

New York Office
40 Rector Street, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10006-1738

T 212.965.2200
F 212.226.7592

www.naacpldf.org



Washington, D.C. Office
1444 Eye Street, NW, 10th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

T 202.682.1300
F 202.682.1312

August 26, 2016

Via First Class and Electronic Mail

James W. Johnson, Chief
Baltimore County Police Department
700 Joppa Road
Towson, Maryland 21286

Re: Police-involved shooting death of Korryn Gaines

Dear Chief Johnson:

On August 19, 2016, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF) received a letter from Elise Armacost, Director of the Public Affairs Section of the Baltimore County Police Department (BCoPD). In that letter, Ms. Armacost responded to the LDF's August 15 correspondence requesting documents and information concerning the August 1 police-involved shooting of Korryn Gaines and her young son Kodi. Thank you for your prompt response to our inquiries.

We write to clarify a few matters raised by your response. First, please note that LDF requested a copy of the *entire* agreement between BCoPD and the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #4. Specifically, in our August 15, 2016 letter, we asked for *a copy of the agreement between BCoPD and the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #4 referenced in the department's written statement*. Ms. Armacost provided only the provision of the agreement that the BCoPD relied upon when it decided to withhold the names of the officers involved in the shooting of Korryn and Kodi Gaines. In accordance with the Maryland Public Information Act, Md. Code Ann., Gen. Provisions §§ 4-101, *et seq.*, please provide a copy of the current Memorandum of Understanding between BCoPD and the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #4 in its entirety.

Additionally, Ms. Armacost's letter did not respond fully to our request for the *identity of hostage negotiator* or *"crisis intervention" units* involved in the incident. Her letter referred to audio recordings from a hostage negotiation team, but does not provide the identity of any crisis intervention units. Please provide this information. In particular, we wish to know the identity of any trained medical personnel who were part of the hostage negotiation team or other teams who were on site for this incident.

We appreciate the information you provided about the apparently ongoing transcription of audio recordings from the four radio channels used by BCoPD patrol and special personnel, including hostage negotiators and tactical personnel, during the August 1 incident involving Ms. Gaines. When do you expect the transcription to be completed? Is it your intention to make the transcription public? We respectfully request a copy of the transcribed recordings once they are completed.



Finally, please indicate when the BCoPD anticipates completing its investigation of the Aug. 1 officer-involved shooting of Korryn and Kodi Gaines, including its administrative investigation of the officers involved.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Monique Dixon at 202-682-1300 or me at 212-965-2200.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sherrilyn A. Ifill".

Sherrilyn A. Ifill
President and Director-Counsel

Monique L. Dixon
Deputy Director of Policy and Senior Counsel

cc: Vickie Wash, Esq., Legal Section, Baltimore County Police Department
Vanita Gupta, Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice
Adrienne Jones, Maryland Delegate, District 10, Baltimore County