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individuals, vehicle, people, atlanta police department, state, property, federal partners, neighborhood, officers, question, hear, arrested, sharon, allison, minutes, narrative, tree, comment, house, domestic terrorism

SPEAKERS

Allison clark, Freeman

00:00

everybody. Oh, how

00:02

are you sound sexy Alison? I wasn't sure it was you

Allison clark 00:14

Oh, I'm done with you.

00:17

We're just beginning.

Allison clark 00:19

Right, right. Yeah,

Freeman 00:23

I see you. Go. Hey, Jacqueline. Hey. Hello.

00:27

How are you doing? Sure.

00:29

Hey.

00:32

We'll try to get my raspy voice going

Allison clark 00:36

I can tell you how

00:39

I had a feeling it was hard work.

Allison clark 00:44

It was fun.

00:45

Yeah, it was our I love fun then All right.

00:54

Advisory Council

Allison clark 01:06

did you see well, let me see your name

01:26

Oh

Freeman 01:47

all right, everybody. Sorry. I'm getting everybody on here. One second. Hey, Pat, good to see you.

02:02

Thank you. Hello, everyone. Oh,

02:05

hi. Nice to see you. Hey, Pat.

02:08

Hey, Alison, how are you?

Allison clark 02:11

I'm good. How are you?

02:13

I'm getting I'm getting there. Day by day. Hey, that's good to see everyone.

02:23

Okay. You look good.

02:26

Yeah. Hey, get in there. Thankful to still be

Allison clark 02:36

with a bright smile at that.

02:38

Oh, yeah. That's the only way to go.

Freeman 02:43

Hey, and Pat, I do want to, I want to actually connect with you. offline. So tomorrow. If you're around during the day, I'll give you a shout.

02:55

Okay.

03:11

I know we have quorum. We have quorum, Madam Chair.

Allison clark 03:17

That is wonderful. Give me just a minute to get us rolling. And we'll go through it. Marsha, you all done moving everybody over your mute.

Freeman 03:30

Sorry, I was talking to myself. Give me one more sec. Okay. found himself in front of Judge repeating this whole exclusive video on Tuesday or

03:49

someone has the news out in the background.

Allison clark 03:54

I'll turn it off

04:00

it was

Allison clark 04:01

meant to be a buffer in case my kids get loud.

04:04

Oh, okay.

Allison clark 04:06

Yeah, that's all out today. Okay.

04:10

That's fine.

Allison clark 04:17

Let you guys hear the more natural sounds of my household

Freeman 04:30

All right, Madam Chair. It looks like I have everybody in and sorry, one more. Yep, I've got everybody in until if anybody else comes I will announce them. Thank you.

Allison clark 04:48

That is perfect. All right. Do you have the recording go on.

04:56

recording in progress. There we go.

Allison clark 05:01

All right, well, thank you. And if you all I'm sorry,

Freeman 05:04

manager looks like, I'm not sure if Shawn had his hand up intentionally or not, but his hand is raised.

Allison clark 05:12

Okay, Shawn, did you need some time before we get rolling?

Freeman 05:15

No, I was just laying nails here. Welcome. Got it. Thank you.

Allison clark 05:23

Okay, ladies and gentlemen, please bear with me as you probably have figured out by now. I don't have my full voice. I had a little too much fun last night, so bear with me here. With that, it is 6:05pm We are officially underway. And so welcome to you all. I will go ahead and toss to miss Sharon Williams for our Roll Call.

05:47

Thank you, Madam Chair. Allison Clark. I'm here

Allison clark 05:52

and felt lucky as can be.

05:56

Anne Phillips

05:58

is on here tonight. She's

Allison clark 05:58

in another meeting.

06:00

That's right. Thank you. Shirley. Jacqueline, rainy

06:04

here. Chief Tyus. Present.

06:10

Thank you. Sean Billingsley. And then we just heard his voice but yep, he is here. Thank you. Let's Shandra Burke's.

Freeman 06:23
Shandra is not here.

06:24
Okay. Sharon Williams. I'm here. Nicole Morato present. Thank you. Jerry basin.

Freeman 06:34
I do not see Jerry basin. Okay,

06:36
Ophelia Lee.

Freeman 06:38
No to Ophelia Lee.

06:40
Amy Taylor. Amy Taylor is also not here. Alice Turner. Yeah. Thank you Dustin. helus.

Freeman 06:51
Dustin Hill. This is so absent.

06:54
Patricia call here. Early Nichols. Yeah. Tory Tucker. Tory Tucker is absent. First Chief Deputy First Deputy Chief James Macklemore. Thank you. I'll let Sean atwater's.

Freeman 07:13
Mr. Waters is also absent.

07:17
We do have quorum.

Allison clark 07:20
Thank you so much. That was quick and easy. Well, again, thank you all for being here this evening. We will jump right into our governance and take the adoption of the agenda and approval of minutes as a package deal if anyone is willing to make the Motion

07:34
moved to Sharon.

Allison clark 07:38
Can we get a second? Who do I have?

07:44
The call. I just had one note on the minutes. It said I was tardy last meeting in which I wasn't. I'm not it's totally fine. But

Allison clark 07:53

now we will make sure that is updated. I will make that that edit.

07:57

But otherwise, I'm happy to approve.

Allison clark 08:01

I actually looked at that and meant to go back and pull that off of the minutes. And so with the amendment that the minutes be altered to reflect Nicole as being on time to the meeting. Can I get a motion with that amendment, please?

08:23

Yeah. Okay, I've

Allison clark 08:25

got Sharon and I'll take a second. Second. Thank you. All right. And if there are any objections, please speak now. raise a hand. All right. The agenda is adopted, and the minutes are approved. And with that, we can move right into our security update chief tax.

08:54

Oh, wow. So great. So first of all, happy holidays, everybody. And I just hope everybody's holidays is as wonderful as Alison and we all can come back course from yelling and celebrating.

Allison clark 09:11

Your friends when your friends have big moments, you gotta show up for them.

09:16

No, you're absolutely right, Allison, you're absolutely right. So jumping right into it. So we'll go back to Monday, December 5, we were on the property. We conducted an early morning operation not there, really to just remove debris and spikes it had been placed in the ground. So we routinely see spikes being placed in the ground in an effort to flatten the tires of any equipment we have out there. So we conducted I want to say 10 to 15 spikes out there. We weren't met with any resistance out there. That they however, that Wednesday, December 7 in the early morning hours, were observed a couple of individuals come up to our flock camera that's at the gate and they did damage the flock cameras. And then later on that morning We had some individuals hiding in the woods. And when one of our civilian employees at the range left the range, her vehicle was struck by rock. And then we had two other civilians leaving our gun range who had the vehicle struck by rods. So we did deploy resources out there, we did not catch any individuals. However, we did find a tree house they had set up in the woods, where they had a spotter, who was up in the tree house in his cars left, he was calling them out to individuals. So we were able to take that tree house down. And that kind of mitigated that problem at that time. So based on that we did go back in the woods on Saturday, Last Saturday, December 10. and whatnot, our public works just to remove debris from the area. We were out there maybe two hours, we were met with a couple individuals who threw rocks at the officers and our public works, workers. No one was injured, and they did discharge a couple of fireworks. So then, late on that night, Saturday night, now while we have no proof of it, we're pretty sure they are the individuals that set fire to those two homes on the construction on both boulder crest. You know, unfortunately, those homes had nothing to do with this project. And they were set on fire. So we put our drone up in the air on

several occasions. After that, and what we discovered that we had four trees, we have four tree houses on our 85 acres, and they had been unoccupied. Have we determined that they had been occupied again. So that prompted the Atlanta Police Department along with our state and federal partners to go back out on that property. So on Tuesday, we went out on our 85 acres, we went to those four tree houses one by one, there was protesters occupying all four tree houses. We attempted to engage those individuals in dialogue for probably 35 to 40 minutes, and they steadfastly refused to come down out of those tree houses. So as to confirm with our law department, we did use an irritant, which I'm sure you saw on social media, they were saying that we pepper sprayed him, it wasn't here to deploy up into the tree house to make them uncomfortable. Come down, and it was successful. So we were able to get all four of those individuals down out of that tree houses. So on that day, we ended up locking up six protesters. And so what we all know what those six protesters, none of them lived in a neighborhood. None of them lived in Atlanta, DeKalb County, none of them live in state of Georgia. We had one individual from South Carolina, we had an individual from California, we had an individual from Wisconsin, the ages of those six individuals who was 20 to 25 years old, that six males and one female that we arrested that day. And so that's just what we're dealing with, out there. And so while we were out there, we did impound the vehicle. And we had an individual who was out attempting to film officers. So we were able to get him with the hands free law as he drove by family officers. So we were able to lock him up. So these charges were made by our federal state partners, the GBI and the cab County. And so one of the things we charged them with to include criminal trespass was domestic terrorism charges that we put on them. So going forward, that will that is one of the charges we'll be using. Because that's exactly what they are. None of those people live here, they do not have a vested interest in this property. And we show that time and time again, was an individual from Los Angeles, California concerned about a training facility being built in the state of Georgia. And that is why we consider that domestic terrorism. Now interesting enough, while we were out there on the property, arresting some of those individuals, we did have another group that went to one of the cab county fire stations and set off fireworks at that building. So based on that, that galvanized the cab county into action. So the following day, the cat went over there to their side of the property. And they ended up locking up six individuals also the following day. So um, in the past couple of days, the Atlanta Police Department is with their state and federal partners and DeKalb County locked up 12 individuals. And this man will treehouse. And so as we go into the holidays, we will still monitor that site. And we will respond to any appropriate threats or any acts of violence out there on my 85 acres. We unfortunately we will have officers working throughout the holidays, to include Christmas state to protect our property out there. So if I just encourage everyone, you ought to go back with that narrative that, you know, there were six individuals locked up. None of those individuals resided here in the state of Georgia and I just think that just bolts to what we've been saying from day one, that these are professional protesters, nothing more. They don't I have a vested interest in what we're doing out here. So if we can just drive that narrative home, to your neighbors, to your friends, to news media, anyone that asks you just make sure we're driving that narrative home. And I see Sharon already has a hand raised. So I'll take any questions at this time.

15:18

Thank you, Chief, thank

Allison clark 15:19

you very much for that, Sharon.

15:22

So the six people that DeKalb arrested, also out of state.

15:27

Um, I'm just getting that information. I think most of them more, I haven't gotten the information because some of the ones they locked up, I don't think they had ID on them. Like when our guys didn't have ID, and we just had to use our fingerprint scanner to identify who they were. Typically, when we arrest these individuals, they have no idea on them. So you know, we'll end up taking them to jail using our fingerprint scan, and most of them have been arrested somewhere else in a different state for doing something nefarious or along the same lines of what they're doing here. Thank you.

16:04

Thank you, Amy. Hi, I just want to say, you know, I thank you guys for, for getting out there and and protecting everybody and, you know, putting yourselves at risk. I noticed the day before that there was a car parked on my street that I didn't recognize. And it was weird, because it was there overnight. And I didn't see in it. My question is, if we see strange vehicles parked around the neighborhood, do we need to be reporting that? Or what do we do in? Is that information that you guys need?

16:58

Absolutely, Amy, because I'll tell you what happens all the time. They park their vehicles aways off and they'll walk to where they want. And because they keep all the information in a vehicle, and they don't want that vehicle tied back to them. So you know, it's just a matter of undercover work, or sometimes we identify the vehicles they came in, and sometimes we didn't. So we may be identified a couple of vehicles these individuals came in because they do just what you said they will park it in your neighborhood, try to blend in and simply walk away from that vehicle and walk back down those 85 acres. So yes, ma'am. If you see a vehicle in your neighborhood, that by all means call 911. So the police can check it out, especially if it has, you know, out of state plates on it. Okay,

17:41

thank you.

Allison clark 17:43

Shawn Billingsley. Sean, are you there?

Freeman 17:58

I believe Shannon was having audio trouble. It looks like he dropped back, he dropped off and then rejoin. So, Shawn, I don't know if you can hear us. But if you can't, we can't hear you. So I'm not sure if you can call in a local line. But if you can call him on a local line, then then you that will also work I can bring you over that way.

Allison clark 18:17

Okay, perfect. And Sharon, I'm going to circle back to you in just a second. I just wanted to make a quick comment this to say that I am so pleased to see the level of charge being domestic terrorism. Just because for those of us living here, this has been a bit of a nightmare, to have this continue to go on and to feel as though there's no light at the end of the tunnel. And so seeing that, you know, it's being taken seriously, and that the concern for the community is as strong as it is, at the end of the day, no matter your perspective on the project, whether you're in favor of or opposed to, it's not fair to terrorize the surrounding communities as a part of your objection to a project. So with that, very thankful

for the fact that you all are out there and for the level of charges that have been applied. That's all of my comments. So I will circle back, Sharon, the floor is yours. Sure. Share with all of us, not just you. Yes, I

19:14

know. I saw I think ditto to everything you just said. You know, I was coming home from the airport. And while I was redirected, I was happy to see the show of force. And I so I have a two parter one. I just want to make sure no officers were hurt. And because I was told that there was a bomb or real there was a lot of fireworks going on. So please tell me that no fire or safety were hurt.

19:41

No, no officers were hurt. And what happens is they're just using large fireworks that they're setting off over there. And what happens is, you know, they want people to call in the SAT heard a large explosion, there's a bomb out there. You know, that is the narrative they want to drive but at the end of the day, we're used to hearing it and they're just very Very large fireworks that you will normally hear around the Fourth of July. That is what it is. But again, when we go out in those woods, we have a plethora of offices out there, we have a security plan that we went over several days in advance. We work with our state and federal partners every day, you know, putting those plans in the operation. So our main objective is every officer comes back out safe. So that means we let one or two individuals get away that run through the list. And we'll do that, because we know we can circle back and get them another day. But I thank you. Thank you. Thank you for your concern for officers that are out there sharing.

20:37

Thank you. The second part of my question is the the boulder crest community that Mr. Ray was building down the street from us unbelievable. Last, that they had fires as well. Around the same time, is this similar terrorist activities? Or do we not have evidence one way or the other?

21:00

The there are some department the fire department is working on that again. Can we prove they did it? No. Do we know they did it? Yes. So what we're looking for is something that can talk back to them. And again, every time we lock up on these individuals, and to Amy's point we find one of the vehicles, we look for accelerant or anything that we can tie to a fire or a suspicious Blaze on that property. Thank you.

Allison clark 21:27

Thank you for that. Shirley Nichols.

21:29

Thank you very much to say that I totally agree with Allison's comment. And I was beginning to feel that we were just being pushed off with these people. And I know that you are doing a lot of investigation, a lot of things going on behind the scenes that we don't know about. I do applaud you for the fact that I found that last night that they had arrested somebody, I was really pleased to know that that happened. Well, thank you very much for all that you're doing.

21:58

No, you're quite welcome. And here's the thing, ma'am, we're doing this for you all out there. You all have to live in that neighborhood, as well as us building a training academy. And it's just not fair that

you all are suffering because the Atlanta Police Department is trying to build a top notch training academy. They own that property.

Allison clark 22:16

Thank you. Thank you for that. Are there any additional questions or comments? Petco calm I see your hand is raised,

22:27

as I say, have a comment. This morning, I was listening to one of the reckless radio stations. And I think the narrative needs to be focused on a little bit more from your department, because they were actually saying that they didn't see why it should be named a domestic terrorist. And they you know, and I wanted to call them but I see no need to stay away from this. Because what they were stating is that most of the time, it is not the police that's doing what's right. It is them that that's trying to keep the property from you know, being destroyed and that kind of thing. And so that was a discussion on one of our local radio stations this morning. And I don't know whether that narrative can be put out a little bit more in terms of why you all are doing what you're doing and why you labeled them domestic terrorist. Is there any comment on that?

23:18

Yes, ma'am. Um, you know, we try not to get into a back and forth. So we have a media comms between the Atlanta Police Department, the GBI and our federal partners. So what we're going to say, but what I'll tell you is what you just said was exactly right. You all can get on the radio, Allison can get on and explain to them the fear you go through the threat of your home being burned down. And you all can articulate why it's domestic terrorism, because they're terrorizing your neighborhood over there. So it resonates coming from a person that lives there who has a vested interest in that community. Our narratives we try not to go tit for tat with these people. Because that's what they want to get into a war words. But, you know, Patricia, if you're standing in front of a camera saying, you know, I heard fireworks, I thought it was an explosion in my neighborhood. I watch a house and the construction burned to the ground. And I'm just afraid that my house is next. That resonates with the average citizen out there. Thanks.

Allison clark 24:20

No, thank you for that. Jacqueline Rainey. I'm concerned about the people I mean, you as police officers and the other people coming out there you're saying people are throwing rocks at their cars and or any vehicle they don't know who these people are that can end up killing somebody you know, that is so dangerous.

24:45

It is ma'am. Again, I you know, the old motto We stand in harm's way so you don't have to out much rather than throwing a rock at a police car and a police officer versus you driving that constitution and someone throwing a brick at your wondering you Just working off the road and getting hurt. Fortunately for us, they've actually hit lookouts. And they've actually been targeting police vehicles or vehicles that were coming from a foreign range. And we really haven't had any civilian vehicle struck ma'am.

25:16

Well, that's good to know. Anyway. But I really feel for you guys, I hope all of you will be safe.

25:24

Yes, ma'am. And thank you so much. Um, you know, the support we get from this community is overwhelming. And it just, you know, galvanizes the troops when we take this message back, you know, myself, and Marshall Freeman, we go back and we tell the troops that there are people that support the training academy, there are people that want this training academy built and there are people that live in a neighborhood, not people from Wisconsin, California, South Carolina and New England, who are opposing it. Right.

25:53

Good. Night, Hollis. Turner.

25:56

Hi, I just want a quick comment and a quick question. The AJC reported on no on those incidents that you're talking about. They also talked about the domestic terrorism charges. And they also included a little blurb on what domestic terrorism, what those laws state and why, that they're there. My question is, I worked for the Feds for a while before I retired. And one of the things that came up sort of frequently, during my last few years, that was it, nuclear incidents that had happened, and people want it to come to the individual workers to find out about it. I understand what you're saying that, you know, to the person that was talking about the Top radio, and that you could call in and say something about that about that. I was the things that I've been talked about, or that I thought were said we were supposed to refer them to the public affairs department, and not get into that kind of thing ourselves. I understand calling into a talk show, and maybe not saying that we're part of this group. But is, Am I hearing you say that that's okay to do this? You can you can,

27:10

you can have a public opinion, just like they have a public opinion that they're not doing anything wrong, and the police are targeting them? Well, if you're asked, you can refute that and say, No, I do think this is domestic terrorism, because I'm living in this neighborhood. And I'm experiencing this terrorism that's going on over here. You're not claiming to be a subject matter expert. You're simply saying from a layman's person point of view, this is what I fear my house catching on fire from a firework that someone's shooting in that area, because they want to agitate the police.

27:42

Okay, I understand.

Allison clark 27:46

Thank you very much. Are there any additional questions?

27:52

Did your child have one? Question?

28:02

Neither, that's what he's saying. Baby translator,

Allison clark 28:07

right, exactly. The two year old has much to say. But we none of us know what it is. Well, I appreciate all of those questions and comments that came up in it. And again, appreciate the efforts that your team

is putting in, and hopefully things clear up soon. But I just wanted to say much appreciated. If there are no additional questions, we can, I guess, move on off of this topic. And as you all polish your hand,

28:37

oh, take it out. Take my hand down.

Allison clark 28:41

I got you covered. No worries. Well, with that, I will just say to you all. Thank you so very much for your service on this committee. I sent you all an email ahead of time because as you can tell, topping is not my strong point today. But we will go ahead and move through our elections process via electronic ballot and then we will also send out a doodle tomorrow so that we can schedule our q1 meeting dates. Your Apple juices upstairs buddy. You see my life. Apple juice requests.

29:15

Like a motion to adjourn.

Allison clark 29:17

I would I just wanted to wish everybody a happy holidays. I'll see you guys in 2023. But if I can get a motion to adjourn, we're out of here.

29:24

Motion to adjourn. Happy holidays. Everybody

29:32

Christmas you