

NEWS SERVICE
JOHN BURRIS
VALLEJO PRESS CONFERENCE
2:00 PM AUGUST 6th

**Civil Rights Attorney John Burris To Announce The Filing Of A
Federal Civil Rights Lawsuit On Behalf Of The Sean Monterrosa
Family Against The City of Vallejo And Vallejo Police Officer Jarrett
Tonn**

"The shooting death of Sean Monterrosa by Vallejo Police Officer Jarrett Tonn was a despicable act of cowardice for which he should be criminally prosecuted for murder. The Department is unable to police itself. . . "Plaintiffs will pursue policy, practice, and training changes at the Department, which should be under federal or state control with an independent monitor to evaluate whether the department is in compliance with any court-ordered or agreed-upon changes." John Burris

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COMPLAINT: <https://johnburrislaw.com/sean-monterrosa/>

Facebook Live Press Conference:
<https://www.facebook.com/john.l.burris>

WHAT: Press Conference announcing the filing of a Federal Civil Rights Lawsuit on behalf of the Sean Monterrosa family against the City of Vallejo and Vallejo Police Officer Jarrett Tonn

WHEN: August 6, 2020, at 2:00pm

WHERE: Vallejo City Hall, 555 Santa Clara St, [Vallejo, California](#)

WHO: Attorneys John Burris and Ben Nisenbaum and the family of Sean Monterrosa including Father, Mother, sisters and other family, friends and community members

Vallejo CA---This morning a Federal Civil Rights Lawsuit was filed in Federal Court in the Eastern District, Sacramento.

[The suit](#) alleges that Jarrett Tonn, a Vallejo police officer, without just cause, shot and killed Sean Monterrosa on June 2, 2020, in the City of Vallejo in violation of Mr. Monterrosa's civil rights and that of his family members including his father and mother, Neftali and Nora Monterrosa as well as his two sisters Michelle and Ashley

Summary of Facts

On June 2, 2020, at around 12:30 am, Jarrett Tonn an officer with a well-known history of shooting his guns at civilians, fired his AR-15 semi-automatic rifle five times without warning from the backseat of a moving, unmarked police vehicle through the front windshield at Sean Monterrosa who was a distance in front of the vehicle. Mr. Monterrosa was struck in his mid-neck; he died shortly thereafter.

Burris says, "according to police chief Shawny Williams' first statement, Sean Monterrosa was on his knees attempting to put his hands" when he was shot and killed. Burris says Monterrosa was shot through a police vehicle windshield by a panicky police officer. Sean Monterrosa had no gun, nor did he attempt to attack or harm anyone before being shot. Burris says that the officer's shooting was a despicable act of cowardice and showed a reckless disregard for human life. The officer should be prosecuted for murder.

Burris further states, "This case is particularly disturbing because Vallejo PD officer Tonn has a shocking history of discharging his gun. This is his fourth shooting in 5 years and raises real questions about his suitability or fitness to possess weapons." Most troubling to Burris is "there does not appear to be any records of counseling or discipline for the other shootings." Burris believes, in fact, "there seems to be coddling of Tonn by the other officers, right after the shooting one officer said "You're gonna be alright man. You've been through this before."

[The suit](#) also alleges the Vallejo Police Department's command staff knew or should have known that Tonn and other Vallejo officers engaged in a pattern and practice of misconduct such as shootings, false arrests, illegal stops, beating, and destruction of evidence. Burris states, "Many of these officers, including Tonn, are unqualified, undisciplined, and morally unfit to be police officers." Burris further stressed, "By failing to discipline officers for misconduct, Vallejo's police command staff essentially ratifies the bad conduct."

Burris says, "The Department is unable to police itself. Plaintiffs will pursue policy, practice, and training changes at the Department, which should be under federal or state control with an independent monitor to evaluate whether the department is in compliance with any court-ordered or agreed-upon changes."

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