

Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Civil Rights Division  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Office of the Assistant Attorney General, Main  
Washington, D.C. 20530

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Dear Assistant Attorney General Clarke,

On behalf of the City of Austin and the Travis County District Attorney's Office, we write to request the Department of Justice conduct a "pattern-or-practice" investigation into the Austin Police Department policies, practices, and procedures related to use of force for crowd-control purposes during the protests in Austin from May 29 to May 31, 2020.

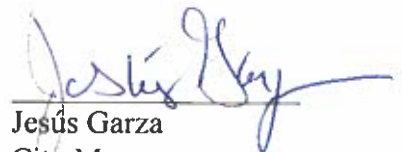
The parties seek a review by the Department of Justice (DOJ) because following the 2020 murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis and the death of Michael Ramos in Austin, the City experienced large-scale demonstrations and protests. During the protests on May 30 and 31, 2020, Austin Police Department (APD) officers used "less lethal" bean bag rounds to control crowds and protect property. In doing so, the APD officers caused serious injury to numerous protestors and community members.

A Travis County grand jury returned felony indictments against APD officers in connection with uses of force against protestors. As of today, criminal cases are pending against four officers. Additionally, the city has paid more than \$18 million to resolve civil lawsuits brought by injured protestors. Eight civil suits remain pending.

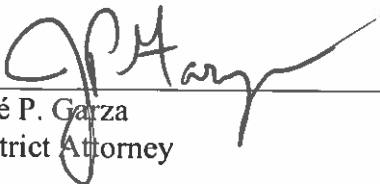
The parties seek DOJ review to help provide transparent closure for the community, to ensure that justice is done, and that any response to similar protests in the future will not result in unnecessary or unlawful use of force.



Kirk Watson  
Mayor



Jesús Garza  
City Manager



José P. Garza  
District Attorney

December 4, 2023