

ALBIES, STARK & GUERRIERO
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

J. Ashlee Albies
ashlee@albiesstark.com

1 SW Columbia St. Suite 1850
Portland, OR 97204
Phone: 503-308-4771
Fax: 503-427-9292

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Re: *STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF SB 808 (2023 Regular Session)*

Dear Legislators,

I am a civil rights attorney based out of Portland, Oregon. I've represented people and families of people who have been harmed by police violence, as well as the Albina Ministerial Alliance Coalition for Justice and Police Reform for many years in a federal court case involving the Portland Police Bureau.

I write to urge you to support SB 808 because it will increase community voice and participation in the process governing statewide law enforcement standards. The past several years, in the midst of the Black Lives Matter movements, and in the wake of George Floyd's murder, in Oregon and nationally, we have seen community trust in law enforcement institutions weakened or substantially diluted. Increasing community-based representation on the Commission on Statewide Law Enforcement Standards of Conduct and Discipline will help to restore trust, and will also bring a perspective to this process which has thus far been absent. My many years of representing the Albina Ministerial Alliance Coalition for Justice and Police Reform has demonstrated how important it is to have a community perspective in setting standards and expectations for law enforcement, especially from those most impacted by unconstitutional policing practices. These perspectives have been historically excluded from these processes but provide keen insight and creativity, and if we as a state want a public safety vision that provides safety for **everyone**, we need more inclusive practices. I urge you to support this bill, which will hopefully set Oregon on the path towards effective community policing.

Sincerely,

ALBIES, STARK & GUERRIERO



J. Ashlee Albies
Attorney at Law