

NEWS SERVICE

JOHN BURRIS

PRESS CONFERENCE

2:00 PM MONDAY, JULY 12TH

Civil Rights Attorney John Burris Announces The Filing Of A Federal Lawsuit Against Three Unnamed CHP Officers For Violating The Civil Rights In The Shooting Death Of Unarmed Erik Salgado And Severely Wounding Brianna Columbo As Well As The Subsequent Death Of Columbo's Unborn Child

“The number of shots fired by the officers was enough to kill a militia of terrorists. It was a massacre! Complete overkill for the potential crime. These officers' use of high power assault weapons demonstrates a total lack of regard for unarmed Erik and Brianna's lives and for the lives of neighborhood residents, composed of largely working-class Latinos. The 40 plus shots, some fired from an assault weapon, against unarmed people was murderous” Civil Rights Attorney John Burris

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COMPLAINT:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Mgjcaop7qUqY391AhER-BkqJ_3CGje57K4RcbGYSfXc/edit?ts=5f0bbcf7#heading=h.gjdgxs

WHAT: Press conference regarding legal action for the shooting death of Erik Salago and non-fatal shooting of Brianna Colombo by three unnamed California Highway Patrol “CHP” officers.

Who: John Burris Law firm including John Burris, Ben Nisenbaum, and James Chanin as well as Erik Salgado's family, Brianna Colombo, her family and numerous community supporters.

When: 2:00 pm, July 13, 2020

Where: 94th avenue and Cherry St. City of Oakland (location of the shooting) Burris Law will provide private security for the event.

Why: Aside from announcing legal action, the press conference will clarify the misleading and false narrative concocted to justify the CHP officers shooting their guns including a high powered rifle into a car over 40 times against two young people who were unarmed and did not present an imminent threat to any of the CHP officers.

Legal Action

Today, a federal civil rights lawsuit was filed against three unnamed CHP officers for violating the civil rights of Erik Salgado, Brianna Columbo, L.S, "Eric and Brianna's three-year-old daughter," and Felina Ramirez, Erik's mother. The officers' use of force caused the death of Erik Salgado, injured Brianna, and may have contributed to the termination of Brianna's pregnancy.

Facts

On June 2, 2020, Erik Salgado and Brianna Colombo were traveling in a red dodge charger that had been stolen from a San Leandro car dealership several weeks before. At approximately 10:30 pm, Erik and Brianna parked the car in the vicinity of 94th and Cherry, which was near Erik's mother's house. As they were about to leave, going south, an unmarked police car slowly approached them from the front going north, and at the same time, one or more police cars were approaching them from behind going south. Erik tried to pass the car in front but slightly bumped it. He immediately backed up and hit the car behind, and as he attempted to straighten up an unnamed officer standing outside of his car, but in the front of Erik's car, without warning, fired his gun into the front window of Erik's

car immediately striking and perhaps killing him. Within moments two other unnamed officers were also standing outside of their cars but on the passenger and driver sides of Erik's car with each unleashing a barrage of gunfire, shooting as many as 40 times into the car. Erik was hit over 18 times and Brianna 3 times. Other than yelling to turn the engine off, no other efforts were made to communicate with Erik and Brianna before the shooting. The officers gave no explicit warning they would shoot. Neither Erik nor Brianna were armed, nor did they attempt to use the car to harm anyone.

John Burris says, "The officers' conduct was atrocious, callous and a wanton, reckless disregard for the lives of Erik, Brianna, and the residential community. The officers knew nothing about Erik or Brianna, didn't know if they stole the car, or even if they knew it was stolen." Witnesses from the community had said that the officers were all out of their cars and in positions of safety when they fired their weapons.

John Burris says "The number of shots fired by the officers was enough to kill a militia of terrorists. It was a massacre! Complete overkill for the potential crime. These officers' use of high power assault weapons demonstrates a total lack of regard for Erik and Brianna's lives and for the lives of neighborhood residents, composed of largely working-class Latinos."

John Burris says the 40 plus shots, some fired from an assault weapon, against unarmed people is murderous, and he will ask that the Alameda District Attorney investigate these officers for murder and assault with deadly weapons.

For contact information: John Burris 510 928-5392

PS, today is Erik's birthday and there will a block party celebrating his birthday shortly after the press conference