



CITY OF PLAINFIELD

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Plainfield Forms George Floyd Police Reform Commission

July 1, 2020 – Plainfield, NJ – Citing the urgency of the need for nationwide policing reform, the City of Plainfield has formed a commission tasked with reviewing current policies and practices of the Plainfield Police Department.

On July 1, 2020, mayor Adrian O. Mapp announced that the City of Plainfield launched a George Floyd Police Reform Commission (GFPRC). The commission's goal is to review current policing policies and procedures of the Plainfield Police Department and make recommendations that will be submitted in a public report. The report will be submitted to the Governor's Office, the Union County Prosecutors Office, and the State Attorney General's Office.

The commission comprises a diverse group of Plainfield residents whose report and recommendations will be presented at the culmination of two private and two public sessions. The process is expected to take approximately one month from launch to presentation of the report. It is intended to be a temporary one-time commission.

"Across the nation, there is a collective cry for an examination of the existing policies and procedures of Law Enforcement agencies, including the use of force guidelines. It is the responsibility of every municipality across the United States of America to review its existing Police operations regardless of whether there is a history of abuse or not. The purpose of this commission is not to accuse but to prevent. Our Police Department is one of the finest, and we want to ensure it stays that way" - Mayor Adrian O. Mapp.

Commission Members

Ashley S. Davis is currently a member of the Plainfield Municipal Council representing the First Ward. She is a lifelong resident of Plainfield. Her commitment to public service has guided her to focus her volunteerism efforts with organizations whose missions align with service, scholarship, and civic engagement.

Reverend Dr. Aloyo is the senior pastor of La Iglesia Presbiteriana Nuevas Fronteras, a congregation composed of families from 17 Latin American countries and Asia. Rev. Aloyo is also Associate Dean for Institutional Diversity at Princeton Theological Seminary and Director of the Office of Multicultural Relations. For the past thirty-two years, Pastor Aloyo has served congregations in Brooklyn, NY., Queens, The Bronx, and Plainfield, NJ.

Cathryn Diouf-Cole has lived in Plainfield for over 16 years, raising two sons here. She has a Masters in Urban Planning and used to work for the NYC affordable housing program. Previously, she served three years in the US Peace Corps in Senegal.

Raisa Baraka speaks as an eighteen(18) year old advocate for the Plainfield community and her generation. She believes that the progress of the consciousness of freedom and the funding toward black establishments will start the dismantlement of systemic racism.

Tuwisha Rogers-Simpson is a creative problem solver and specializes in multicultural marketing and consumers. The former Vice President of Strategic Partnerships for Urban One is responsible for over 15M of media revenue and partnership management with iconic brands such as Walmart, AT&T, and Prudential. MSNBC, NPR, and ESSENCE have recognized Tuwisha as a strategist, producer, and industry thought leader in multicultural culture, media, and consumer insights.

Bill Davis Was born in Newark and raised in Plainfield, NJ. He is an active member of the NAACP and the Peoples Organization for Progress, among others. He is the founding director of EPIC Vision Academy, a pre-college program for area high school students which provided tutoring and mentoring. An adjunct professor at Rutgers in the Africana Studies Dept. Bill has participated in several international humanitarian efforts in Haiti, Cuba, Ghana, and South Africa. He also serves on the Crossroads theatre board, assisting with community outreach.

Chris Estevez is a labor leader and social justice activist that was born and raised in Plainfield. He currently serves as President of the Latino Action Network and Executive Vice President of CWA Local 1037.

Bobby Gregory is a Thirty-two-year resident of Plainfield. He expresses his honor to serve on the George Floyd Police Reform Commission. It is his hope and belief that Plainfield can become a model in building effective policing and deep community trust.

Canon Leroy Lyons was the rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church here in the city for 42 years. He retired in 2012. Canon Lyons continues to live in Plainfield and is the father of four grown daughters.

The GFPRC is made up of a diverse group of five males and five females.

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