Michigan driver's license in order to  
2 operate a vehicle on the roads.

3 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Second question.

4 THE INTERPRETER: What is the correct  
5 identity of undocumented? She said as Jane said we are  
6 not illegal aliens. What is the legal term she wants  
7 to know that maybe police use to identify an  
8 undocumented person?

9 CHIEF CRAIG: Well, again as police officers  
10 we're not concerned with immigration status. So we  
11 make it attention. We come to your house on a call for  
12 service as a victim. If we're interviewing you as a  
13 witness to a crime, we are not concerned with  
14 immigration status at all. We are not going to ask the  
15 question. The only time it becomes an issue if a  
16 person is arrested and then processed. It is through  
17 the processing of the arrest, particularly if the  
18 person is arrested during a felony and they're  
19 fingerprinted, that issue is transmitted through the  
20 NCIC database.

21 Again. As the attorney pointed out, there  
22 are some risks associated with that if you're involved  
23 in a crime, but a witness, a victim, not an issue. A  
24 person calling for service, not an issue. Never an  
25 issue.

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1                   COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Okay. Thank you,  
2 Chief.

3                   We have to go to the next question. Thank  
4 you so much. Good questions.

5                   MS. SAUVE: Thank you. Thank you, Chief  
6 Craig, and also to Sheriff Napoleon for his support. I  
7 have just a few statements and a comment just to make.

8                   A little while ago there was a statement made  
9 in reference to -- oh. I'm Christine Sauve. I work  
10 for the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center. And so thank  
11 you, Mr. Nowlan, referencing our immigrant preparing  
12 your family guides. So I'm out of those at the moment.  
13 I don't have any personally in my hands, but if anyone  
14 wants copies of those they're very helpful. I can work  
15 with LA SED or anyone else here to put an order in and  
16 we can try to get those into the hands of people.

17                   So there was a statement made earlier about  
18 federal misdemeanor and federal felony, and I just  
19 wanted to clarify that immigration law is civil law and  
20 it's not criminal law. So in reference to the  
21 questioner who just came up on unauthorized presence  
22 alone in the country is not in and of itself a  
23 violation of criminal law. So if someone had  
24 previously entered the country and then re-entered,  
25 then in that case it might be a felony. But I just

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1 wanted to clarify that, because there's a lot of folks  
2 who have not broken any law but they're just simply  
3 unauthorized.

4 And I did want to reiterate the comment about  
5 safety -- taking very care around the courts. There  
6 was a father who just detained yesterday for seeking  
7 custody for one of his children out of court. So  
8 please do take extra special care right now at the  
9 courts.

10 Thank you.

11 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you very  
12 much.

13 Next question? Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. BUTLER: Good evening. My name is Fredia  
16 Butler and I'm a community activist. I wrote what I  
17 have to say. I regret what is happening in our  
18 country. I saw children being separated from their  
19 mothers when I was in D.C. It reminded me of what  
20 happened in our history during slavery. It also  
21 happened during World War II in Nazi Germany. Right  
22 now you're the target and can be easily identified  
23 because of your color and culture. It is not easy --  
24 so easy to single out the people from the islands,  
25 Africa, Europe who may be undocumented, but you are not

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1           helpless or hopeless.

2                       I have given your commissioner, Ms. Eva  
3           Dewaelsche, a copy of all of our 100 United States  
4           senators with their list of phone numbers in  
5           Washington, D.C. I hope that she will have copies made  
6           for you to enlist your family members, friends and  
7           people all over the United States to call and express  
8           your concerns. Put the list on Facebook or E-mail the  
9           list to them. There is power in numbers, and you have  
10          the power to make a difference, and we've got to work  
11          together. It's not just you today, probably us  
12          tomorrow.

13                       (Applause.)

14                       COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you, Ms.  
15          Butler. Before you sit down -- well, let me just say  
16          that Ms. Butler is a very dedicated community advocate.  
17          She comes to our Detroit Police Commission meetings  
18          every Thursday. We meet every week. And so she's  
19          always there. She gave me a list of all the  
20          legislators. It's about ten pages. It seemed like it  
21          was about ten. But you're right, it was about five  
22          pages. And I will make copies and make sure that the  
23          agencies get it so that they can also have it and  
24          distribute it to the community.

25                       Thank you so much. Thank you.

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1 (Applause.)

2 MR. ARBULU: May I just --

3 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: I'm sorry. Yes.

4 Go ahead.

5 MR. ARBULU: I think I'm being remiss. I  
6 know there's a lot of focus at the federal level. And  
7 one of things that you want to pay attention to is  
8 state legislation. You cannot forget about HB 4105  
9 that's out there. And 4105 is the anti-sanctuary bill  
10 that was introduced in the house that would place  
11 responsibility on local law enforcement to report to  
12 ICE an individual who the officer believed or there is  
13 a belief that that individual is not legally present in  
14 the United States. That bill is out there, and you  
15 want to keep focus on that and hopefully it does not  
16 get any traction. And so it's important not to ignore  
17 pending state legislation that's out there, because  
18 with the mood of this country you never know where such  
19 bills can go.

20 MR. FLORES: And I would like to add to that.  
21 Getting involved in advocacy has worked. Getting  
22 involved in peaceful demonstrations has worked. When  
23 thousands of American citizens and Muslims showed up to  
24 the airport to say, yes, Muslims are welcome here,  
25 that's why we stopped the Muslim band.

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1                   When we have thousands of immigrant families  
2 walking on the streets on February, that's why Trump  
3 has not cancelled (Inaudible).

4                   So continue being involved peacefully. That  
5 is the only thing we can do at the federal level right  
6 now. We cannot be afraid. Most of the policies this  
7 administration is implementing are to make people  
8 afraid. And when we accept that here our communities  
9 lose. So we cannot be afraid. We must prepare and be  
10 ready, but we cannot be afraid and we need to continue  
11 participating.

12                   So I want to invite everybody to our  
13 interfaith walk that we're going to have this Sunday at  
14 St. Gabriel Church at 3:30. And then I want to invite  
15 everybody on May 1st we're going to have a walk for  
16 immigrant families. Please don't be afraid. We need  
17 you out on the streets being peaceful and demonstrating  
18 your rejection of this administration's policies.

19                   Thank you.

20                   (Applause.)

21                   COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you very  
22 much.

23                   Our next question, please?

24                   MS. SMITH: Hi, my name is Lorraine Smith,  
25 and I am a business owner in the city of Detroit. I

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1           also have a business in an Ann Arbor and I have been  
2           subjected in the past to when ICE come in and take my  
3           employees out. Also, when employees do not have proper  
4           documentation and we cannot employ them after we do a  
5           background check.

6                         So is there any advice you can give me? I've  
7           had employees that once we started doing background  
8           checks that we had to do them on all employees that had  
9           worked for me 10 or 15 years that we had to let go,  
10          because once we identify that they were illegal -- can  
11          you -- someone give me advice on how to handle that?

12                        MR. NOWLAN: I again have no fabulous tips,  
13          but again if the people are not able to present work  
14          authorization --

15                        So President Reagan signed a really big  
16          immigration bill in the '80s. That's what created the  
17          I-9 form, the employment verification form. And that  
18          document that it doesn't go anywhere, but every  
19          employer is required to complete it for every employee.  
20          And you don't say just people who look Canadian.  
21          Everybody's got to do it.

22                        So if you use something called the E-Verify  
23          or if you somehow otherwise find out that someone's not  
24          work authorized, there's really nothing you can do.  
25          You as a business owner are required to look at the



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1           documentation. You don't have to be a document expert,  
2           but if you look at the documentation, it doesn't appear  
3           to be valid, or if you do a background check or  
4           something else, you realize that they're not work  
5           authorized, you're not allowed to employ them.

6                        To knowingly -- so there are paperwork fines  
7           for I-9s anywhere from roughly \$110 up to 1,100, but if  
8           you knowingly employ someone who is not work authorized  
9           the fines triple. And, if there's enough of them, it  
10          can lead to criminal charges.

11                      So it's -- the present administration is said  
12          to try and turn off the job magnet, what is the United  
13          States. We are expecting more I-9 audits by ICE going  
14          forward. Those fines, those penalties, feed them  
15          hiring more officers, doing more raids, more audits.

16                      I've got nothing. I'm sorry.

17                      MS. SMITH: Thank you.

18                      MR. NOWLAN: I'm sorry. The question was can  
19          you sponsor people. So you can sponsor people, but if  
20          you -- I'll do this briefly. In 1996 we passed a law,  
21          and what we changed was up until that time if you had  
22          violated status, you found a way to get into status,  
23          you went home, got a visa and came back.

24                      Now we have a rule that says if you are out  
25          of status for more than one year and you leave the U.S.

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1           you can't come back for 10 years. So it's a 10-year  
2           bar. And what happens is once you overstay a year,  
3           that 10-year bar kicks in, you have to have a  
4           qualifying U.S. relative to qualify for the waiver. So  
5           a lot of people don't have that. Children do not  
6           count. So what ends up happening is you can sponsor  
7           them as an employer, but it's a dead end, because once  
8           they go home to apply for the visa they can't come  
9           back.

10                   MS. SMITH: Okay. Thank you.

11                   COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you.

12                   Our next question?

13                   THE INTERPRETER: He says good evening to  
14           each of you.

15                   COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you.

16                   THE INTERPRETER: Thank you for giving us the  
17           opportunity to ask you questions face-to-face.

18                   COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Please keep the  
19           microphone a little bit closer.

20                   THE INTERPRETER: Okay. I'm sorry. I'm  
21           Cuban. I'm normally projecting, but okay.

22                   Okay. He works for La Jefa, which is a radio  
23           station, 1310 AM. It's a Mexican-based station that's  
24           working with the Mexican community, and they are on the  
25           air 24 hours a day. Okay. A lot of the questions and

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1 the concerns that they hear about involve people's fear  
2 of ICE. They have never wanted to evade justice in any  
3 way, because it deserves their respect.

4 They would like Mr. Chief James Craig to  
5 speak, although he believes it was already mentioned,  
6 for the Hispanic community to feel more comfortable and  
7 continue working and getting their children to school.  
8 And I believe maybe now this is being videoed so that  
9 it gets out to more people. I guess it's the  
10 commentary regarding the Detroit Police Department's  
11 involvement, or rather lack thereof, with the  
12 enforcement of immigration policies. Yes, basically a  
13 summary.

14 CHIEF CRAIG: Yes, I can do that. I can come  
15 on (Speaks Spanish). I'm not very fluent. I can go on  
16 the radio, the radio show, and speak to the listeners.  
17 And I can also go to a community forum.

18 THE INTERPRETER: He says thank you very  
19 much.

20 CHIEF CRAIG: (Speaks Spanish).

21 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, we'll exchange  
22 information and that would be very awesome if I  
23 could --

24 CHIEF CRAIG: Senor Woody? Senor Woody?  
25 Where's Senor Woody? Somebody from media relations so

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1 we can have contact information and then we can  
2 certainly reach out.

3 THE INTERPRETER: Perfect. Thank you, your  
4 Honor -- I said "your Honor." I say "your Honor" all  
5 the time. Thank you.

6 CHIEF CRAIG: Gracias. Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you very  
8 much, Chief.

9 And just a reminder that this meeting is  
10 being taped and it will be available on cable channel  
11 10, right, in Detroit. So we'll be able to watch it  
12 over and over again and listen to what we're saying  
13 tonight. Thank you very much.

14 Our next question?

15 MR. ALATORRE: Yes. Hi. My name is Antonio  
16 Alatorre. I am an employee for the Mexican Consulate,  
17 and on behalf of the Consul of Mexico, Juan Manuel  
18 Solana Morales and Jesus Gutierrez, my community  
19 affairs organizer, they couldn't be here today.  
20 They're both out of town. But we want to thank you,  
21 all the panelists, for being here, for doing this for  
22 the community. And just to let everyone know that the  
23 Consulate is more than welcome and willing to work with  
24 the community organizations to spread out this  
25 information and that -- for the Hispanic community.

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1 Can I repeat this in Spanish? Yes?

2 (Speaking Spanish.)

3 (Applause.)

4 COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHE: Thank you so much.

5 We appreciate your being here and representing the

6 Mexican Consulate. Thank you.

7 Our next question?

8 MR. ARBULU: May I just comment on that?

9 COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHE: Yes. Yes, Dr.  
10 Arbulu.

11 MR. ARBULU: As the director of the Michigan  
12 Department of Civil Rights, I'm happy that the Mexican  
13 Consulate is here, because we have so many -- not only  
14 within southeastern Detroit or southwest Detroit, but  
15 in other parts of Michigan the work of the Mexican  
16 Consulate becomes very important. And I can think of  
17 Flint, I can think of Saginaw, I can think of western  
18 side of Michigan, Holland, where the work of the  
19 Mexican Consulate can become very critical in working  
20 with this vulnerable community. So I'm happy that he's  
21 here and hope that he will reach out to the Michigan  
22 Department of Civil Rights.

23 COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHE: Thank you. Thank  
24 you very much.

25 Our next question, please?

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1 MS. MARTINEZ: Good evening. My name is  
2 Yvette Martinez and I have two questions. The first  
3 one is in the event that ICE -- or due to news the  
4 community sees that there's events where ICE comes in  
5 or there are ICE that try to pretend to be police or  
6 families believe that they're police or they're the  
7 police so they open the door. So who would be good  
8 tips or advice for families in the community to  
9 identify between ICE and police?

10 (Speaking Spanish.)

11 MR. FLORES: I can tell you a little about  
12 that. We are doing those trainings. We have a packet  
13 here that has those suggestions so they can take home  
14 and review it.

15 ICE has to identify themselves when they're  
16 knocking at the door. That doesn't mean they always do  
17 it. The challenge is if they don't it's your word  
18 against them. So what we're encouraging everybody to  
19 do is if somebody's knocking at the door and you don't  
20 know who they are ask them and start recording. At  
21 least there's video evidence. If it turns out that  
22 they're ICE and they don't identify themselves as ICE,  
23 sometimes they identify as police or they have a vest  
24 that says "Police" and then in small letters "ICE." So  
25 that creates a lot of confusion.

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1                   It's not the Detroit Police doing these  
2 stops. It's ICE, but we can only see the big word  
3 "Police." So that is really important. We want people  
4 to record with their phones, because that way the  
5 American Civil Liberties Union can have evidence if  
6 they actually broke the law and entered your home  
7 illegally.

8                   So once again they need to produce a warrant  
9 to enter your home and it has to be signed by a judge.  
10 Otherwise, they cannot enter without your permission.

11                   So please take the packets. Please sign up  
12 to volunteer. Please come to the event on Sunday. We  
13 need volunteers on Sunday also at St. Gabriel's at  
14 3:30.

15                   CHIEF CRAIG: I just want to piggyback on  
16 that. If you're not certain -- I mean we've had  
17 reports, and this has nothing to do with ICE, where  
18 individuals who are purporting to be or acting as if  
19 they're police officers, they're not, that have gone  
20 into homes claiming they have warrants and only to find  
21 out they're not police.

22                   So if you run into a situation and you're  
23 confused and uncertain dial 911 and the real police  
24 will show up and come out and that should, you know,  
25 assist you in a great way.

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1                   And it is right, most times ICE agents will  
2                   have "ICE" depicted on their protective body armor.  
3                   But again, as it was pointed out, you just can't make  
4                   entry into a home without a search warrant.

5                   COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: And then also,  
6                   too, if you feel that there's an ICE agent or a Border  
7                   Patrol agent that is breaking the law, the same thing  
8                   with me, my office as well as State Rep Stephanie Chang  
9                   have a working relationship with the two local offices.  
10                  So please, please let us know. Get as much information  
11                  as you can as possible and then we can report that  
12                  directly to them as well.

13                  MS. MARTINEZ: Thank you. Gracias.

14                  COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you. That's  
15                  your one question --

16                  MS. MARTINEZ: My one question.

17                  COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Okay. But before  
18                  you go to your second one, that was a very good  
19                  question. And I do want to say that I often get  
20                  complaints that the police are doing sweeps or they  
21                  did -- you know, arrested somebody or they were waiting  
22                  outside of a school, and they think it's the Detroit  
23                  Police. And so, you know, that question does come up a  
24                  lot. And I'm so glad the Chief is here so that he can  
25                  explain to you, you know, it's not the Detroit Police



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1 in most cases, but a lot of people in the community  
2 just put everybody together in terms of law  
3 enforcement. They kind of identify them all as just  
4 police.

5 So that was a very good question and I'm glad  
6 you asked it. Thank you.

7 So your next question?

8 MS. MARTINEZ: My next question is in terms  
9 of communication going into the website City of Detroit  
10 I feel -- I have no clue of such services, such events  
11 like today. Everything is so digital that you have a  
12 phone and like how is it that I'm not able to access  
13 that information or, you know, getting you guys'  
14 pamphlets, these trainings and so forth. I think that  
15 could be a better, I don't know, an incentive to have.  
16 What is being done to change that?

17 (Speaking Spanish.)

18 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Yes. Go ahead.

19 COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: So I agree  
20 wholeheartedly that we are not the greatest marketers  
21 as the city government. So it's kind of handled to a  
22 certain extent by individual officers. So me as a  
23 council member I go out door knocking, we do flyers.  
24 If anyone in this room would like to be like a point  
25 person so that you are on our E-mail list to help send

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1 out flyers to other people or attempt to distribute  
2 flyers in your neighborhood, please let me know.  
3 That's incredibly helpful to us.

4 We use social media, Facebook, Twitter,  
5 Instagram, Snapchat I'm getting. But the thing is the  
6 city as a whole if you go in and you would have  
7 searched Board of Police Commissioners then you can  
8 find the agenda. But to a certain extent you have to  
9 know that you go to the website and search Board of  
10 Police Commissioners.

11 So in general agendas and things are posted  
12 on the City Clerk's website, but there's not -- each  
13 department kind of handles it differently in terms of  
14 how they get the word out. So when you come to these  
15 things it's good to get on the list to kind of sign up.

16 But I would say it's keep of handled on a  
17 department by department basis. So I can speak for my  
18 office, but I know the Chief handles it a little bit  
19 differently and the Board of Police Commissioners  
20 handles it a little bit differently. So I agree, we  
21 can always get better on getting the word out.

22 COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHÉ: Yes.

23 MR. ARBULU: I have one comment briefly.

24 COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHÉ: Go ahead.

25 MR. ARBULU: From the Michigan Department of

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1 Civil Rights we have these cards. I encourage you,  
2 it's outside, to pick up these cards. It has -- we're  
3 on Facebook, we're on Twitter, and it's got a phone  
4 number on here. And, if you're disabled, you're deaf,  
5 blind, hard of hearing, you can use this. And, if you  
6 carry this around, you can always stay connected to the  
7 Michigan Department of Civil Rights and all of its  
8 various activities and all the outreach that we're  
9 doing in southwest Detroit and across Michigan --

10 MR. FLORES: And I also do want to add that  
11 for every Mexican national download the app Consulmex.  
12 It is very useful for finding -- scheduling  
13 appointments with the Mexican Consulate, finding out  
14 the requirements for different transactions. Consulmex  
15 is an app you can download on your phone.

16 If you want information about immigration  
17 services, follow Michigan United on Facebook. We post  
18 tutorials, know your rights videos, information about  
19 the next workshops on our Facebook. And, if you want a  
20 lot of resources, Michiganimmigrant.org. That website  
21 has all the resources that we use at our trainings,  
22 Michiganimmigrant.org.

23 MS. MARTINEZ: And we have that link in the  
24 City of Detroit site. Maybe --

25 COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: So the City of

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1 Detroit is working on coming up with a website under  
2 the Department of Immigrant Affairs. It's one that's  
3 there, but it doesn't have as many resources as we  
4 would like it to have. So that is still being  
5 developed overall. But again, I think if you went on  
6 the website -- you can even call the Office of  
7 Immigrant Affairs and get that information or you can  
8 call our office. I think my Twitter handles  
9 (Inaudible) the number for Detroit. And we post a lot  
10 of -- we post it on Instagram and Facebook about this  
11 event.

12 So in general we poured a lot on Facebook and  
13 Instagram because it's free. But I think you can also  
14 just call the office. And my number to the office --  
15 we have people that speak Arabic, Spanish as well as  
16 English in that office. The number is (313) 224-2450.  
17 Again, (313) 224-2450. And then our district office is  
18 on 1927 Rosa Parks Boulevard. And we are there Monday  
19 through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and also have  
20 multilingual staff there. So if you're not sure and  
21 you just, hey, it's something going on, you're always  
22 welcome to call or shoot an E-mail or send a message on  
23 social media and we'll call you back.

24 COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHÉ: And as the  
25 councilwoman indicated, the City of Detroit website has

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1 a link to the Board of Police Commissioners. And we  
2 try to post all of our meetings, but I do want to say  
3 that this was -- I mean this was planned within a few  
4 weeks because we really wanted to get to the community  
5 right away because of the national climate. We wanted  
6 the community to know that they didn't have to live in  
7 fear. And so that's why this was planned very quickly.  
8 But very good question, and we will try to keep our  
9 website up to date so this kind of information will be  
10 available. Thank you so much.

11 MS. MARTINEZ: Appreciate it.

12 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you. Next  
13 question.

14 THE INTERPRETER: Her question was that now  
15 that season for more work as the summer comes in and in  
16 general people are intimidated to go out to be outdoors  
17 and they do see ICE around like, you know, making their  
18 rounds or just being in outdoors.

19 Can ICE just stop you directly and for no  
20 given reason for your race -- your color or whatever it  
21 may be?

22 CHIEF CRAIG: Let me address that. As I  
23 pointed out, I had a conversation with ICE last week.  
24 What they engage in is what they described for me is  
25 targeted enforcement, meaning they have a specific

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1 individual that they're looking at. That was the  
2 assurance they gave me.

3 I would encourage -- when we met with ICE  
4 last week, there's like a community liaison. That  
5 person is available to talk at community meetings and  
6 talk about what ICE will and what they will not do.  
7 She was very informative. I do not have her name. I  
8 don't know --

9 Do you have the name?

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Valentina (ph).

11 CHIEF CRAIG: Valentina Wright would be an  
12 outstanding resource that can answer those questions.  
13 She was very informative. There were things I didn't  
14 know as it relates to ICE, but I met with not only  
15 Valentina but their executive team that's deployed here  
16 locally.

17 So that would be my recommendation that  
18 somebody reach out to Valentina and maybe make her  
19 available. She can answer those questions.

20 THE INTERPRETER: Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Next question?

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. So I have a  
24 little scenario and then questions after. So if you  
25 guys want to listen.

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1                   Okay. The scenario is let's say two -- a  
2 couple gets pulled over on the street of Detroit. And  
3 they have seven kids and they get arrested. What are  
4 the chances of them being deported and what happens to  
5 the seven kids?

6                   MR. NOWLAN: Okay. So let's assume that all  
7 the children are U.S. citizens, right. Let's assume  
8 all seven children are U.S. citizens. So under federal  
9 immigration law if the couple ends up -- they both get  
10 arrested. Again, it's not clear that they would, but  
11 let's just assume that they both get arrested, if they  
12 get arrested, if they go through that database that was  
13 mentioned earlier, then they could both be held. They  
14 could both go through a deportation proceeding.

15                   If they went through that, they will have to  
16 then try and apply for bond. Whether or not bond is  
17 granted is based on a number of different factors, but  
18 let me say this. Our immigration laws are very cruel.  
19 So we have as a nation, according to our laws, we will  
20 send the parents home. The children can stay. They're  
21 citizens. We don't deport them if they're legally  
22 here, but we send the parents home. It's very cruel.

23                   So having children in the U.S. doesn't  
24 necessarily mean the parents get to stay. Now, whether  
25 those parents have other things that they can try and

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1 do, other rights that they could -- other applications,  
2 something else, all that -- a good idea is to sit down  
3 with someone, lay out your history and then figure out  
4 what kind of things you can do either to see if there's  
5 relief or if there's not. Prepare for the worst and  
6 start thinking through those issues, sir.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Now, let's say  
8 the seven kids they do not have papers.

9 MR. NOWLAN: The seven kids?

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, they don't.

11 MR. NOWLAN: Then --

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What would be the  
13 process for --

14 MR. NOWLAN: So ICE wouldn't necessarily go  
15 to look for the children, but if the parents were being  
16 sent home the parents would then have to try and work  
17 with friends and family to try and help them arrange  
18 travel for their children home. You can always get on  
19 a plane and leave the U.S. It doesn't matter how  
20 undocumented you are. The trick is coming back. You  
21 can always leave. You just can't always come back.

22 MR. FLORES: And I want to add in either  
23 scenario that kids run the risk of ending up in the  
24 foster care system. So that is why we want to urge  
25 every immigrant parent to prepare to get a power of



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1 attorney for somebody that they trust so that somebody  
2 that they trust can take care of those children in case  
3 of any emergency, including detention by ICE. And to  
4 get their passports ready so that if the parents are  
5 getting deported and they want to take their children  
6 with them to their home country they need those  
7 passports, and they need to be valid to take the kids  
8 with them. Otherwise, the parents are going to be  
9 deported and the kids are going to stay here.

10 So we also encourage them to register their  
11 children with their country of origin, with their  
12 consulate. So going to the Mexican Consulate if  
13 they're Mexican, getting them registered there. A lot  
14 of times the Mexican Consulate cannot do anything if  
15 the children are U.S. citizens and they have never been  
16 -- even if they have Mexican parents and they've never  
17 been registered with the Mexican Consulate. So they  
18 must be registered with the Mexican Consulate in order  
19 for them to even be able to intervene.

20 So getting prepared we have a packet. I  
21 really want to encourage everybody get the packet, take  
22 it home, get a power of attorney. Sunday, April 9th,  
23 we're going to have a workshop for powers of attorney  
24 at St. Gabriel's Church in the afternoon also.

25 COUNCILWOMAN CASTANEDA-LOPEZ: I was just

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1 going to add it was conversation we talked about with  
2 ICE if there are minors that are detained then they're  
3 sent to -- and there's no one that can kind of claim  
4 them then they'll be sent to Office of Refugee  
5 Resettlement and then detained there essentially. But  
6 that Border Patrol and ICE will allow --

7 Like, for example, I get pulled over on my  
8 way to go pick up my kids from school and I get picked  
9 up by ICE for whatever reason. But they will allow me  
10 to make a phone call and to make arrangements or follow  
11 me to go pick up my kids, drop them off with somebody  
12 trusted and then kind of take me in.

13 So they are allowing the people actually to  
14 make the phone calls needed before they're actually  
15 taken into detention to make arrangements with their  
16 kids.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Now I've got  
18 another little scenario, but --

19 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Okay. Very  
20 quickly, because we have a two-minute limit for each  
21 question, but go ahead. Very quickly.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. I'm  
23 undocumented. I'm coming home from work let's say, for  
24 example, and then I get pulled over. They ask me for  
25 my insurance and my license, and I don't give it to

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1           them, but yet they still don't arrest me.

2                       My question is what would be the process I  
3 will have to go through to get the tickets, I believe,  
4 get cleared out or what will happen with myself, I  
5 guess?

6                       MR. FLORES: If the person is undocumented  
7 and they get pulled over by the police and they don't  
8 have a driver's license, is that the scenario?

9                       UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, but I don't get  
10 pulled over.

11                      MR. FLORES: You don't get pulled over.

12                      UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I mean -- yeah, I get  
13 pulled over, but I don't get arrested I mean.

14                      MR. FLORES: You don't get arrested. So they  
15 arrest you, but they give you a ticket. So  
16 unfortunately, depending on the ticket, you may have to  
17 show up before a judge. Most of the time for driving  
18 without a license you have to show up to court in front  
19 of a judge. And that means that ICE could be there in  
20 the court system. That is one of the places where they  
21 pick up a lot of people.

22                      If you have to go to court, I would recommend  
23 you go with an attorney, because if you don't show up  
24 to court then you're going to have an arrest warrant  
25 for not showing up to court. So I know it's a very

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1           difficult situation.

2                       Most of the time in the city of Detroit we  
3           don't have that issue and people just go to court and  
4           pay the tickets. In other cities, in other court  
5           districts, we do have that issue where ICE is in the  
6           courts arresting people. In the past it was just for  
7           DUIs, if they had a DUI or a serial -- a very serious  
8           charge. Now we really don't know, but you cannot miss  
9           that court date. We recommend you talk to an attorney  
10          and show up with an attorney.

11                      COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Okay. Thank you  
12          very much for all those questions. Very good  
13          questions.

14                      UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

15                      COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: And then it looks  
16          like we have one final question. If you could come  
17          forward, please.

18                      MS. MEDINA: Hi. I'm Crystal Medina.

19                      COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: You have to speak  
20          in the mike.

21                      MS. MEDINA: Hi. I'm Crystal Medina, and  
22          this young man has one more question.

23                      My name is Mario Hernandez and I think what I  
24          have is less of a question and more of a suggestion for  
25          the community. I have lived in the United States for

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1 over 20 years. I have worked very hard to support my  
2 family here, and I am at the point where I may be  
3 deported shortly. I have a small business in this  
4 country. I have never had a criminal issue.

5 He wants everybody just to understand how  
6 important it is, these things that we've been stressing  
7 all night to get the community involved and active. He  
8 is a christian person. He doesn't want anything bad  
9 for anyone else, but even still they're ready to deport  
10 him from this country.

11 His suggestion is for us to be united as much  
12 as we can and to God bless each of you.

13 (Applause.)

14 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you. Thank  
15 you so much for that comment, and very good suggestion  
16 for our community.

17 I am going to thank again all of our  
18 panelists who stayed until every question was answered  
19 and who provided their expertise and their knowledge.  
20 I hope that it was hopeful.

21 I want to thank the Chief and I want to thank  
22 the Chair, Willie Bell, for agreeing to host and to  
23 have this special meeting for our community.

24 And I especially want to thank -- well,  
25 LA SED for hosting it, but the courageous, courageous

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1 community members who came tonight to talk to all of  
2 these law enforcement officials. You are -- you have  
3 such courage, and I am so proud to be from your  
4 community, a latina from Detroit. Thank you so much.

5 COMMISSIONER MALLETT: Would the Chairman  
6 move adjournment?

7 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Before we close, I just  
8 want to acknowledge the big three for making this  
9 happen in a short time period of two weeks, that's  
10 Commissioner Dewaelsche, give her a round of applause,  
11 and Mr. Hicks and Deputy Chief Watson.

12 (Applause.)

13 CHAIRPERSON BELL: And naturally I want to  
14 thank my board for making it happen with their  
15 attendance. And thank Chief Craig and his staff.

16 (Applause.)

17 CHAIRPERSON BELL: And by all means give a  
18 round of applause for the panel for all the good  
19 information. I would hope that you will share that  
20 information.

21 And I just want to make an announcement that  
22 our next meeting is going to be next week. That will  
23 be on April the 6th at 3 p.m. at Public Safety  
24 Headquarters. And our community meeting on April 13th  
25 will be at New Greater Zion Hill Church, 18891 St.







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