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From: Sabine Hoskinson <sabine.hoskinson@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 4:21 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Comment on 6/11 Hearing on Racial Equity and the Criminal Justice System



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Hello,

I would like to first state my support and solidarity with Black Lives Matter Santa Barbara and Juneteenth Santa Barbara. I implore you to answer their demands with swift action:

- Institutional and financial support for an annual Juneteenth Celebration – not just this year but every year
- That the Sheriff update its Use of Force policy to center on de-escalation
- End isolation/quarantine for inmates attending court or contacting their lawyers
- The District Attorney implement diversion programs and pursue alternatives to incarceration

I am also writing in specific reaction to comments made during the 6/11 Hearing on Racial Equity and the Criminal Justice System by a Mr. Becker.

The suggestion that money is the great equalizer and that our focus should be on economic equality is beyond dangerous.

The right to life, the right to breathe, the right to walk down the street without constant fear should be the great equalizer, though sadly it has not been. Recognition of humanity and the right to life is the great equalizer. Without defunding the police and dismantling institutions built on systemic white supremacy, the safety of our BIPOC neighbors is at constant risk.

Economic equality and equal access to opportunity ARE basic, vital rights. Economic inequality is part of the same system of white supremacy that allows black people to be murdered by the police, but a suggestion that we not immediately address the murders and violence being carried out by the police in Santa Barbara and across the nation is dangerous and heartless.

Thank you,
Sabine Hoskinson