

# **Statement by the Family of Richard “Gary” Black, Jr.**

**August 2, 2018**

This morning, many members of the family of Richard “Gary” Black, Jr. met with Chief Nicholas Metz and other officials from the Aurora Police Department (“APD”). The family reviewed a body worn camera video recording and Mrs. Black’s 911 audio recording. The family sincerely appreciated the opportunity to review these materials and recognized that there was no obligation for APD to share these materials at this time.

At this time, the family has requested that the APD not release these materials to the public. The family desires space to grieve and does not wish to have the final and violent moments of Gary’s distinguished life be his public legacy.

The early morning of July 30, 2018 was emotionally traumatic for all involved. The 911 telephone call by Mrs. Black was difficult to understand as large portions are unintelligible. The family acknowledges the APD’S position that the responding officers did not receive a description of the intruders.

The family has learned that members of the APD have been receiving threats and subjected to other forms of harassment. This must stop. Mr. Black was a disabled US Army veteran who deeply appreciated law enforcement. Mrs. Black has personally quilted dozens of blankets for the Aurora Police Department. Any disrespect to law enforcement carried out in Mr. Black’s name would be contrary to his wishes.

The investigation is in its early stages and until it is complete, there will remain many more questions than answers.

Any inquiries for the Black family should be directed to their attorneys Qusair Mohamedbhai and Siddhartha Rathod, 303-578-4400.

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