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Los Altos for Racial Equity Newsletter - Issue #13

1 message

LARE via ActionNetwork.org <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

Tue, Jan 10, 2023 at 9:31 PM

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Hi Tanya!



January 2023 Issue 13

Los Altos for Racial Equity's (LARE) mission is to advocate for all people, especially Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) who live, work, and play in Los Altos and surrounding communities, to be treated equitably in all aspects of their lives. We are a group of Los Altos residents who share a commitment to the work of social justice.

LARE has several Working Groups focused on the following areas: Policing & School Resource Officers (SROs), Racial Identity and Profiling Act (RIPA) data analysis, Membership, Local Government. If one or more of these Working Groups resonate with you and you would like to participate in making change happen in our community, reach out to us and let us know how you can help! We are looking forward to hearing from you!

Issue Highlights

Racial Identity Profiling Act (RIPA)

Understanding the RIPA Data

To date we have covered 'Reason for the Stop' and 'Actions Taken'. In this issue we will take a detailed look at what is required to 'Describe the Stop'.

Officers are required to describe the reason for stop in 250 characters or less. It should add detail on what justified the stop, and is explicitly forbidden to include any personally identifiable information. This field was not included in the Los Altos public data release.

Stop made in response for a call for service: This is a yes/no question, and it's just asking if someone called the police, or if the police initiated the interaction. Note that if someone called the police and it did not result in a "stop" it doesn't count as a stop and does not appear in the data.

Actions Taken are the things the officer(s) did in the course of the stop. They can pick more than one, if more than one happened. This is one of the most important fields, because it tells us about the actions of the police. Again, they choose from a list (more detail available in the [regulations](#)):

- Person removed from vehicle by order
- Person removed from vehicle by physical contact
- Field sobriety test conducted
- Curbside detention.
- Handcuffed or flex cuffed
- Patrol car detention
- Canine removed from vehicle or used to search
- Firearm pointed at person
- Firearm discharged or used 1
- Electronic control device used
- Impact projectile discharged or used (e.g., blunt impact projectile, rubber bullets or bean bags)
- Canine bit or held person
- Baton or other impact weapon used
- Chemical spray used
- Other physical or vehicle contact.
- Person photographed
- Asked for consent to search person
- Search of person was conducted

- Asked for consent to search property
- Search of property was conducted.
- Property was seized
- Vehicle impounded
- None. None of the previous items occurred.

Basis for Search: If a search is conducted, the justification for that search must be provided. It is again a pulldown list, allowing multiple selections. The most common are “Consent Given” or “Incident to Arrest.” The complete list is in the regs.

Descriptive Basis for Search: Again, officers are to describe the search justification in more detail, in 250 characters or less, and cannot include any personally identifiable information. This field is also not included in the Los Altos data release.

Contraband or Evidence Discovered: Another pulldown list, with items like “firearms” and “drug paraphernalia.”

Basis for property seizure and Property seized: These fields are not included in the Los Altos data disclosure. It's not clear why; perhaps there was no property seized.

Result of Stop: This is another important field – it records the final outcome of the interaction. It's again a pulldown, with multiple selections allowed:

- No action. If “No Action” is selected, no other data values can be selected.
- Warning (verbal or written)
- Citation for infraction
- In-field cite and release
- Custodial arrest pursuant to outstanding warrant
- Custodial arrest without warrant
- Field interview card completed
- Noncriminal transport or caretaking transport. This includes transport by an officer, transport by ambulance, or transport by another agency.
- Contacted parent/legal guardian or other person responsible for the minor
- Psychiatric hold
- Contacted U.S. Department of Homeland Security (e.g., Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Customs and Border Protection)

Officer ID, Officer's Years of Experience, Officer's Type of Assignment: This information was disaggregated from the stop data for public release, to protect the identity of officers. The RIPA law allows additional protection of officer-identifiable data from public release.

The demographics collected are: Perceived Race, Perceived Gender, Perceived to be LGBT, Perceived Age, Perceived English Fluency, and Perceived or Known Disability.

Did you know...?

January is National Poverty in America Awareness Month. In 2022 the poverty line for a family of four was \$27,750. Currently that is 28% of the US population. While this number reflects a \$10,000 increase since 2000, the average price for a home has increased by \$300,000 during the same time period. The poverty line is still being measured by the same standards that were used in the 1960s.

Critical policies are based on the poverty line which then determines eligibility for programs such as Medicaid, food stamps, maternal and child health care and Head Start. To read more on this topic click [here](#).

Community News

Midterm Elections

Los Altos City Council

It took a while, but it is now official! Pete Dailey will be joining the Los Altos City Council defeating incumbent Anita Enander. Pete will be joining Mayor Sally Meadows, Vice Mayor Jonathan Weinberg, Councilmember Neysa Fligor, and Councilmember Lynette Lee Eng. Tonight, Tuesday, 1/10/23, at 7pm will be the first formal meeting as a newly elected City Council (details below).

Naiel and Punhal Chaudry - Founders of La Jawab Treats

Naiel Chaudry is a 13 year old baker based right here in Los Altos. He, along with his younger sister Punhal (12 years old), founded La Jawab Treats in 2021. Their delicious confections are frequently found around town in special events for schools and fundraisers. They also contribute frequently to the Town Crier's Food & Wine column. Naiel is currently competing as the very first Los Altan on the 11th season of "Kids Baking Championship" on the Food

Network. He will also be the first Pakistani-American boy on the show, something of great pride for him. He infuses his creations with the flavors from his background - cardamom, chai, saffron, and more. He's made it to episode 4, so keep watching to see how far he goes! You can also join him at his weekly Watch Parties at the Los Altos Community Center and get the behind-the-scenes scoop! Follow them on instagram at @lajawabtreats to get the details on the next Watch Party or head to their [website](#) to order some dessert!

Right: Naiel and Punhal Chaudry, founders of La Jawab Treats



Left: Naiel competing on Food Network's "Kids Baking Championship"



The Porter Dominguez Family open

Tal Palo Cafe & Tienda Downtown

Aaron Porter and Adriana Dominguez recently moved back to the Bay Area with their three children from Guadalajara, Mexico. As the daughter of Mexican immigrants growing up in the Bay Area, Adriana's parents emphasized the importance of her Mexican heritage and the traditions of Mexico. Adriana and Aaron are following this example and are raising their children to honor and value their Mexican heritage as well. With this goal in mind, an idea was born.

Having owned and operated a bar in Guadalajara, Aaron and Adriana decided to open Tal Palo to ensure the rich history, traditions, and cuisine of Mexico will remain a part of their family's daily lives. Just as important to Adriana and Aaron was sharing an important part of their family with the Los Altos community. Tal Palo was created to bring community together and from the moment you step in the door you will feel the genuine excitement and welcome to share space together.

In the front of the Cafe is an area of Mexican goods for purchase. From chocolate, salsa, wine, and beer to ceramics, clothing, footwear, and accessories each artisan is from Mexico, and Adriana has met and visited with each creator.

From Tal Palo's [website](#): ' "De tal palo, tal astilla"; An expression evoking the similar qualities that bring family together. Tal Palo is a take on an ever-welcoming experience influenced by the nostalgic flavors and memories of México.'

LARE extends a warm welcome to the Porter Dominguez family and to Tal Palo!

News from Community Partners

Justice Vanguard

Justice Vanguard is hosting their first Free Community Movie Night of 2023 at the Los Altos Community Center on Thursday, January 19th, from 6:30pm to 9pm. This month's movie will be 'The Woman King'. Drinks and snacks will be provided and make sure to stay for the discussion after the movie! To learn more about Justice Vanguard and all they do for the community visit them on Instagram [@justicevanguard](#)

Los Altos Community Coalition (LACC)

On Friday, December 16th, at 8:30 a.m., LACC offered: Los Altos Housing Element: What's Next? with Nick Zornes. You can view the recording [here](#).

On Friday, January 13th, at 8:30 a.m., LACC is offering: What's Ahead for 2023 With Mayor Sally Meadows. Join [Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 860 6083 2407

One tap mobile +16699009128,,86060832407# US (San Jose)

LARE is a supporter and member of LACC.

COVID-19 Omicron specific booster now available

The new Omicron-specific COVID-19 booster is available for eligible individuals ages 12 and older. Appointments can be made through Santa Clara County's website. Learn more [here](#).



Important Dates

- Tuesday, 1/10, 7pm: City Council Meeting [Agenda](#), Council Chambers and via Zoom
- Friday, 1/13, 8:30am: LACC hosting Mayor Sally Meadows
- Tuesday, 1/24, 7pm: City Council Meeting, Council Chambers and via Zoom

How Can You Help?

Read more about LARE on our [website](#) and follow us on social media (Instagram, Facebook), [@losaltosforracialequity](#).



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