



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND**

**COUNCILMEMBERS WILL JAWANDO, CRAIG RICE, NANCY NAVARRO AND GABE ALBORNOZ**  
**STATEMENT ON USE OF FORCE LEGISLATION**

**JUNE 8, 2020**

The last few weeks have highlighted a national trend of the types of policing practices that have led to fatal or dangerous outcomes for the community and specifically community members of color. Here in Montgomery County, we are not immune. We believe we can do better, and doing better means building systems that root out injustice and working with law enforcement to build relationships with the communities they serve. We need our police to be our guardians, not warriors seeing danger in every interaction.

Most recently, the Montgomery County Council has sought to ensure racial equity, social justice and inclusion throughout our county. The Council has also worked hard to increase transparency and accountability in the actions of the Montgomery County Police Department. This is supported by County legislation including the Racial Equity and Social Justice Act, the Law Enforcement Trust and Transparency (LETT) Act, the Policing Advisory Commission, the Community Policing Law, the Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair (CROWN) Act, and the Remembrance and Reconciliation Commission.

Together in the coming weeks, we will be introducing legislation to further protect the civil rights of Montgomery County residents, increase police accountability and create safer and more inclusive communities for everyone who calls montgomery county home. Specifically, our bill would set a higher standard for use of force by police, outlaw certain deadly tactics such as choke holds, and require police officers to intervene if a fellow officer is committing a crime or violating department policy. We look forward to working with the County Executive and the Montgomery County Police Department on this initiative. These measures are a necessary step intended to protect the safety of residents during interactions with law enforcement, which will in turn help to build trust with law enforcement.

Will Jawando  
At-large

Craig Rice  
District 2

Nancy Navarro  
District 4

Gabe Albornoz  
At-large