STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMISSION ON

PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING

PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS ACCOUNTABILITY ADVISORY BOARD

(POSAAB) MEETING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026

9:00 A.M.

MEETING HELD

AT THE OFFICES OF

COMMISSION ON POST

860 STILLWATER ROAD, SUITE 100

WEST SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Stenographically Reported By:
Kathryn S. Swank
California Certified Shorthand Reporter #13061, RPR

A P P E A R A N C E S

POSAAB MEMBERS PRESENT

ROBERT DOYLE
Marin County Sheriff (Retired)
Vice Chairperson

NICOLE CLAVO, Psy.D.
Governor Appointee
Public Member

REGINA HATCHER-CRAWFORD
Governor Appointee
Public Member

CEPHUS JOHNSON
Governor Appointee
Public Member

CHARLES LARA
Governor Appointee
Management Rank Peace Officer

MARGARET PENA
Speaker of Assembly Appointee
Public Member

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PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS ACCOUNTABILITY
ADVISORY BOARD LEGAL COUNSEL

CHRISTOPHER BEATTY
Deputy Attorney General
Department of Justice
Office of the Attorney General

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A P P E A R A N C E S C O N T I N U E D

POST STAFF

ANNEMARIE DEL MUGNAIO
Assistant Executive Director
Peace Officer Standards
Accountability Division
Executive Office

RICHARD COLLINS
Law Enforcement Consultant
Professional Conduct Northern Bureau

BRYANT HENLEY
Attorney IV
Legal Affairs Bureau

BRIAN HOFFMAN
Attorney IV
Legal Affairs Bureau

CHANDLER KNAPP
Analyst II
Executive Office

MICHAEL MARSHALL
Law Enforcement Consultant
Professional Conduct Southern Bureau

DAVE SIEBER
Law Enforcement Consultant
Professional Conduct Southern Bureau

SARAH WALLACE
Bureau Chief
Intake and Disposition Bureau

CARRIE WOOLLEY
Attorney IV
Legal Affairs Bureau

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A P P E A R A N C E S C O N T I N U E D

ALSO PRESENT

KASEY CASTILLO
Counsel for
Hector Victorio, POST ID: C87-Q51

JOSEPH HOFFMAN
Counsel for
Matt White, POST ID: A68-U16

LESLIE WILCOX
Counsel for
Jose Zavala, POST ID C28-A48
and
Julio Quintanilla, POST ID: C58-G04

MICHAEL MARSHALL
Law Enforcement Consultant
Professional Conduct Southern Bureau

HECTOR VICTORIO
POST ID: C87-Q51

MATT WHITE
POST ID: A68-U16

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PUBLIC SPEAKERS

KEYAN BLISS

AARON BLUEFORD

BEATRICE JOHNSON

WANDA JOHNSON

ADDIE KITCHEN

ARLETA NANCE

A P P E A R A N C E S C O N T I N U E D

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

KATHRYN WADE

MORGAN WHITE

LANCE WILSON

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Wednesday, April 15, 2026, 9:05 a.m.

West Sacramento, California

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VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Today is April 15th, 2026. And the time is 9:05.

Thank you for all attending the Peace Officer Standards Accountability Advisory Board hearing.

Please note that the hearing is being live-streamed, recorded, and transcribed. Further, please note that the microphones are auto on/off. When speaking, they will go live. With this, you will need to watch cross-talk.

We will now call the role of board members.

MR. KNAPP: Thank you, Vice Chair Doyle.

Clavo.

MEMBER CLAVO: Present.

MR. KNAPP: Crawford.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Present.

MR. KNAPP: Doyle.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Present.

MR. KNAPP: Dudley.

(No response.)

MR. KNAPP: Johnson.

MEMBER JOHNSON: Present.

MR. KNAPP: Lara.

(No response.)

MR. KNAPP: And Pena.

MEMBER PENA: Present.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Thank you.

A quorum has been established.

On my left is POST Counsel Chris Beatty. And on my right is POST Assistant Executive Director Annemarie Del Mugnaio.

First item is public comment. This time is set aside for members of the public who wish to comment on items not on the agenda, but those within the Board's jurisdiction.

Public comment on matters on the agenda will be heard after each item is presented. Public comment on specific peace officer revocation cases to be heard today will be heard at the time of the hearing of each matter.

Is there anyone present in the audience or remotely who would like to address the Board in public comment?

(No response.)

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Okay. Please be advised that the Board cannot take action on items not on the agenda and may discuss those matters only to the extent necessary to determine whether any matter should be made an agenda item at a future meeting, to respond briefly

to statements or questions posed, to request clarification, or to refer the item to staff.

Please remember that this meeting is being transcribed so -- so I may politely interrupt and ask you to repeat or speak slowly and clearly so your comments can be correctly captured in the transcript.

As the Board's Vice Chair, I may ask members of the public to limit their remarks to no more than three minutes pursuant to existing board policy. I may conclude the public comment period if -- I may conclude the public comment period if multiple speakers are voicing repetitive or similar statements and that the 15-minute public comment period has expired.

You will be given two minutes to speak. And the lime limits will be exactly enforced -- strictly enforced, so please ensure that you complete your thoughts within the allotted time.

Before I open public comment on matters not on the agenda, please note that if you wish to comment on disciplinary matters scheduled to be heard today by the Board, you must wait until that matter is called to offer public comment.

If you have a specific complaint about an officer that is not on today's agenda, you should file a complaint with POST or with the officer's employing

agency. POST staff will assist you in that regard.

I would like to remind individuals making comments not to discuss pending complaints or pending disciplinary actions that may later come before the Board -- before the Board for a recommendation.

If the opportunity to address the Board at the time allows these rules is necessary to comply with the law and to avoid complementing -- compromising board mission (as stated). When it is your turn, you may -- you may state your name and organization.

So we'll open it up to public comment.

Anyone in the audience who wishes to address the Board?

Please.

MS. KITCHEN: My name is Addie Kitchen.

My name is Addie Kitchen. I'm the grandmother of Steven Taylor, who was murdered in April of 2020 in San Leandro. He was in a mental health crisis at the time.

And my question is, how do I start to apply for a decertification from the officer? How do I know that the officer is still certified? And is there someone here that could help me to start the process?

MS. DEL MUGNAIO: Yes. Thank you so much. We have members of our complaint intake team who can help you to file that complaint, register your case with the -- with

our division. That would be investigated and we would be in contact with you.

So as you go back to your seat, a member of the team will come up and get your information and help you with that process.

MS. KITH: And can you tell me how long is that process?

THE WITNESS: It depends on how long the investigation takes. It depends on the complexity of it. How long it takes for us to get records from the agency can take anywhere from six months to a year.

MS. KITCHEN: Okay. Thank you. I think that's the only questions I have.

MS. DEL MUGNAIO: Thank you so much.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Thank you.

MS. NANCE: Good morning. My name is Arleta Nance. And I am the mother of Tahmon Wilson and Thomas Wilson, Jr.

On August 18th, 2023, my son Tahmon was shot in the back of the head and killed by the Martinez, California, Police Department. And my son Thomas was shot twice in the back and survived. After being shot, my son Thomas was also assaulted by officers.

Internal Affairs conducted an investigation into this case and found misconduct serious enough to warrant

the termination of multiple officers. The findings included excessive force, failure to report misconduct, and conduct that reflects abuse of authority.

These are not minor violations. These are categories that fall directly under POST's definition of "serious misconduct."

In November of 2025, I filed multiple complaints with POST and received confirmation that they were accepted. Those complaint numbers are PUBLIC-25-001465, 001466, 001467, 001468, and 001469.

I have not received any meaningful update shortly after filing those complaints.

So my question is simple: If these findings meet POST's own categories for serious misconduct, what is the status of these cases? And are they being reviewed for decertification? And did the agency meet its obligation? Which -- Martinez agency, they were obligated to report the misconduct to POST within ten days.

Impacted families deserve to know whether this process is working. And if somebody could help me with information. I have sent emails, follow-ups, and I have heard nothing back. Left messages on the recorder, because you can't talk to anybody when you call. And it's been since November. So...

MS. DEL MUGNAIO: Certainly. Thank you for your comments. And we will have someone get in touch with you. There's members here that can reach out to you and give you the status of those complaints.

MS. NANCE: Okay. Thank you.

MS. DEL MUGNAIO: You are welcome.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Thank you.

MS. WADE: Good morning, everyone. My name is Kathryn Wade. I'm the mother of the late Malad Raynal (phonetic) Baldwin. My son was assaulted many years from Antioch Police Department.

And in 2023, the FBI and the district attorney performed a -- an investigation in that department, and they text about the sexual assault that happened to -- that they -- that happened to my son.

I'm here today because I have submitted many complaints over the years. And I just found out about POST, and I would like to get it -- see if I can get an investigation and get some help of what they did to my son. He never got a chance to tell his side of the story, of the stories of the things that was happening to him.

And I have a question too.

Do you accept complaints of the sheriffs who are the acting coroners?

MS. DEL MUGNAIO: Yes. So POST has jurisdiction over any certified peace officer, so that would include sheriff coroners as well. Yes, ma'am.

MS. WADE: Okay. Well, I'm here today because I need some help on getting this information to you all that I have, to see if I can get some help. And an investigation on the things that was done to my son and even the admission in the text messages that they text about him.

Thank you.

MS. DEL MUGNAIO: I can have someone reach out to you here today that will help you with the process. Okay?

MS. WADE: Okay.

MS. DEL MUGNAIO: Thank you so much.

MR. BLUEFORD: Good morning.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Good morning.

MS. DEL MUGNAIO: Sir. Can you hold on one second?

I'm sorry. I just want the record to reflect that Board Member Charles Lara joined the quorum so that we have that on record.

Thank you, sir. Go ahead.

MR. BLUEFORD: Yes, ma'am. Thank you.

My name is Aaron Blueford. I'm Alan Blueford's brother, from the Alan Blueford Foundation. My mother

is Jeralynn Blueford. And I'm here to speak on the impact it had on me and my family's life. I didn't know we couldn't use the speech that I had, but...

But on May 6th, my younger brother, Alan Dwayne Blueford, at 18 years old, had two weeks to graduate.

And before we could see that milestone and have that -- have that whole feeling of seeing your son and your brother, your family member, go and graduate high school, he was killed by an officer that had other -- had did other things and were sent from another state. Had violations out there. Did something to my little brother. He passed away, tragically. It tore apart my family. And he was able to again go and do something else to somebody else. And this is on record.

At 18 years old, Alan Blueford was killed. After that, his mother went through health problems. Father went through health problems. Lost my grandmother. Lost my aunties. It just was so traumatic to my family, and each family that experienced something like this, who had to face identifying a son or a brother and living with that and seeing that for the rest of their life.

My mother's been speaking. She's been at D.C. We've been pushing forward with the Alan Blueford Foundation.

And I wrote something. You know, I wrote a little something that I think everybody could value in here because we all have a family. We all have people that we love. And this should be understanding and heartfelt. So before time runs out.

As tears wear our eyes, while families endure a pain that doesn't subside. When hearts have spoken, let their voices be heard. As the faith in each name stands in God's glory and mother's love and nature of her -- of our nourishment. Let each word be heard. Every life, every testimony, for each hour of each day facing a reality with memories of tragedies. Living in one nation under God, let their voices be heard as we stand in solidarity. Let their voices give clarity and by their possibilities, as the light of our eyes first came from the love of a family.

I'm here representing the Alan Blueford Foundation. And I just want to make sure that everybody has heard that, in this situation, we can make for a brighter future, more possibilities where this doesn't have to keep continue happening. Mothers don't have to keep appearing in front of you in tears. We could work together. What we have in front of us, we're here in solidarity.

And I thank you guys for this time.

Alan Blueford was such a pivotal person to my family. And when I lost my brother, I lost so much more. And it doesn't -- it doesn't subside. And if we can communicate and agree that we could have a better future for how this is looked at and gone about, I think that's a part of that dream that everybody has been speaking for the last 50 years.

I thank you for your time and your service. God bless.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Thank you.

Is there anyone else in the audience that would like to address the Board?

(No response.)

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Seeing none, is there anybody attending remotely that would like to address the Board?

(No response.)

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: No? Okay.

Next item is approval of the meeting transcripts from February 5th, 2026.

Is there any discussion?

(No response.)

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: If there's anyone present or appearing remotely or by phone who would like to address the Board regarding the approval of the

misconduct or that the revocation or suspension is ordered. That will be determined after the evidentiary hearing.

At the conclusion of each law enforcement consultant's presentation, the Board will have the opportunity to ask questions; and then public comment from the subject -- from the officer and/or their counsel will be taken; followed by members of the public.

Further discussion by the Board will be allowed if necessary.

The Board will go into closed session deliberations after each case or until all cases have been presented and adjourn into closed session to deliberate on all cases presented after reconvening into regular sessions. Votes will be taken on each case.

POST Case 2311370, Jose Zavala; and POST2311373, Julio Quintanilla. Employing agency is Los Angeles Police Department.

At this time, I call upon Law Enforcement Consultant David Sieber and Carrie Woolley, an attorney with Legal Affairs Bureau, to provide a report in these matters involving the two officers that I have mentioned, and who, at the time of the events at issue in this case, were and still are employed by Los Angeles

Police Department.

Law Enforcement Consultant Dave Sieber will present information regarding the service record and allegations or [sic] serious misconduct for each officer; followed by a presentation regarding the factual circumstances of the December 18, 2021, incident.

Following the presentation, each officer and their counsel will have the -- will have time to provide public comment to the Board regarding the facts and circumstances.

Mr. Sieber and Ms. Woolley, you may proceed.

MR. SIEBER: Good morning, Chairman and members of the Board. Excuse me. My name is Dave Sieber, and I'm one of the law enforcement consultants assigned to the Professional Conduct Southern Bureau in the Peace Officer Standards Accountability Division.

With me today is Carrie Woolley, an attorney with our Legal Affairs Bureau.

I'm here today to present POST Case 2311370 involving Los Angeles Police Department Officer Jose Zavala; and POST Case Number 2311373, involving Los Angeles Police Department Officer Julio Quintanilla.

These cases are associated with a single officer-involved shooting incident involving allegations of serious misconduct arising from Officer Zavala and

Officer Quintanilla's use of force, which resulted in the death of an adult male, whom I will refer to as the "victim" throughout this presentation.

It is the Division's determination that clear and convincing evidence exists to demonstrate that Officer Zavala and Officer Quintanilla committed an act of serious misconduct, as set forth in California Penal Code section 13510.8, on December 18th, 2021.

Specifically, the Division has determined that Officer Zavala and Officer Quintanilla committed the following acts of misconduct:

California Penal Code 13010.8(b)(3), physical abuse, including but not limited to the excessive or unreasonable use of force.

In this presentation, I will present a brief outline of the Division's findings regarding this matter.

First, I would like to discuss Officer Zavala's background. Officer Zavala began his career with the Los Angeles Police Department on May 26, 2009.

On October 9, 2009, Officer Zavala was promoted to the position of police officer. This position is a peace officer, as defined under Penal Code section 83 -- 830.1(a).

Officer Zavala earned a POST Basic Certificate on

January 10, 2011.

Next, I will provide a summary of Officer Zavala's prior discipline:

As stated in the initial statement of findings on pages 6 through 9, Officer Zavala is the subject of an -- eight allegations of serious misconduct submitted to the Division. These eight allegations include this case and its related civil matter;

Two allegations that Officer Zavala demonstrated bias, which the Division closed with no further action as it lacks jurisdiction to review because the events occurred before January 1, 2022, and LAPD concluded its investigation before that date;

One allegation of abuse of power and physical abuse from an incident on April 2, 2021, POST Case Number 2502030;

As well as a duplicate allegation of the same incident.

Despite the fact that POST Case 2502030 was closed with a finding of no further action, LAPD sustained a single allegation against Officer Zavala for his excessive and unreasonable use of a front kick while disbursing a crowd on April 2, 2021.

Ultimately, LAPD's personnel complaint investigation resulted in a five-day suspension with

loss of pay and benefits.

Lastly, there were two cases from 2024 which involved allegations that Officer Zavala engaged in an abuse of power and demonstrated bias; were both closed were no further action.

The Division would like to note that these cases were identified as unassigned in the ISF dated February 12, 2026, but have since been adjudicated.

In addition, a review of Officer Zavala's Los Angeles Police Department personnel file indicated that on February 15, 2015, he was involved in a noncategorical use of force when he and his partner responded to a radio call of a prowl suspect. Upon arrival, the officers encountered the complainant, who was subsequently arrested for the warrant.

During the complainant's booking process, he punched Officer Zavala in the jaw without warning.

In response, Officer Zavala initiated a noncategorical use of force, striking the complainant eight times with his fist.

The complaint received facial bruising and a laceration above his eye and was transported to the hospital for medical treatment.

After treatment, officers walked the complainant to their patrol vehicle, at which point he attempted to

flee, resulting in a second noncategorical use of force.

As a result of the collective circumstances and a complaint by a civilian witness, LAPD initiated a personnel complaint investigation on Officer Zavala.

The investigation resulted in five allegations of misconduct, two of which were sustained for Officer Zavala's unauthorized use of force, and for his use of tactics that substantially deviated from the department's tactical training.

LAPD's personnel complaint investigation found that Officer Zavala's use of force was necessary and that his first two punches were within policy. However, the investigation found that he let his emotions lead to excessive force when he followed up with punches 3 through 8.

Ultimately, Officer Zavala received a 15-day suspension with loss of pay and benefits.

This incident occurred before January 1, 2022, and, therefore, was not actionable by POST.

Now I would like to discuss Officer Quintanilla's background. Officer Quintanilla began his career with the LAPD on February 22, 2016.

On August 7, 2016, Officer Quintanilla was promoted to the position of police officer. This position is a peace officer as defined under Penal Code section

83.1(a).

Officer Quintanilla earned a POST Basic Certificate on September 27, 2017; and a POST Intermediate Certificate on September 23, 2020.

Lastly, I will provide a summary of Officer Quintanilla's prior discipline:

As summarized in pages 6 through 13 of Officer Quintanilla's Initial Statement of Finding, the Division has received 20 allegations of serious misconduct involving Quintanilla -- Officer Quintanilla.

These allegations involve this case, its related case, and a duplicate allegation:

Two allegations involving abuse of power and a demonstration of bias, which the Division closed, as it lacked jurisdiction due to the events occurring prior to January 20 -- January 1, 2022, and LAPD concluded its investigation prior to that date;

One allegation that Officer Quintanilla demonstrated bias and used excessive force from 2023. LAPD found the complaint was demonstrably false;

Four allegations that Officer Quintanilla engaged in abuse of power from 2023, in which LAPD found that the complaints were unfounded in three of the cases, and Officer Quintanilla was exonerated in the fourth case;

Two allegations that Officer Quintanilla engaged in

physical abuse, excessive use of force, in 2023 and 2024. LAPD determined that the complainant's -- the complaints were unfounded, unfounded in part, and that the officer's actions were exonerated and the complaint was demonstrably false.

Lastly, there were eight allegations that Officer Quintanilla demonstrating demonstrated bias, six of which were from 2023, one from 2024, and one from 2025. LAPD determined that six of the complaints were demonstrably false and the remaining two were unfounded.

The Division closed these cases following the determination that there was insufficient evidence that serious misconduct had occurred.

In summary, the Division closed these 17 allegations of misconduct after finding that there was insufficient evidence that Officer Quintanilla engaged in serious misconduct.

A review of Officer Quintanilla's LAPD personnel file indicates that he was involved in 13 noncategorical uses of force, all of which were adjudicated as in policy.

Additionally, Officer Quintanilla was involved in seven vehicle pursuits. Six of the pursuits were adjudicated as in policy. And one, which occurred on July 6, 2021, resulted in a sustained finding and a

penalty of admonishment.

Now I will provide a factual basis for the captioned use of force incident involving Officers Zavala and Quintanilla.

On December 18th, 2021, at approximately 1654 hours, communication division received a call that the victim had walked out of his residence, holding a kitchen knife, and was threatening members of the community.

The victim is described as an adult male standing 4'9" and weighing approximately 98 pounds.

According to a relative of the victim, the victim had been drinking alcohol and using narcotics since he was 18 years old, causing what the relative described as an altered state of mind.

At approximately 1701:31 hours, a sergeant from Los Angeles PD's Newton Gang Enforcement Detail, hereinafter referred to the "incident commander," was first to respond to the call.

The incident commander arrived on scene, exited his patrol vehicle, and attempted to communicate with the victim, who was sitting idle on the steps in front of an apartment building located near the victim's residence, holding the knife in his right hand with the blade pressed against his neck.

You can advance the slide, please.

This is an image of the location. The steps there is where the victim was sitting. Just for your reference.

At 1702:05 hours, Officer Zavala and his partner, Officer Quintanilla from LAPD's Newton Gang Enforcement Detail, followed by two additional officers from LAPD's Newton Patrol Division, responded to the attempted suicide call for service and contained the victim.

Officer Zavala and Quintanilla established a perimeter position to the west of the victim and were designated by the incident commander as lethal cover officers.

At 1703:02 hours, the victim placed the knife blade against the side of his throat prompting multiple officers to yell, "Don't do it."

The incident commander directed one of the Newton Patrol Division officers, hereinafter referred to as Officer 1, to deploy his 40mm less-lethal launcher. However, he withdrew the command before Officer 1 could execute the order.

Another officer from LAPD's Rampart Patrol Division arrived on scene in his patrol vehicle. The incident commander directed this officer to join the arrest team.

At 1703:35 hours, the incident commander retrieved

a ballistic shield from his patrol vehicle and gave it to another officer.

The incident commander yelled to Officers Zavala and Quintanilla, "You still got lethal coverage right there -- right here."

For the next several minutes, Officer Zavala and Officer Quintanilla, along with the incident commander, alternated communicating with the victim.

Advance the slide, please.

Moments later, the victim stood, held the knife to his throat, and gestured the sign of the crucifix across his chest with his left hand. The incident commander directed Officer 1 to deploy his 40mm less-lethal launcher by announcing "Forty standby."

At 1704:06 hours, Officer 1 discharged one 40mm round at the victim from a distance of approximately 30 feet.

The round struck the victim in the abdomen and did not -- but did not appear to have any effect.

The victim walked down a short flight of steps towards the officers and then sat idle on the bottom step while continuing to hold the knife against his throat.

At 1705:36 hours, body-worn video recordings captured officers alerting one another that a bystander

was attempting to exit the apartment building behind the victim.

The incident commander yelled, "Hey, stay right there. Do not come out."

Additional officers warned the bystander to stay inside and to move away from the windows. The bystander complied with the officers' orders and remained inside the building with the door closed.

The victim appeared to be oblivious to the presence of the bystander, who was inside the apartment building behind him.

Two additional Newton Gang Enforcement Detail officers arrived on scene. One of the officers deployed a shotgun, positioning himself as a lethal cover officer, along officer -- alongside Officer 1.

The other officer deployed a less-lethal beanbag shotgun and was directed by the incident commander to move to the west side of the containment perimeter to provide less lethal cover for Officer Zavala.

The incident commander and Officer Zavala continued alternating commands to the victim. The incident commander utilized the patrol vehicle's PA system to communicate his commands.

At 1710:17 hours, the victim stood up, removed his hat, and held the knife above his shoulders while

looking east towards members of his family, who were standing behind the containment perimeter.

The incident commander announced, "Get ready," while he transitioned from the passenger's side of the patrol vehicle to the driver's side, where Officer 1 had taken cover.

The incident commander announced "Forty forty up."

After standing, the victim took four slow steps forward, turned to his left/west, and yielded to the officer's commands to stop.

Contemporaneously, Officer 1 announced "Forty standby," as the incident commander instructed him to fire the less-lethal launcher. Officer 1 fired one 40mm round from a distance of approximately 22 feet, impacting the lower right side of the victim's torso.

Approximately .382 seconds after the 40mm less-lethal projectile was fired, Officer Zavala discharged the first of three rounds from his service pistol, from a distance of approximately 25 feet and behind the driver's side door of his police vehicle, striking the victim.

Approximately .322 seconds after Officer Zavala discharged his third round, Officer Quintanilla fired a single round from his service pistol from a distance of approximately 28 feet and behind the passenger's side

door of his police vehicle.

The victim fell to the ground and was subsequently detained.

The victim received medical aid and was transported to the hospital where he ultimately succumbed to his injuries.

This slide gives a depiction of the -- kind of the location of the subject respondents, where the red line is drawn, just for your reference.

On December 21, 2021, the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office performed a postmortem examination of the victim. The report indicated that the victim sustained three gunshot wounds: Two to the torso and one to the neck. Ultimately, the report concluded that the victim's death was the result of a gunshot wound to the torso.

The Los Angeles Police Department's Force Investigation Division investigated the officer-involved shooting, and the results were conveyed to LAPD's Use of Force Review Board.

The Use of Force Review Board was critical of Officer Zavala and Officer Quintanilla's perception of an immediate threat. And they found that their actions were not objectively reasonable, proportional, or necessary.

A subsequent department-initiated personnel complaint investigation reached a sustained finding of "Out of Policy - Administrative Disapproval" regarding Officer Zavala's and Officer Quintanilla's use of force.

Neither Officer Zavala nor Officer Quintanilla were referred to an LAPD's Board of Rights.

Ultimately, Officer Zavala received a ten-day suspension with loss of pay and benefits. And Officer Quintanilla received a five-day suspension with a loss of pay and benefits.

Later, on February 3, 2023, the victim's family filed a civil complaint, which initiated a second LAPD personnel complaint investigation, alleging Officer Zavala's and Officer Quintanilla's excessive use of force. This investigation ultimately determined that the allegation was unfounded for both officers.

However, on March 18th, 2025, the Los Angeles City Council voted to authorize the city attorney to expend up to 8 million to settle the victim family's wrongful death lawsuit, which was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.

As of today, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, Justice System Integrity Division, has not reached a charging decision and continues to review the incident with the assistance of an

independent police oversight firm.

The facts I have just recited support the Division's finding that Officer Zavala and Officer Quintanilla were involved in serious misconduct, specifically physical abuse, including but not limited to the excessive or unreasonable use of force.

For purposes of the Division's analysis, "clear and convincing evidence" means evidence of a charge is clear and convincing so long as there is high probability that the charge is true. The evidence not need establish a fact beyond a reasonable doubt.

The Division recommends that Officer Zavala's POST Basic Certificate and Officer Quintanilla's POST Basic and Intermediate Certificates be revoked or suspended based on the following:

After a review of the evidence developed in LAPD's Force Investigation Division investigation and personnel complaint investigations, multiple body-worn video perspectives of the incident, and an analysis of California Penal Code 835(a) and the 2025 U.S. Supreme Court decision in Barnes v. Felix, the Division concludes that Officer Zavala and Officer Quintanilla engaged in serious misconduct, as defined in California Penal Code section 13510.8(b)(3) and Commission Regulation 1205(a)(3), physical abuse but not limited to

the excessive or unreasonable use of force.

The Division's assessment is supported by the following findings:

The victim was contained and remained no closer than approximately 22 feet from any officer;

Once contained, the victim posed a danger only to himself;

The victim's demeanor was not particularly threatening;

The victim's demeanor was not particularly -- the victim did not pose an imminent threat to the officers who were positioned behind police vehicles, nor to members of the public who were located outside the containment perimeter;

The victim was slow to respond to verbal commands and less-lethal force, suggesting the possible presence of a mental or physical health condition, cognitive impairment, or the influence of a controlled substance;

Lastly, at the time deadly force was utilized, the victim had complied with officers' commands to stop.

Officer Zavala and Officer Quintanilla effectively used distance and cover to create time and space in conjunction with de-escalation measures. However, they initiated deadly force before exhausting available less lethal options.

The Division determined that Officer Zavala and Officer Quintanilla failed to meet the requirements set forth under California Penal Code section 835(a)(C)(2), which limits the use of deadly force to circumstances in which it is necessary, to fend against an imminent threat of death or serious physical injury.

Additionally, the Division requested an independent subject matter expert opinion from Robert Handy of Trichief Consulting Services.

The subject matter expert concluded that Officer Zavala's and Officer Quintanilla's use of deadly force was inconsistent with the tactics being directed by the incident commander and was not based on an objectively reasonable belief that the victim posed an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to officer or others.

Rather, the force was precipitated by the danger the victim posed to himself, which does not satisfy the statutory threshold for deadly force.

Based on its investigation, and after considering the factors enumerated in Title 11, California Code of Regulations 1213(a), the Peace Officer Standards Accountability Division determined that Officer Zavala and Officer Quintanilla failed to meet requirements set forth under California Penal Code section 835(a)(C)(2).

Officer Zavala's and Officer Quintanilla's conduct demonstrated a disregard for public safety, and their conduct was inconsistent with the duties and responsibilities of a peace officer.

Accordingly, the Division finds that Officer Zavala's and Officer Quintanilla's actions constitute serious misconduct, warranting the revocation or suspension of their POST certifications.

I would now like to present the Board with three perspectives captured by the body-worn video devices of Officer Zavala, Officer Quintanilla, and Officer 1, followed by a corresponding timeline of the aforementioned events.

These videos are about one minute each. And we can replay them. You will -- these are a bit of deconfliction or their de-escalation measures for the first 30 to 40 seconds, and then it goes into the deadly force.

We will start with Officer Zavala.

MS. DEL MUGNAIO: Mr. Sieber, before you start with the video, just a disclaimer for the public: Sensitive material. This may be disturbing for some. Just wanted to preface it by saying some of you may not want to watch the video. However, we are going to play it. So I wanted so provide that disclaimer.

Thank you.

(Video played.)

MR. SIEBER: The shots were so contemporaneous that you almost couldn't tell the 40mm less-lethal hit him in the hip. Less than a third of a second later, Officer Zavala initiated the first of three rounds. And less than a third of a second after his third round, Officer Quintanilla initiated his single shot.

Some of the -- some of the other perspectives are a little clearer.

(Video played.)

MR. SIEBER: The last perspective is from the other side to the east. That's to the left of Officer Zavala and Quintanilla.

And you are going to see, through the door frame, from Officer 1., who was using the less-lethal device, you can see him take his shot, and then you can kind of time when Officer Zavala takes his first shot, because you can see him through the window.

(Video played.)

MR. SIEBER: And I have just put an administrative timeline up here, because I know I pushed on a lot of dates and times. I think these are the pertinent ones that talk about when the actions took place from the department. There are two slides here I will leave up

for you.

And with that, I'm happy to answer any questions that the Board may have.

Thank you.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Does the Board have questions?

Commissioner Johnson.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: I do.

MEMBER JOHNSON: Yes. Johnson.

When you were speaking on Zavala and Quintanilla about the prior complaints that was filed, maybe next time a PowerPoint of all the complaints and then the separation of those that was unfounded and those that were sustained.

Because you said a lot with especially Quintanilla; he had 20 complaints filed. And it sounded like most of them was unfounded. And so I was kind of lost in the numbers.

So for next time, maybe clarity, we can actually see it. And I think that would help me better.

MR. SIEBER: Thank you, Board Member Johnson. And it is a very valid point. And I did take the time to put together a more, sort of, streamlined summary of those, if you would like me to read them again. I know it's -- I wanted to provide enough information so

that you understood what the cases were. But now I have distilled it down to just the -- sort of the decision.

Would that be helpful?

MEMBER JOHNSON: Oh, no. You don't have to reread them. But I'm just saying, next time. I get the whole gist. I did read it. But for more clarity.

MR. SIEBER: Understood.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Ms. Crawford?

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Crawford.

I read the report thoroughly. I, at one point, stepped back and go back and read it. I noted that the coroners ruled this as a homicide, per report, correct?

(No response.)

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: And that Chief Moore, at one point, submitted a report stating that he felt the officers were not within POST's guideline as well. But, yet, we have where an internal group -- I forgot the name, I'm sorry -- is still looking into this matter.

So as I said, I went back, looked at it, read it.

One of the things that I wanted to be clear -- clear-clear on: You mentioned that there's a 22-feet radius. The officers were at 25 and 28, correct?

MR. SIEBER: Correct?

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Within seconds -- I sat there and counted it on my fingers -- after the beanbag

was deployed, that within 3.282 seconds, the first three shots were fired, and then a fourth one. Correct?

MR. SIEBER: That is correct. .3 seconds. So a third of a second after the 40mm was fired, the first of three shots was fired.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Okay. And this was the part that I got kind of confused on.

The sergeant and maybe I'm -- commander, sergeant, was given -- was shouting out, "Forty forty." That's in reference to the beanbag, right?

MR. SIEBER: Correct.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: In the report did he at any time say -- because I know that he assigned him as lethal officers, correct?

So from my understanding, for command purposes, he is -- is it -- does the officer have to say "lethal" in order for them to shoot? Or he did not have to say "lethal"?

MR. SIEBER: So two questions.

The first one, he did not. He did ready the 40mm less-lethal by saying "forty forty up," which is a readying command.

In terms of whether or not he has to authorize or command for deadly force, no, he doesn't.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Okay. But it still needs

to be within that 22 perimeter, correct?

MR. SIEBER: Well, 22 feet was -- I was simply noting -- so that the Board and the Commission could understand that at no point was the victim any closer than 22 feet.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Okay.

MR. SIEBER: He was actually further than that to Officer Zavala and Quintanilla. But I think -- I believe he was about 22 feet from -- from Officer 1, who deployed the 40mm. So I went with the closest distance to any officer.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Okay. Perfect. Thank you, sir.

MR. SIEBER: You are welcome.

MEMBER CLAVO: Clavo.

Quick question: They are still currently employed and working today?

MR. SIEBER: Yes.

MEMBER CLAVO: And just to reiterate what I believe I heard you say, charges are still under review.

MR. SIEBER: That is correct.

MEMBER CLAVO: Thank you.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Any other questions?

Ms. Pena.

MEMBER PENA: The two officers received

disciplinary action for this incident, correct?

MR. SIEBER: They did.

MEMBER PENA: And I think one received five days' suspension; and the other, ten.

MR. SIEBER: That's correct.

MEMBER PENA: What was the reason for the discrepancy?

MR. SIEBER: So I -- I would be speculating. But I believe, based on Officer Zavala's prior incidents of use of force, he had three prior sustained allegations that resulted in suspensions of 15 and 5 days.

He would have received more, because they were looking at his service record, and he had more incidents of misconduct allegations.

Whereas, Officer Quintanilla, despite having 20 allegations, none of those were sustained except the captioned matter that we're talking to. So he had not been disciplined for any other misconduct allegations in the past.

MS. WOOLLEY: I just want to add to that: If you look at the dates for Officer Quintanilla's complaints, those are all subsequent to this incident as well. So that would have gone to that as well, his service record. The complaints came in after this incident.

MEMBER PENA: Okay. Thank you.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Clavo.

Oh, go ahead, Charles.

MEMBER LARA: A quick question.

I don't know if it was outlined in the report. I'm unfamiliar with the Los Angeles Police Department term "categorical use of force." Do you have a definition?

MR. SIEBER: I do not have a definition.

Carrie, do you have one?

MS. WOOLLEY: They don't have one in there.

MEMBER LARA: Thank you.

MR. SIEBER: I did do some research on this, and it is -- it's sort of -- the term has to just do with the level of force applied. And in reading their policy, the use of force policy, it is not super clear.

So a fist punch could be a categorical use of force or it could not, depending on how it is applied. And...

MEMBER LARA: Thank you.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Clavo.

MEMBER CLAVO: Yes.

The three cases upheld, do we know how close in proximity those three upheld cases were?

MR. SIEBER: They -- so you are -- to be fair, we're speaking about Officer Zavala.

MEMBER CLAVO: I think it was Quintanilla. Whichever one had the three cases upheld. I'm sorry.

MR. SIEBER: Yes.

So, again, Officer Zavala had -- and let me just go through these. I think it would be helpful just to clarify.

So the two use of force cases that we're talking about today, the criminal and the civil matter, those two, there's eight total.

Then he had two bias allegations that were -- we did not have jurisdiction for.

He had one assault or abuse of power in 2024 that was unfounded.

He had one bias allegation in 2024 that was unfounded.

He had one use of force and abuse of power in 2021 -- to get to your question -- which was sustained for a front kick and for which he received five days of suspension.

And then going all the way back to 2015, prior to POST jurisdiction, his personnel records identified a sustained allegation where he threw eight punches. Three of the punches were considered within policy. Punches -- the last five punches were considered out of policy. And he received 15 days for that.

So in 2015, 15 days. In 2021, five days. And that brings us up to our current matter.

MEMBER CLAVO: Thank you.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Crawford.

While we're not going to consider the previous -- just what's before us -- but you do mention about the bias cases and how they were unfounded.

I'm -- I wasn't clear on how the determination of what could be considered bias and what is not considered bias.

I did read it and I understood the grounds of the complaint. But it seemed that I think Officer Zavala has had more complaints about it. But they were unfounded of course, correct?

MR. SIEBER: What -- Officer Quintanilla had bias allegations that were demonstrably false or unfounded.

Again, I reviewed every single one of the 20 and eight cases in question, reviewed the circumstances of those. I can't get down into the exact details of what happened in those cases, but I'm going by what -- the agency's determination and then POST's subsequent evaluation of their investigation resulted in.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: It just didn't seem like there was a clear, defining measurement of what has consisted of what is -- what his bias is -- bias is. And other than what we read. And that is concerning for me.

MR. SIEBER: Thank you. Thank you, Board Member.

I -- there were several that were demonstrably false. And just to clarify, demonstrably false is stronger than unfounded. And in some cases, they can even imply the complaint may have been intentionally fabricated, so that doesn't mean that we don't review them, but just to be aware of that. And unfounded allegation is false or did not occur or there's no factual basis for the complaint. Simply not enough evidence.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Thank you, sir.

MR. SIEBER: You are welcome.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: I have a question.

Do you know, after the Board deemed the shooting out of policy, who metes out the discipline?

MR. SIEBER: So in this case -- do you want to answer that, Carrie?

MS. WOOLLEY: I can answer it or you can answer.

So generally, that would be either the agency or, with LAPD, I think it is usually the Board of Rights. Although Ms. Wilcox will be better able to answer that since she's familiar with their particular procedures.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Okay. And I assume the unit that did the citizen complaint investigation was different than the shooting board.

MS. WOOLLEY: It appears to be, yes, because they reached a different conclusion.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Yeah. And their conclusion was unfounded.

MS. WOOLLEY: Yes.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Which basically means the complaint was false.

MS. WOOLLEY: Yes.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Thank you.

Board have any other questions?

Ms. Pena?

MEMBER PENA: Pena.

It -- was there -- I read one -- well, I guess I didn't. Was there ever an explanation given for why the mental health unit wasn't called?

MS. WOOLLEY: There was not an explanation as to why the mental health unit was [sic] called. That was mentioned briefly in the report that that was a possibility, but there was not an explanation as to why it wasn't called.

Obviously, as we all know, Los Angeles is a really large city. It is not clear whether they just weren't available, whether there was a callout and they weren't able to respond or -- or not. But they didn't respond to this scene.

MR. SIEBER: And I could also add that from the first time the call went out to when the OIS, the officer-involved shooting occurred, was 16 minutes roughly. But officers were on scene for around 13, 14 minutes. So I don't -- I just don't know that they had had the time to make the call yet.

MEMBER PENA: But they -- they called for an ambulance, correct?

MS. WOOLLEY: They did.

MR. SIEBER: They did.

MEMBER PENA: Almost immediately when they got there, right?

MS. WOOLLEY: That's correct.

MR. SIEBER: Correct.

MEMBER JOHNSON: Johnson.

So we know that there has been no criminal charges filed, according to this shooting.

The decision we make today will have no effect on the criminal trial, correct?

MS. WOOLLEY: That's correct.

MEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. And I guess what I'm getting at is that the district attorney or the County involved in this particular shooting has not determined whether the officers were involved in an unjustifiable shooting at this time, correct?

MS. WOOLLEY: That's correct. They are still making a decision whether or not any criminal charges would be brought. There's an array of different Penal Code provisions that they could look at. They could look at Penal Code section 149, which would be basically an unjustified use of force by a public official. They could be looking at voluntary manslaughter. They could be looking at murder, although that would be highly unusual in a situation like this. But there's an array of different Penal Code provisions.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Crawford.

And so not to be political, at the time this was -- the DA was Gascón, correct? We now have a new DA. So -- okay.

I just wanted to kind of get a perception of the culture at the time of when the shooting and the crossovers of administration.

Okay. Thank you.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Any -- any more questions for the Board?

(No response.)

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Okay. With that, we're going to take a ten-minute break before the next item.

MS. DEL MUGNAIO: Before we have -- excuse me. A 10-minute break before we have officers' counsel and the

officers provide comment to the case. So we won't be moving on to the next case, but we will be hearing from officers' counsel and officers.

Thank you.

(Break taken in proceedings.)

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: I understand both officers are represented. And you will each be given five minutes to speak and the time limits will be strictly enforced. So please be sure that you complete your comments before the allotted time.

While commenting, keep in mind the Board will only consider the facts as presented by the Division today and will not consider any additional facts or defenses at this time.

The sole question before the Board today is the following: If the facts offered by Division today are proven at a later hearing, do those facts demonstrate clear and convincing evidence, a high probability that serious misconduct, as defined in Penal Code section 13510.8 and Commission Regulation 1205, occurred?

Leslie Wilcox is attending for both officers. Please, welcome.

MS. WILCOX: Good morning everyone. My name is Leslie Wilcox. I'm a panel attorney with the Los Angeles Police Department Protective League. And I'm

representing both Officer Zavala and Officer Quintanilla related to this POST investigation.

My basic statement that I would like you all to be aware of is the U.S. Supreme Court case Graham v. Connor, which is referenced in the materials. But it specifically provides for any use of force by any law enforcement officer in the country, but we're specifically talking about California; that that use of force is viewed through the perspective of a reasonable, similarly trained officer, under the same circumstances, based on the totality of the circumstances.

I believe in this particular case, the officers' actions do not rise to the clear and convincing level. LAPD's standard that they use the preponderance of the evidence, which is lower than POST's.

Both officers expressed their fear of the imminent threat that they believed this victim posed to them, based on the knife and his prior actions. So that is the reason that I believe POST will not be able to prove it beyond clear and convincing.

I would also note that the Division is recommending either revocation or suspension. And so if this board disagrees with my vision of the laws that applies to this particular case, then I would ask that you recommend suspension as opposed to revocation.

I heard a lot of your questions that you asked the law enforcement consultant and Ms. Woolley, and I do have information on those generally if you would like to ask. But my position for the public comment for this particularly is that based on under Graham v. Connor, that their fear of the imminent threat was reasonable based on their training and experience and the circumstances that they were presented with.

Thank you.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Board questions?

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Crawford.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Ms. Crawford.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: You mentioned Graham v. Connor.

MS. WILCOX: Yes, ma'am.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: And could you give a quick -- I mean, a quick summary of that case? Because you mentioned it.

MS. WILCOX: I can. It is very old and it is interesting that it is now applied to all uses of force by all officers.

It was a situation in which a man was seen acting erratically and not following officers' commands, and he ends up getting into his car and not listening to what they are saying.

They use force to remove him from the car and a use of force does occur.

It is later determined that he was having a diabetic episode, and these were the reasons that he could not comply and was acting in a way that appeared to be very strange.

So the Supreme Court ended up saying that if a reasonable officer in that situation would have perceived this man's behavior to be the same way, then that use of force is reasonable.

That is a very slim version of that case.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Okay. You also mentioned that the position is that -- and we keep saying the word "reasonable" and a perception of what is reasonable and what is not reasonable when you apply lethal -- lethal force in this case.

I guess where I'm going at is it is -- it's the mindset of the officer is concerning. The purpose of SB 2 was to kind of, in a sense, to protect the community with -- of guarding officers being able to move from -- let's say they got suspended or fired and then were able to move somewhere else to possibly repeat -- repeat things. Maybe not as -- so much as being lethal, but still repeat the same type of practice.

MS. WILCOX: Yes.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: And that's -- that's concerning in this.

And so you mentioned that the officers said that they are concerned about -- that was the last part I didn't catch.

MS. WILCOX: Their imminent fear of the victim's behavior? Is that what you were talking about?

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: No, no, no. I guess you were talking about them being remorseful or --

MS. WILCOX: They are. But I did not say that.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Okay. I kind of --

MS. WILCOX: This is a tragedy.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Right.

MS. WILCOX: They did not anticipate that being what their day was going to look like that particular day at work.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Ms. Clavo.

MEMBER CLAVO: Imminent fear.

MS. WILCOX: Yes, ma'am.

MEMBER CLAVO: From behind the car, protected by a vehicle, a minimum of 22 feet away from a knife?

MS. WILCOX: Yes.

MEMBER CLAVO: Okay. Thank you.

MS. WILCOX: Officers are routinely trained at

LAPD's academy and throughout their career that the distance of a knife is incredibly dangerous to them; that 22 feet is not very far. I can't remember what the timing is that they are trained on that. But it is a very short amount of time that someone can use a knife to throw at an officer or another pedestrian or civilian nearby. And 22 feet is not considered a very long distance for the purpose of an edged weapon.

MEMBER CLAVO: Thank you.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: I have one more question.

So I keep hearing POST training and standards training. And then I hear LAPD has their different practices that they deem is acceptable or not acceptable. And this is where we're kind of getting a little bit confused on it. I am, at least.

MS. WILCOX: Yes. I can see how that could sound confusing.

My understanding is that POST -- and correct me if I'm wrong. POST is a general basic certificate, and then they have advanced certificates, and you can move yourself further throughout both the POST system as well as your own agency.

I believe LAPD's position, if I could speak on behalf of the entire department -- which would be hard to do -- is that they have more extensive training.

They go a little bit further and they do it more often and in more specific scenarios.

So I believe they feel that they provide more and intense training than a POST certificate provides.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: So does a -- does the training, that you know of, align with POST training?

MS. WILCOX: Oh, absolutely.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: So it aligns and they do additional training?

MS. WILCOX: Yes. They follow POST to the letter, as far as I'm aware.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Okay.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Mr. Johnson.

MEMBER JOHNSON: Yes.

I heard you speak about Graham v. Connor, which is basically a national law, to my understanding.

However, in 19 -- I'm sorry, 2019, I was part of the coalition to get AB 392 passed, which is the use of force legislation. So California State has its own use of force legislation. They removed the word "reasonable" and changed it to "necessary."

MS. WILCOX: Yes.

MEMBER JOHNSON: And so the question becomes, for us, is, was it necessary for the officers to fire as quickly as they did?

MS. WILCOX: Yes. LAPD updated their policy to include that new code section regarding "necessary," but it does still include the Graham v. Connor standard. So I would say it is similar to LAPD's training versus POST, and California is slightly more strict than the rest of the country in their officers' use of force.

The officers' statement to the force investigation division, the night of the officer-involved shooting, I believe described what they believed was reasonable and necessary on their perception.

And I believe you have the transcripts for that.

MEMBER JOHNSON: And so if I heard correctly, the officers believed that they were in danger or in imminent danger from the victim?

MS. WILCOX: Yes. They -- they took into account the totality of the circumstances. There had been prior updates, which I believe was presented to you as well, that this person had also been chasing people in the street with a knife. And the initial less-lethal round, as well as their attempts at de-escalation verbally, had been ineffective.

And based on their training and experience, someone advancing with a knife with other civilians around, having not complied and the less-lethal not being effective, both with the way that the victim turned his

body as well as the location in which the officers were, they -- the two of them -- not everyone, it seemed -- but the two of them believed that he posed an imminent threat both to themselves, their partners, and the people around them.

MEMBER JOHNSON: I guess my last question, then. In the video, it appeared that the shots were simultaneous from the nonlethal to the lethal.

And I'm not clear where the imminent threat of danger was coming from with this young man that had a knife to his own throat. Not in a rage of charging. Not in a rage of even giving the idea, in the video, that he was going to attack someone.

So anyhow, I will pin it there. But it is very concerning.

MS. WILCOX: I understand.

I think officers have a very difficult job to do, to make split-second decisions with the information that they have available to them and how they have been trained.

And in edged weapon or knife calls, where the information that the officers had was that he had been chasing people, I believe when he is walking down the steps, the knife is not up to his throat. It appears that that he did want to try and harm himself. But when

he advanced towards the officers and did not stop as requested, based on all the information that they had and the distance, which it appears that 22 feet sounds like a large distance. But my understanding for law enforcement training is that is not a large distance with a knife, and that was the reason that they felt that it was necessary.

MEMBER JOHNSON: I guess my last question, then, truthfully --

MS. WILCOX: You sound like a lawyer.

MEMBER JOHNSON: -- is that the timing between the nonlethal shooting and then the lethal shooting, it was -- it appears that there was no chance to even see if the nonlethal shooting did any damage.

MS. WILCOX: Yes. I can see how you could see it that way. The 40mm round was fired right before the first lethal round was fired. And those officers are positioned in different places on the street. And I believe the two officers who used their firearms had a different perception of what the victim was doing.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Crawford.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: So -- and I'm -- maybe this is a gander, and this is probably your thought or third-person thought.

Could you possibly explain why the coroner ruled it

as a homicide?

MS. WILCOX: I believe any of them are ruled as a homicide, and then the District Attorney's Office determines whether or not it is justifiable.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: So if a person is killed by an officer, it is ruled as a homicide? And then the DA goes back --

MS. WILCOX: And decides whether or not it was justified. Because it is the killing of another human being.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Okay. I understand that.

MS. WILCOX: The coroner doesn't make the decision if it was --

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: If it was a homicide or not. But based on his analysis and where he was shot, he based it on a homicide.

So I'm hearing -- I'm sorry, Legal. Can I ask legal counsel over here, POST, to kind of -- because I'm just -- that is --

MR. BEATTY: Well, I mean, I just think that we don't know. Right? So there's probably different standards applied to the determination of a homicide from a coroner's perspective.

What is material to our decision is whether or not the investigation and findings that we have heard

presented, if proved at a -- at an ALJ hearing, would be a basis for decertification.

So I think whether the corner, right, had a valid reason to determine homicide or not may or may not matter. But I think we're going to be looking more at the investigation and findings as to whether we have a basis for decertification.

And I think that's probably the clearest answer, because, otherwise, we're kind of speculating.

MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: I'm not an attorney, so that's why I had to ask.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Ms. Clavo, did you have a question?

MEMBER CLAVO: No. I will wait. Thank you.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Okay. Ms. Wilcox, I assume -- did you represent one or both in the internal investigations?

MS. WILCOX: The Force Investigation Division interviews the night of the officer-involved shooting, yes. The LAPD just uses that information in their internal investigation. They don't reinterview them.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Do you know if -- if that board metes out discipline, or if that goes to another level?

MS. WILCOX: If what does?

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Well, the board said it was out of policy.

MS. WILCOX: Oh, the Use of Force Review Board, yes.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: And one got ten days, one got five days.

MS. WILCOX: Yes.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Who decides that?

MS. WILCOX: It goes -- the Use of Force Review Board makes a recommendation to the chief. And then he makes a recommendation to the Board of Police Commissioners, the Civilian Oversight Committee. And then they direct the chief to create a complaint investigation. And then the chief is the one, ultimately, who decides the discipline.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: I mean, obviously, you have more experience with LAPD than I.

But I have a hard time with the board saying the shooting was out of policy. And then another investigation said that the complaint was completely -- by the family was completely unfounded.

MS. WILCOX: I think I can explain that.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Please.

MS. WILCOX: I will try.

Once the Board of Police Commissioners gets the

chief's memo, which is the one you have. The chief of police wrote a memo to the Honorable Board of Police Commissioners.

Once they get that memo, they make a determination of whether or not they think any -- any complaint investigation. In this case, whether or not the use of force was within policy or out of policy. If they determine that it's out of policy, it gets sent back to LAPD and it automatically generates a complaint investigation. And that is what the chief used to determine the suspension days for these two officers.

Any time a member of the public makes a claim for damages against the City, which is what you have to do before a lawsuit is filed, that also generates an automatic complaint investigation. But they will take the words that were used.

And so without having read that complaint investigation, but hearing that it was labeled as excessive force, the department determined that it did not meet the level of excessive force, and they found it unfounded. Probably also because they had already done a complaint investigation about the use of force being out of policy, if that makes sense.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Yes and no. Thank you.

MS. WILCOX: I know. Believe me. I'm familiar

with the confusion at LAPD.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Ms. Pena.

MEMBER PENA: Do you happen to know why or has there ever been an explanation given, that you know of, as to why they did not call for the mental health unit?

MS. WILCOX: I think at -- it was not given in this particular case. But based on the other instances that I've been involved with at LAPD, in 2021, the MEU, Mental Evaluation Unit, is what they have, was not used in that format.

They are called to cases, but they will typically wait until the situation is calmed down before they will go and approach the subject or the victim in this case.

So at that time, even if they had called MEU, they would have waited until the victim was in custody before they approached to do an evaluation about what needed to be done.

They are -- "front line" is the wrong word. But they would -- you know, they sort of stand behind the officers and wait for the officers to make the situation safe. And then they would come and address the situation.

In the years since then, that has changed slightly, but not a lot.

MEMBER PENA: Thank you.

MS. WILCOX: It is not a perfect system.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: At this time, does the Board --

MEMBER JOHNSON: Johnson. I'm sorry. Yeah. One more question, and it's for Counsel.

California law, AB 392, talked about necessary standard. Changing the reasonable standard.

We are to follow the California law, correct?

MR. BEATTY: Yes. I mean, I think that's -- we can look at both bodies of law to make an analysis on these kinds of cases. But California law is going to be the one that probably is the most guiding and that's going to be following 13510. So yes.

MEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you.

MS. WOOLLEY: And, Mr. Beatty, if I could, the Division's position as to what the legal standard here is laid out in the ISFs under the analysis section. So we do cite the recent Supreme Court case out of 2025, Barnes v. Felix, which is a unanimous opinion of the Supreme Court.

It does address that you do need to have objective, reasonable conduct, but you also need to address the totality of the circumstances in this case.

One of the things that was happening in the courts was that they were starting to drift into a moment of

threat rule. And they were looking at what was happening right before the time that the officers took action or used force.

And they reiterated that what the officers should be looking at or when you are assessing the use of force, you need to look at all of the relevant circumstances, including facts and events leading up to the climactic moment, in determining whether the peace officer acting reasonably in using force.

We also go over California law in this instance, including the language that you are speaking of, Board Member Johnson, which is Penal Code section 835, including when you are looking at somebody when you are using deadly force, which would be necessary.

So that is in the ISFs for both officers.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Is there anyone from the public who would like to address the Board at this time?

When it is your turn, you may state your name and organization if you wish. You will each be given three minutes to speak and the time limits will be strictly enforced. So please ensure that you complete your comments within the allotted time.

Is there anyone who would like to -- in the public who would like to address the Board?

Welcome.

MS. KITCHEN: My name is Addie Kitchen, the grandmother of Steven Taylor, who was murdered in a mental health crisis.

And again, my question is, no one called to realize that this man was in a mental health crisis before they took the action to murder this human being?

It is just unbelievable to sit here and to listen to why and how this young man was murdered. He wasn't a threat to anyone except himself. And for the officers to take it upon themselves to decide that he was a danger to anyone except himself.

So why wasn't -- there was -- should have been someone to call to help this young man. This is exactly what happened to my grandson. No one called for help for him. They called the police.

And we know, when police show up, most of the time, the person that is in stress is the one that gets murdered. And it is just so unbelievable to sit here and to listen to what is going on in our country.

I am -- I am just -- it is a lot. It is a lot to digest, to see people trying to decide whether these officers need to be decertified. As far as I can see and what I hear, they do not need to be on the street to protect and to serve human beings. That's their job. That's what we pay them for, to protect and to serve,

and that has not happened.

Thank you very much.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Thank you. Thank you.

Is there anyone else in the audience who would like to address the Board?

MS. B. JOHNSON: Good morning. Beatrice Johnson.

I just wanted to say that my concern as well is that there was no concern about this young man's humanity, because he was in a crisis. He was in a mental crisis.

And I'm sure that everybody on the scene was aware of that, because you are in a mental crisis if you are putting a knife up to your neck.

And the fact that once -- I think it is called the 440. Once that command was given, and then just shortly after there were gunfires of shots to a human being who was in a mental crisis.

So I feel like these officers -- this is not their job. This is not for them. And I think they should be decertified so they would not work anywhere else, especially in the state of California.

Thank you.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Thank you.

MS. W. JOHNSON: My name is Wanda Johnson. I'm the mother of Oscar Grant that was killed 2009 at the

Fruitvale BART station in Oakland, California.

I am really disturbed. I'm also an employee for NAMI, which is the National Alliance of Mental Illness.

And it disturbs me that this young man did not get the proper help that he needed. But instead, that the officers are taking the situation into their own hand and using deadly force when it is definitely not necessary. Sort of simply the same thing that happened to my son when he was killed, even though he did not have a mental challenge.

The officers refused to deescalate the situation where these officers who killed this young man could have deescalated the situation, but instead turned it into a deadly situation.

And there has to be something done so that people who are suffering mental crisis or not suffering mental crisis are not killed and the excuse used that the officers filled -- feared for their life.

These officers, again, he said, were about 25 feet away from this young man. So there was no need for them to shoot and kill the young man.

And as they tried or said, they applied unlethal force. They should have waited. But, yet, they fired the firearm right after the lethal -- the nonlethal force was used.

So, again, we have to start somewhere, and it needs to really start right here, where these officers who cost this young man his life be held accountable for their actions. And we can't just let this go by without not seeing and doing something about it.

The problem we allowed to occur is we allow too many officers to get away with their actions, where other officers feel that they are not going to be held accountable when they follow suit and do an act such as killing someone when it is unnecessary.

Thank you.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Thank you. Thank you.

MS. NANCE: Hello. My name is Arleta Nance. I'm the mother of Thomas and Tahmon Wilson. Tahmon was killed August 18, 2023, and Thomas was shot and assaulted, both from the back.

POST is training for these officers to get hired. It's a part of their training. So we all got our eyes and can see that that was not right, what they did to that man. No one was in danger of him doing anything. Like, he was stand up on the stairs. We all have eyes. We can see.

But we still have to go through all of this stuff like, oh, what they didn't do right is policy and procedure. This is so unfair to families to continue to

live in the trauma. Like, you could never say justice. It's no justice.

And the one thing that I know, everybody sitting up here that's come here to speak that's even on the DOJ's list of current cases, they are all Black and Brown people.

Whatever training they getting is not right. And something has to be done, because they are really exterminating us legally and getting away with it and going on doing it other places, to everybody else. And it is just unfair.

They need to get other races doing this training. It's something else that needs to be done with the training of these people of different race people or something. Because it is just us coming up here, saying what they did to us.

Thank you.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Thank you.

MS. WADE: Hello. I'm Kathryn Wade. I'm Malad Baldwin's mother from Antioch, California.

The video was very disturbing. The victim was totally in a mental health crisis. And I don't know if that city or county have the mental health services, but they should have been brought in too.

And then to see the distance from the officers and

then them -- one officer shielded behind his truck, the victim was no way a threat to him. So just to kill an innocent -- a sick person like that, it really hurts my heart.

And just -- and even to hear about the officers having other complaints and, you know, it is a problem for me and I'm very perturbed of the victims and the victims' families when things happen like this, that you go through all of this putting in complaints to departments doing their investigation. The investigations take so long.

And I'm just here watching this video the first time. And I could clearly see that these officers should have been not just suspended but should have been fired.

You know, that was very disturbing to watch that victim that far away and the officers shielded, and they just released their weapons like that.

And I'm pretty sure the training they have, they know that they were wrong. But a lot of times, these officers have gotten away with doing a lot of things in the community, and it just become a norm to them. I don't know if they got off by killing people like that.

But, you know, I know people, too, that were mentally ill patients and calls in my community, and

sometimes the officers show up and then, some instances, they will kill them. Not with guns all the time. Just choke them and kill them.

So a lot of things need to change when it comes to these officers handling these kind of calls. And that video was very disturbing. And for anyone to watch it, you can already see that the officers were wrong.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Thank you.

MR. BLISS: My name is Keyan Bliss.

I have been -- I'm a former commissioner for a community police review commission here in Sacramento. Sacramento City.

And to be honest, it was -- it is really hard to maintain decorum and be respectful when I see such callous disregard for the preservation of life that Officers Zavala and Quintanilla displayed on video that we saw today.

The idea that these officers had anything to fear from a man who was stumbling out of an apartment block, with a knife, from 22 to 25 feet away, and that necess- -- and that they had a right and justified reason to murder that man is patently absurd. It is outrageous.

And, honestly, like, it can't -- like, it is just breathtaking of the incompetence of that. Because there

were like -- they had them covered. We saw less-lethal equipment deployed at the same time. Why would there be any sort of, like, a protocol where you can have less-lethals deployed and pistols deployed? Why are they not calling it out? Hey, less-lethals, put out -- like, you know, put your guns away?

There are too many families that are permanently scarred, traumatized from incidents like this, where officers just look at -- like look at a person and just shoot first and ask questions later. Don't think about the consequences.

Because we all know in a society where only 1 percent of officers involved in shootings actually get prosecuted in the first place, that there will be any sort of accountability. The majority of officers know that.

I've talked to enough and I have seen enough incidents that I recognize that.

I don't believe for a minute that it is a matter of training. Because officers know how to actually deescalate situations involved. It really just depends upon whether they are white or not.

There were recent incidents just within LAPD, in April -- April of last year. Jillian Lauren fired shots at LAPD officers during a high-speed police chase. And

she was able to be apprehended unharmed. Not only that, but was charged with assault and negligent discharge of a firearm, and avoided jail time.

There was Anthony Whitsey, who, last November, shot at a police helicopter and refused to surrender, barricaded himself in a home.

Both of these people were white, and they somehow survived. But these two officers couldn't make -- bring this person alive? It is outrageous. They should -- they should not be allowed to wear the uniform, much less carry the power to kill somebody.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Thank you for your comments.

Anybody else from the public who like to speak?

Welcome.

MR. WILSON: Good morning, everybody.

My name is Lance Wilson, and I'm here -- I support a lot of the families that have lost loved ones to police violence.

But just to see the video was appalling to me. It was clear, as many other folks have seen -- and I have said -- that the officers were, you know, 22 to 25 feet away, barricaded behind their cars. They used a -- less-lethal weapons. Within less than a second, you know, the lethal weapons were used.

And I mean, it was clear that the man was in a mental health issue.

But, you know, just -- just hearing the other woman speak earlier that, that spoke before people gave public comment. I mean, the police are -- are investigating the police. I mean, that's the problem right there. I mean, you know, when we have these -- these issues when the police are out here committing harm and to community members, I mean, they are being investigated by their own people. So I mean, that's the problem right there.

I mean, other folks had questions, too, like, hey, how -- I think it was you, sir. You had a question about the process. About how it went up to the police commission and it comes back and the chief makes a decision. I mean, that's the problem right there.

But these officers should definitely be decertified. And, yeah, I hope that that happens today.

Thank you.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Thank you.

Seeing no other -- at this time, does the Board wish to adjourn into closed session for deliberation?

MEMBER LARA: Yes, please.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Okay. The meeting will adjourn into closed session for deliberation of both cases. The board members will now exit. And each case

will be looked at and decided individually.

(Time noted: 11:02 a.m.)

---o0o---

(Closed session held: 11:06 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.)

---o0o---

(Time noted: 11:20 a.m.)

---o0o---

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: We will reconvene in regular session and take a vote on the Board's recommendation in the matter of Case POST2311370, Jose Zavala, who at the time of events at issue in the case and is still employed by Los Angeles Police Department.

Are there any comments by the Board?

MEMBER LARA: Lara. I would like to make a motion to decertify.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Okay. We have a motion to decertify.

Is there a second?

MEMBER PENA: I second.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Ms. Pena.

Roll call.

MR. KNAPP: Thank you, Mr. Vice Chair.

Clavo.

MEMBER CLAVO: Aye.

MR. KNAPP: Clavo, aye.
Crawford.
MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Aye.
MR. KNAPP: Crawford, aye.
Doyle.
VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Aye.
MR. KNAPP: Doyle, aye.
Johnson.
MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.
MR. KNAPP: Johnson, aye.
Lara.
MEMBER LARA: Aye.
MR. KNAPP: Lara, aye.
And Pena.
MEMBER PENA: Aye.
MR. KNAPP: Pena, aye.
That's all in favor. Motion passes.
VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Motion passes.
Thank you.
In the matter of Case POST2311373, of Julio Quintanilla, who at the time of events in this case and is still employed by Los Angeles Police Department.
Does the Board have any comments?
MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: I move to -- I make a motion to decertify.

VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Is there a second?
MEMBER LARA: I second.
VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Lara, second.
Roll call.
MR. KNAPP: Yes. Thank you.
Clavo.
MEMBER CLAVO: Aye.
MR. KNAPP: Clavo, aye.
Crawford.
MEMBER HATCHER-CRAWFORD: Aye.
MR. KNAPP: Crawford, aye.
Doyle.
VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Aye.
MR. KNAPP: Doyle, aye.
Johnson.
MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.
MR. KNAPP: Johnson, aye.
Lara.
MEMBER LARA: Aye.
MR. KNAPP: Lara, aye.
Pena.
MEMBER PENA: Aye.
MR. KNAPP: Pena, aye.
That's all in favor. Motion passes.
VICE CHAIRPERSON DOYLE: Thank you.

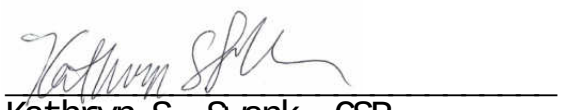
CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, KATHRYN S. SWANK, a Certified Shorthand Reporter of the State of California, do hereby certify:

That I am a disinterested person herein; that the foregoing proceedings were reported, to the best of my ability, in shorthand by me, Kathryn S. Swank, Certified Shorthand Reporter of the State of California, and thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for any of the parties to said proceedings nor in any way interested in the outcome of said proceedings.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 6th day of May 2026.



Kathryn S. Swank, CSR
Certified Shorthand Reporter
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