

**From:** [Carlos Ovalle](#)  
**To:** [Alejandra Garcia](#)  
**Subject:** Technology and Information Commission - Agenda item 2. 21-029TI  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 22, 2021 2:03:17 PM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)

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**-EXTERNAL-**

Dear Technology and Innovation Commissioners:

I am deeply concerned with all things related to the Long Beach Police Department's use of Facial Recognition technology. The LBPD has been less than transparent in the use of this and all other advanced technology and in general. In fact they've been extremely secretive and deceptive until caught with irrefutable evidence.

The LBPD has the distinction of being ranked last among the largest 176 police departments in California, and the fourth lowest ranked police department in the nation.

Among the criteria that gives an embarrassingly and worrisome low score to the LBPD is the issue of Police Accountability (screenshot below). For those of us who, by virtue of our race, our status as immigrants, and compounded by our work as community activists, have often come face to face with the police, this is an issue of grave importance. We have a deep distrust of the police even before this advanced technology, even more now.



This lack of trust in law enforcement is critical for effective policing. Communities that do not trust the police are less likely to report crimes. This is particularly true given the LBPD's history with TigerText, the secret drone program, and now Facial Recognition Technology.

Please record this letter as vehement opposition to the continued use of police-state technology.

Sincerely,

Carlos Ovalle  
Executive Director  
People of Long Beach



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