



August 20, 2014

Oakland City Hall
Frank H. Ogawa Plaza
Oakland, California 94607

Re: *What is the Plan?*

Dear Mayor Quan & the Oakland City Council,

This past weekend saw chaos on the streets of Oakland. Friday night a protest turned violent injuring Oakland Police Officers; Saturday saw hundreds of Oakland Police Officers deployed at the Port of Oakland; and Sunday protestors at the Port were replaced by cars conducting a "sideshow" that grew so large it blocked the Bay Bridge toll plaza.

Last weekend's activities turned violent, with no apparent big picture plan on the part of City leaders for efficiently utilizing Oakland's Police Force. With no apparent staffing or organizational plan, our Officers, already tired and worn out from mandatory overtime, want to know, in your capacity as a City leaders: *What is the plan?*

On Friday night, Oakland Police Officers and residents witnessed a "Hate the Police" march through downtown Oakland, with protesters breaking windows, spraying our Officers with "bear mace" – injuring several Police Officers, with one Officer collapsing and being sent by ambulance to the hospital.

The marchers disrupted the lives of Oakland residents, diverting valuable Police resources away from our neighborhoods – where they are desperately needed.

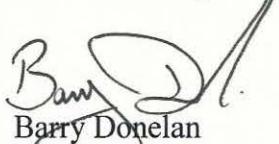
Even after uniformed Police Officers were sprayed in the face with bear mace, several Officers were injured, and another officer was transported to hospital, the Chief of Police lauded the evening's events as a success. Putting your Police Officers in harm's way and having local business owners' windows shattered, **WITHOUT A PLAN** does not constitute **SUCCESS!**

Oakland needs elected leaders and Police Department command staff that lead. Again, I ask on behalf of your Police Officers: **WHAT IS YOUR PLAN?**

We will always defend the right of all citizens to peacefully protest. But this weekend was anything but peaceful. *And we worry that more violence on Oakland's streets will eventually lead to further serious injury or death.* Please show us you value your Police Officers, our local business owners, our citizens and the great City of Oakland by sharing with us your plan for effectively managing potentially violent events – such as the ones that occurred this weekend.

We look forward to hearing from you on this very important matter. Thank you.

Yours sincerely



Barry Donelan
President

Oakland Police Officers Association