



## Memorandum

Date: June 3, 2014  
To: The Honorable Mayor and Dallas City Council  
Subject: Office of the Police Monitor Ordinance Proposal

Between July 2002 and July 18, 2013 there were 197 officer involved shootings reported by the Dallas Police Department through Open Records Request 2013-09685. Black<sup>1</sup> and Hispanic victims account for 74.13% of all fatal officer involved shootings, with Black victims compromising **56.89%** of those. For non-fatal shootings, the percentage increases to **81.15%**, with Black victims compromising **51.07%** of all non-fatalities. The number of officer involved shootings in communities of color are **more than double** the 2010 U.S. Census, which shows that only 25% of the total population identify as African American.

The information provided confirms that Black individuals suffer a much higher rate of police violence than was previously known, and paints a clear picture of bias in the application of non-deadly and deadly force when the Dallas Police interact with communities of color. In order to address the increasing divide between the community and law enforcement, as well as the overwhelming mistrust of Dallas Police generally, Dallas Communities Organizing for Change is proposing the Office of the Police Monitor ordinance.

The proposed Office of the Police Monitor ordinance will strengthen the Citizen's Police Review Board by allowing the board to provide independent oversight of the Internal Affairs investigative process, and will instill confidence in the police misconduct complaint process. **By approving the Office of the Police Monitor ordinance or setting it for inclusion on the general election ballot**, the City Council will be taking a step towards the promotion of common sense policy recommendations and police accountability and will begin to repair the relationship between the Dallas Police Department and the community it serves.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dallas Communities Organizing for Change  
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<sup>1</sup> This identifier is used by the Dallas Police Department, and so we include it here in order to confirm with the information provided.