

From: David Zack <dzack@ashevillenc.gov>
Sent: 6/3/2020 3:09:13 PM
To: Jerri Jameson <jjameson@ashevillenc.gov>
Cc:
Subject: Fwd: We Demand Justice

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Julia Evans** <jevans1@unca.edu>
Date: Wed, Jun 3, 2020 at 3:01 PM
Subject: We Demand Justice
To: <dzack@ashevillenc.gov>
CC: <dcampbell@ashevillenc.gov>, <jbaumstark@ashevillenc.gov>, <jjamison@ashevillenc.gov>, <esthermanheimer@avlouncil.com>, <professionalstandards@avlouncil.gov>, <mburleson@ashevillenc.gov>, <ashevilleNCcouncil@ashevillenc.gov>



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My name is Julia Evans. I am an Asheville resident who is extremely disappointed and angry in the way that the Asheville Police Department has conducted itself during the protests recently. It is literally your job, what we elect and pay you to do, to protect Asheville citizens. From what I've seen firsthand and what I've heard from many people sharing stories and videos the police have been acting with unnecessary force, using potentially lethal actions with rubber bullets being shot directly at humans (not bouncing off the ground like their intended use), and tear gas which can cause real, serious health issues especially with the respiratory system. Ironically we are in the middle of a pandemic for a disease that affects the lungs. The police are escalating these protests to harmful and drastic instances and even destroying medical supplies in an area set up by EMTs and doctors and approved by the city. How are you protecting Asheville's black citizens? How do you plan on protecting them from the white supremacists who are coming and have come to aggregate the peaceful protests? How do you prevent the hiring of racists or people with mental illness or anger issues that put others at risk? Do you suspend the use of paid administrative leave for cops under investigation? Do you withhold pensions and don't rehire cops involved in excessive force? Do you require cops to be liable for misconduct settlements? How do you teach or practice deescalation? How do you respond to reports of discrimination? How do you represent the citizens of Asheville when we are screaming for police reform and transparency? How are our tax dollars paying you to protect each citizen of Asheville equally? We do not pay you to protect property over human life. How does the destroying of medical supplies for protesters protect anyone? How is that anything more than an act of violence? How does the curfew uphold the constitutional rights of free speech or right to protest? How was the curfew communicated to citizens equally especially to those who don't speak English or don't have internet access? Why is it the job of citizens to communicate this curfew when the consequences are so drastic? These questions do not have to wait for another loss of unarmed black life to be answered. We need them answered now. We need you to be on our side. Looking forward to your response,
Julia

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David J. Zack
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