

From: [Michael Knott](#)
To: [CityCouncilListPublic](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda for January 26, 2021
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 4:45:19 PM

January 25, 2021

City Council Members of Santa Rosa

Re: Agenda for January 26, 2021

Thin Blue Line Flag

The Thin Blue Line flag represents to law enforcement professionals their courage and sacrifice while protecting the people. It symbolizes the unbreakable component of memorial to the deaths of those who have perished in the line of duty and showing support for living officers. When they see that flag, they know there is someone there who knows what they are going through. They are part of a family, proud of what they do, and of the ones who have died defending the rights of strangers.

This is not a political statement, it is a morale booster which gives respect and recognition.

It is frustrating and upsetting to know that our city council members have chosen not to take the high road in this recent decision of allowing whether or not to show this particular flag in the hallways of our police department. Instead, you have catered only to the loudest voices of a small minority of people who lack the full understanding of this difficult job, nor for the significance this gifted flag has to the men and women officers of the department. If you keep responding to the whims of a select few over the greater good of the whole, then you too risk becoming part of the problem.

I question why the city council does not stand up and show a greater support for our police department... the group that values a gifted flag from their community which has shown their support. Instead, we are now witnessing the council commanding our Chief of Police to "apologize" and appease a small group of protesters. Where is the justice for all those who are now being adversely affected by this decision?

You have not only placed Chief Navarro in a compromising position, but have also delivered yet another crushing blow to the overall morale of those who serve us. Your non inclusive decision is making it difficult for people who want to 'back the Blue' for their bravery, care and trust.

It is time to stop trying to please only the loud minority when the majority of the people have so gratefully shown their appreciation for our law enforcement.

Those of us who want to express support for our police officers in the mission of law and order in this community should also have a voice.

This Thin Blue Line Flag needs to be held up in their honor to show our solidarity in representing these ideals.

Respectfully,

Deborah Francis
deb@sonic.net
Santa Rosa

From: [Sharon Bailey](#)
To: [Public Safety Subcommittee Comment](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda 3 police staffing study session
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 4:58:21 PM

My name is Forrest Bailey and I have lived in Santa Rosa 43 years. I love our city and I am grateful for all you who serve. BUT I am so disappointed in the lack of support for the Santa Rosa Police Officers from our city council and the city manager. I am asking that you refund the 1 million dollars to the police department budget, hire more officers to keep our community safe, and pay our officers appropriately. The safety of our community depends upon it. I ask, urge that our city council and city manager start to support public safety please remember you represent us, I ask you to hear our pled. Why would an officer work for a city that fails to support them?" WHY please get some back bone and let's do the right thing and support the man and woman who LAY down their life for us. You work is not laying down your life, nor is my work. So lets appreciate those who do.

Please take care of our POLICE so they can do their job!! You all reap the benefits and we the people support you and we are the one paying our taxes. Again thank you for your service and thank you for listening to the people of Santa Rosa, Ca.

Thank you,
Forrest Bailey
baileyfs7@yahoo.com
707- [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Dave Jones](#)
To: [Public Safety Subcommittee Comment](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] The Thin Blue Line
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 4:45:37 PM

For Agenda Item 6.5

This has got to be the biggest waste of time ever. The Thin Blue Line is not racist. I understand that those who hate the police and want to pretend they are all racist will view at any symbol that represents the police as racist. Should the officers not wear badges either because the radicals think it is racist. What a joke. Every first responder group has a flag with a different color. Hell, even security officers have a flag with a color on it for their profession. Those that hate the police do not get to change the meaning of this symbol for the rest of us.

The worst part about this whole thing is Council Member Alvarez's post. He says out of one side of his mouth he wants to work with the police department and then calls them bullies and trash. And what exactly about the SRPOA's opinion was bullying? Was it that they had a different opinion than you? So everyone with a different opinion than you is a bully if they express it? Or was it that they encouraged people to get involved? So I guess you think those that have called for people to get involved to speak against the police are also bullies? Or maybe you just think everyone who gives their opinion to council is a bully. The true bullying was from the council that didn't allow the Chief to run his own department. No matter what your reason, you are clearly not fit to hold office and you should step down. Just a note for you, there is nothing untruthful about the SRPOA post, except I guess it is outdated now because there is almost 7,000 comments in support of the Thin Blue Line. And your edit of your post shows you know you screwed up so where is your apology? Lastly, your edit isn't going to save you. There are literally hundreds of pictures of your true feelings and your first comment.

The residents of Santa Rosa support our police department and the Thin Blue Line regardless of what you require to do with posts.

From: [emberli bogue](#)
To: [Public Safety Subcommittee Comment](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Blue line flag Facebook post
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 4:38:42 PM

Hello, my name is Emberli Bogue,

I grew up in Healdsburg, and then have lived most of my adult life in Santa Rosa for the last 20 years. My husband and I have raised our children here and our youngest is now in her senior year in high school.

I am writing in regards to the Police Staffing Study Session. I am so saddened and concerned for the lack of support for the Santa Rosa Police Officers from our City Council and the City Manager. I am asking that the 1 million dollars be refunded to the Police Department budget. Taking money away from the Police Budget is the opposite of what should happen. More officers need to be hired to keep up with the demands of our city and they should all be paid appropriately. The Safety of our community depends on it.

I was horrified to see our officers being mistreated this last summer. I saw video of them being verbally threatened, and having bottles and rocks thrown at them. If our police are not supported, officers will start to leave Santa Rosa and move to work somewhere that they are supported. That will leave our city with less experienced officers that know our community well.

To Chief Navarro, and the rest of the department that may hear this, I hope that the City council and City Manager will listen to the needs of our Police Department and will support you in every way. My family appreciates everything that you do to keep us and our community safe. Thank you for your sacrifice and taking care of our city. My family appreciates it and is sorry for the lack of support that you have been shown.

I demand that our city council and city manager start to support public safety.
Thank you, Emberli Bogue (Santa Rosa Resident)

From: [Matthew Bogue](#)
To: [Public Safety Subcommittee Comment](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] January 27th City Council Public Safety Subcommittee - "Blue Line flag Social Media post"
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 4:33:35 PM

My name is Matt Bogue. I live in Rincon Valley. I have raised my family here in Santa Rosa and have been a Sonoma County resident for the majority of my life. My neighborhood has seen an uptick of property crime in the past few months. I have been a victim of this twice recently and 100% support the police that have come and helped me. We need to have law and order and security in our city. If people don't feel safe, they will leave. Please do NOT take ANY more financial support away from our vital police services and restore any funding that you have previously taken away! Our police officers need MORE funding, not less! Security MUST be a top priority of our city council! We, the people of Santa Rosa will be watching your actions and we WILL remember when it comes time for re-election! All of my friends and family 100% support our police officers! Remember - people that want security and support police officers are the majority! Don't cave in to the demands of a vocal minority! The blue line flag only shows support of the law! We love Ray Navarro as our police chief and do not appreciate when he is made to feel that he can't show support for his own officers, out there putting their lives on the line to protect us! Thank you - Matt Bogue

From: [Andy Bauer](#)
To: [Public Safety Subcommittee Comment](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Blue line flag Facebook post
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 3:55:21 PM

I was very disappointed to see that SRPD had taken down the recent Facebook post regarding some community members who had presented the department with a blue line flag banner to show their appreciation for all the great work done by SRPD officers. It seems that if anybody shouts loud enough and makes a big enough scene against something, their voice counts more than the many more that support it. What message does this send to the officers who are out there every day, taking much of that abuse face to face? I understand we live in a politically charged time and government agencies must be sensitive to the many disparate communities they serve. That said, the decision makers should be cautious not to throw the ones doing the actual "boots on the ground" work under the bus just to appease a few voices, no matter how loud they are. I would have loved to see the opportunity taken to explain what the blue line represents and why it is important to those in law enforcement. To take the opportunity to reclaim a symbol for good that unfortunately a small group of bigots and rebel rousers have attempted to co-opt.

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Andy Bauer

From: kennethclark@outlook.com
To: [Public Safety Subcommittee Comment](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment for Public Safety Sub Committee Wednesday January 27th 2021
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 11:03:48 AM

FAO Victoria Fleming and Chris Rogers

RE : Blue line Flag POST removal

Hello there, I'm calling to leave feedback for the public safety sub committee in regards to police staffing, my name is Kenneth Clark I've been a Santa Rosa resident for 11 years, living in the Rincon Valley Area, it's a beautiful part of the country, unlike any other.

I would hate to see it spoiled, unfortunately what I've been seeing is our City significantly losing its shine.

The level of homelessness is disgusting, allied with the crime that comes along with it. last year was shocking for Santa Rosa, to have riots and see local businesses demolished These things are something i thought I'd never see here. However worse than that if you can imagine it, is the absolute lack of support from the local city government for our Police department and the Police who are tasked to meet these issues head on.

The Facebook post removal for the thin blue line Flag was absolutely disgusting. I originally found it hard to even accept that this was something our council actively supported.

Chief of Police Ray Navarro and his team have proven themselves to be trustworthy, dependable and honorable, fulfilling their obligations to the community and the council, the very least the council can do is to provide full vocal support for our First responders and provide them with the necessary funding and staffing levels to do their job properly.

It just seems like the council are simply bowing to the liberal / progressive agenda from a localized minority of supporters and shockingly agreeing to police defunding and advertising removal of their support for its police officers on social media. This is a dangerous move by local officials and can create issues for our officers on the streets

The council have a responsibility to ensure that we, the public are protected, and the law is upheld. The council have the responsibility to staff our police force with appropriately trained individuals who can teach and train new officers providing a consistent staffing level appropriate for our growing town into the future.

The police Force need to be supported, financially and vocally by the council, I Implore you to allow the repost of the thin blue line flag and raise awareness for your full support of our

officers in this community.. I implore you to refund the 1 million dollars you removed from the budget for the Santa Rosa PD and I implore you to allow staffing levels of the police to be increased to account for future attrition and ageing out of current police officers to teach and train new recruits as needed for the future.

The current trajectory for our officers with the current lack of city support City Support is such that all of our officers will either age out or leave and Santa Rosa will be left with no tenable force to protect the city or its citizens.

Please do not let the councils current lack of support for our Police Department become the beginning of the end for our City

Best regards,

Kenneth

From: [Marc North](#)
To: [Public Safety Subcommittee Comment](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING: AGENDA 6.2 & 63
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 9:46:00 AM

6.3 - Independent Auditor must be INDEPENDENT, ETHICAL, TRANSPARENT, and WITHOUT POLITICAL INFLUENCE

Sincerely,

Marc Mercereau

Begin forwarded message:

From: Marc North <mmnhorowitz@comcast.net>
Subject: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING: AGENDA 6.2 & 63
Date: January 25, 2021 at 9:41:37 AM PST
To: pss-comment@srcity.org

The SRO Program is essential to community safety. Failure fund and staff this position will severely compromise safety and security for those that are most vulnerable in the community.

This program must NOT be reduced or eradicated.

Sincerely,

Marc Mercereau