



Tanya Maluf &lt;thochem@gmail.com&gt;

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**Fwd: Los Altos for Racial Equity Newsletter - Issue #12**

2 messages

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**C Lenz** <christine.lenz@gmail.com>  
To: Tanya Hoche' Maluf <thochem@gmail.com>

Tue, Dec 6, 2022 at 3:22 PM

You rock, lady !!!!

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

From: **LARE via ActionNetwork.org** <[info@sg.actionnetwork.org](mailto:info@sg.actionnetwork.org)>

Date: Tue, Dec 6, 2022 at 3:20 PM

Subject: Los Altos for Racial Equity Newsletter - Issue #12

To: <[christine.lenz@gmail.com](mailto:christine.lenz@gmail.com)>

Hi Christine!



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**December 2022    Issue 12**

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**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

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### Meet LARE member, Brian Jones!

Brian and his wife have lived in Los Altos for 15 years with their two kids. Their daughter is a junior at Carnegie Mellon in the BXA Program studying Design and Literature and their son is a junior at Mountain View High School. Brian's wife is building a non-profit startup with the goal of empowering people to make changes in the world where they see a need.

Brian's areas of expertise are hardware engineering, physics, data statistics, and entrepreneurship. Brian's most recent endeavor was as co-founder of Kairos Aerospace. There, he and his team build a device to find methane leaks from oil and gas fields. This project resulted in a greater positive climate impact than Tesla (pretty exciting!). After eight years with Kairos Aerospace, Brian is now consulting and volunteering.

Brian has had a particular interest in how to improve policing in America since the death of George Floyd. Within LARE, he has used his expertise in data analysis to bring evidence-based metrics to the Los Altos Police Department (LAPD) with a focus on analyzing the Racial Identity Profiling Act (RIPA) data. Brian works with the data shared by the LAPD and then offers practical measures LAPD can implement to manage any detected bias.

When asked what his hopes for LARE and its impact in Los Altos are, Brian replied, "I hope that we can make Los Altos known as a community that welcomes others into our midst. A city that, despite its history as being a rich white enclave, is known for its thoughtful consideration of those who don't yet live here, and how we can make it easier to extend our community to them."

When not reading (Brian just finished [These Precious Days](#) by Ann Patchett and is currently reading [East of Eden](#) by John Steinbeck and [This Day](#) by Wendell Berry) you can find Brian mountain biking, being in nature, watching MLB and NBA, and learning new things.

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## Community News

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## Senate Bill 731 - Criminal Records: Relief

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California is the first state to pass a law, [SB - 731](#), that will automatically seal most criminal records for those who complete their sentences. Such records have proved to be an obstacle in securing jobs, housing, and/or education when a person is re-entering society after years of incarceration. This burden tends to fall disproportionately on Black and Latine offenders.

As of July, conviction and arrest records will automatically be sealed for ex-offenders who maintain a clear record for four years after sentence completion. Exceptions to this new law are serious and/or violent felonies and sex offenders. Criminal histories will still be disclosed in background checks for those wanting to work in law enforcement, education, and those who want to hold public office.

With the passing of this new law, of the 8 million people in California with a criminal record, approximately 225,000 will have an old conviction automatically sealed.

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## Racial Identity Profiling Act (RIPA)

### Understanding the RIPA Data

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In last month's issue we were looking at what must be reported during a traffic stop per the Racial Identity Profile Act (RIPA). Details about the stop must be entered and are broken down into three categories: Reason for Stop, Action(s) taken, and Result of Stop, i.e. what initiated the stop, what happened during the encounter, and how the situation was resolved. In this issue, we will be looking closer at what is considered when an officer is reporting a stop. This is known as, "Reason for Stop" and is the primary reason why the officer stopped the person. It doesn't matter what they later found or learned; this is the justification for the stop. If there is more than one, they are supposed to choose the main reason. The prescribed options are:

1) Traffic violation. This should trigger further specification of "Moving Violation," "Equipment Violation," or "Non-moving/registration violation." Furthermore, they are supposed to record the particular vehicle code section that was violated. However, the publicly released Los Altos data does not have anything more specific than "Traffic Violation."

2) Reasonable Suspicion. This is the legal threshold of believing that criminal activity might be taking place. Again, there is a list of subcategories that are required to be recorded, including things like "Officer witnessed commission of crime," "Matched suspect description," "Carrying suspicious object," etc. Again, the Los Altos data does not contain any of these subcategorizations.

3). Known to be on parole/probation. This is only if the officer knows that before stopping the person.

4) Knowledge of outstanding arrest warrant(s). Investigation into whether the person is truant.

5) Consensual encounter resulting in search. This means that the officer is talking to someone who is not being detained. Despite being free to go, the officer asks permission to perform a search, and that permission is granted. Despite universal legal advice to the contrary, 95% of search requests statewide are granted.

Next month we will cover 'Action(s) Taken'.

*Contribution by LARE member, Brian Jones*



On Friday, November 4th, the Los Altos Community Coalition (LACC) offered: Public Safety in Los Altos with Chief Angela Averiett. You can view the recording [here](#).

On Friday, December 2nd, at 8:30 a.m., LACC offered: The Complete Streets Master Plan of Los Altos, with Stacy Banerjee - Complete Streets Commission Chair. You can view the recording [here](#).

LARE is a supporter and member of LACC.

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## **Midterm Elections**

### **Los Altos City Council**

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LARE would like to congratulate Neysa Fligor on her re-election to the Los Altos City Council!

We are still waiting to hear the final count for Pete Dailey in his run for Anita Enander's seat.

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## **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, 11/29, 5:30pm: Housing Element Update Recording not yet available
- Tuesday, 11/29, 7pm: City Council Meeting Recording not yet available
- Thursday, 12/1 - City of Los Altos celebrates 70 years of incorporation
- Thursday, 12/8, 4pm - 8pm: Holiday Market on State Street
- Friday, 12/9, 6pm-8pm: Holiday Boozy Book Fair at Linden Tree
- Tuesday, 12/13, 7pm: City Council Meeting Agenda not yet available
- Thursday, 12/15, 4pm - 8pm: Holiday Market on State Street
- 12/18 -12/26: Hanukkah
- 12/25: Christmas
- 12/26 - 1/1/23: Kwanzaa

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### Ongoing Events

- Permanent COVID-19 testing Booth, M-F, 7:30am - 3:30pm at the Los Altos Community Center. [Signups](#)



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### How Can You Help?

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**Tanya Maluf** <thochem@gmail.com>  
To: C Lenz <christine.lenz@gmail.com>

Tue, Dec 6, 2022 at 8:16 PM

Awww, thanks 🥰

Tanya

"History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again." - from Maya Angelou's poem, *On the Pulse of Morning*.

[Quoted text hidden]