

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Comment
8/11/2020 10:47	Alan K Jones	<p>Please keep in mind in all of your deliberations that every life should matter in the United States of America, but we have not yet reached that standard. It is clear that skin color and poverty have an oversized determination in the way people are treated in this country, and the types of advantages they have access to. In Salt Lake City, a white man who aimed a loaded crossbow at protestors was charged with a weapons charge, the lowest level of felony charge. The District Attorney has charged protestors who painted his office building with the highest level of felony charges that could result in life sentences ? for defacing a building!!! When the man who led the Republican Party in Utah, a black American, publically states that he thinks carefully which neighborhoods he enters at night, not out of fear of the criminal element but out of fear of whether he will be stopped by police, there is something amiss. Please keep in mind as you deliberate that we need to completely rethink policing and prisons in this state and nation. Whether you say defund or unbundle the police, it is time to start from the foundations and rethink what we ask our officers to do and how they go about doing it ? preferably without a union to keep change from occurring. I love our police, and I love our people of color. What we are doing now are destroying lives in both sets of our loved ones and it cannot continue. All lives should matter, but until they do lives of color should matter more.</p> <p>Alan K. Jones</p>

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Comment
8/11/2020 10:47	Alicia Salley	<p>Dear Mayor Mendenhall, Many of us who are residents of Salt Lake City and the surrounding cities are concerned by your recent action and inaction regarding the safety of our community. You have a duty to protect Salt Lake City from violence, civil unrest and destruction and devaluation of property. If you collect tax revenue for stated purposes and then fail to support the objectives of those sources, you are in breach of duty and you subject the city to civil liability. Apologizing to the Carbajal family when you did was irresponsible, and was disloyal to your police department. While all of our hearts go out to the Carbajal family, those of us who are familiar with precedent case law in this specific area expected Sim Gill's conclusion, which was legally correct in every way. Apologizing for the correct actions of the police officers involved weakened your integrity as one that should put support of a good law enforcement agency as a top priority. You either had or should have had reasonable advance knowledge of the recent protests that affected Salt Lake City, particularly the first one where a police car was destroyed and other property was damaged. What did you do to protect your city, your citizens and your police department? All reports point to your tying the hands of the police department and facilitating a liberal agenda, which would include inciting unrest, similar to the actions of other Democrat politicians around the nation, in an effort to affect November elections in a rather counterfeit fashion. On July 18th, protesters were allowed to gather in front of the governor's mansion, they illegally used their own cars to block traffic. City streets and access to businesses were shut down, allowing protesters to march from the governor's mansion to the State Capitol. Last week, you allowed protesters to unlawfully assemble, block traffic and cause hundreds of thousands of dollars of damage to the new DA's office. *Continued 1/2*</p>

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	Alicia Salley	<p>*Continued 2/2* Hear this loud and clear: Utah residents were and are disgusted with your lack of courage and leadership and for your inaction in allowing these things to happen and we will not stand for it. Salt Lake City is not Seattle. It is not Los Angeles. We are better than that, and need to behave better than what we have seen from other cities, where the leadership is determined to destroy whom and what they have stewardship over, in an effort to push a political agenda. You have been granted a sacred duty to serve and protect the citizens, not a political party, an agenda, or a personal vision. Your legacy as a mayor is for you to shape. You can be remembered and revered as an effective leader of a great community, or you can be remembered as a disgrace, where years of disaster cleanup followed your administration. Please put the great people of Salt Lake City and the surrounding communities first. Politics are insignificant compared to the personal and financial security of our residents. Please show the people of our community that your priorities are in the right place. Truly responsible leadership, that which is driven by a love for the people and not loyalty to a ?cause,? is always rewarded at re-election time. If you wish to continue to serve, please help our community by doing the right things as mayor. Signed, Fed up Citizen!</p>
	Joseph Ezra	<p>Hello Dan, I run a restaurant in downtown slc. I also live downtown just outside your district. Last year I was detained because an off duty officer ran my id off a dropped wallet and misheard the dispatch. I was verbally and mentally abused and the restaurant lost a days worth of profit when I was making a quick run to my car. I was let go no report was filed and all of my complaints were disregarded. Your speech last night to be a good little protestor is insulting to the problems at hand. Many police problems come from bad and lazy policy and policy makers. Please make an effort to reform with your powers instead of make a mockery of those whose only power is to take their voices to the street. There isn't a right way to protest. Many protestors face life sentences for paint, stepping off sidewalks and leaning into officers. Do better. Jozef</p>

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Comment
8/11/2020 10:36	Rosie Ojeda	<p>Hello, My name is Rosie Ojeda. I am a Ph.D. student at the University of Utah and I am writing because I am very concerned about the abuse of power being shown by police. First, the killing of Bernardo Palacios-Carbajal should not have been justified. Clearly the people are outraged, so what are you doing to make sure that the next time police in SLC murder someone, it isn't justified? I hope you'recognize that the people are more upset at the violence that results in the loss of human life than in property damage - which isn't actually violent. Please do not waste funds on repairing property damage - use the budget you had reserved for the George Floyd memorial to memorialize the damage as a mark of grief and a call for change by the SLC community. Please end the war that the police have waged on protestors. Stop arresting protestors and stop charging them with crimes that are far worse than any acts they may have committed. Utah already has far too many incarcerated persons we do not need to add more. People are protesting because they want to see change. You can stop the protestors by changing your relationship with the police and the police budget. Police should not be attacking protestors. We have the freedom to protest - that is a democracy. When police wage war on citizens for exercising their rights - that is fascism. I want to see protestors released and I you to stop the search for protestors. There is a toxic pattern happening where police are seeking revenge. You can start a new pattern by changing the dynamic. If you do what the people are asking for, there won't be a need to protest. Please stop the state-sanctioned violence by requiring police to not attend protests. I hope you will work with organizations such as Decarcerate Utah to work out plans for change. The way police are operating in Utah needs to be completely abolished. I use the word abolished because it means I say NO to everything about the way police are acting. Reforms will not fix police who are out for blood and revenge. We need a complete overhaul and It starts by getting police away from protestors and by releasing those who have been wrongly charged with crimes. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Rosie Ojeda</p>

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Comment
8/11/2020 10:31	J.W. Trull	<p>It is said that Lady Justice carries a sword, a beam balance, and a blindfold. Without all three, she becomes a devastating weapon against the People, that only serves those whose claim to power is most contingent upon the suffering of others. Mr. Gill, you and your Office have forsaken the values of Justice and Prudence in favor of pathetic displays of force against flourishing grassroots liberation movements. As a constituent in your District and a resident of Salt Lake City, I am absolutely appalled by the charging decisions made against activists and community members in connection with recent July 9th protests on the steps of the DA's Office. These community actions were beautiful, powerful, and necessary displays of the injustices brought by police to this community; an injustice which you have proven yourself to not only be complicit with, but inextricably integral to. The direct actions on July 9th evoked powerful symbols of resilience against this injustice and carried forward a motif brought to significant national spotlight beginning with the covering of the "Serve and Protect" statue in red paint on May 30th. These actions prove that public spaces are malleable and call upon the people to speak and be heard. These actions are noble at base and rank among the most highly venerated historical examples of direct action, such as the revolt of the Boston Tea Party. As recently as last month, you grandstand the public with wholly symbolic press editorials about how your hands are tied by statute and precedent, preventing prosecution of grossly abusive acts of police violence for YEARS during your tenure. You directly follow these statements with aggressive and belligerent charging decisions against largely peaceful protesters, targeting those who lead peaceful movements of liberation and mutual aid in our community and proving your issue is not with the law itself, for it can be easily twisted to suit your agenda. It's obvious that you keep a few extra coins in your pocket to balance the scales to your liking. It's as if the DA's finger is on the trigger and also walks behind sweeping up casings. Clearly, you have chosen to cast off your blindfold and grip tightly the sword that was forged and given to you by those who fear the power of a truly impartial justice the most. *Continued 1/2*</p>

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	J.W. Trull	<p>*Continued 2/2* You and your Office are choosing to make a mockery of Justice. Your feigned displays of impotence against police violence and institutional racism are embarrassing and a mockery to the true power of the Sword of Justice. I urge you to drop all charges against protesters in connection with July 9th direct actions in front of the DA's office. When Justice becomes a weapon against the People, you prove the point. As Frederick Douglass said, power concedes nothing without a demand.? Malcolm X elaborated, Power never takes a step back, except in the face of more power.? And if we can't beat you in the streets, we'll certainly beat you at the ballot box. J.W. Trull</p>
8/11/2020 10:31	Amaya Schindele	<p>you charge protesters as a gang but not the organized gang who has more deaths on their hands than any other local gang. Please research their death toll and revoke their qualified immunity. you're pitiful Gill. All these years and we haven't received justice once. as a DA you have a bigger duty to your city. drop the charges on our protesters. > On Aug 7, 2020, at 6:57 PM, Amaya Schindele <schindeleamaya@gmail.com> wrote: > > ?Sim Gill, the Council and mayor Mendenhall your hands are not tied and never have been. you can promise changes in the future but we want them NOW. The only council member who ALWAYS makes sure we are heard is being sued by Russo. CWHPD NEEDS to be charged with enticing a riot. Those protesters were there to dance down their sons, neighbors and/or friends last path before being killed by CWHPD. The only violence came for your most well paid officers. Officers who deal with a minimum of criminal activity ATTACKING its community members. SLCPD DIDNT EVEN ACT LIKE THAT WHEN WE WERE PROTESTING BERNARDO'S DEATH. MAKE THEM CWHPD AN EXAMPLE. > I know there more then our loved Council member and Mayor being threatened you them. YOUR HANDS ARE NOT TIED. SIM GILL YOU HAVE DONE ABSOLUTELY NOTHING BUT CHARGE THE WOMEN WHO RECORDED THE POLICE ENTICING A RIOT OUT OF A PEACEFUL DANCE PROTEST. WE WANT YOU GONE AFTER ALL OF THESE DEATHS. THEY ARE ON YOUR HANDS NOW. CHARGE CWHPD. > DROP ALL CHARGES ON THE PROTESTERS.</p>

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Comment
8/11/2020 10:46	madds Anonymous	<p>I am a resident of Salt Lake City. I am writing to demand that the City Council adopt a budget for the people, that prioritizes community wellbeing and redirects funding away from the police. We are in the midst of widespread upheaval over the systemic violence of policing, embodied by the SLCPD's well documented history of lethal force against residents of color. Empty gestures and suggestions of reform are unacceptable. I am demanding the voices of this movement be heard, and that real change be made to the way this city allocates its resources. Support for marginalized communities is necessary now, more than ever. But instead, the Mayor has proposed an increase in funding to the SLCPD, while social services and education--proven to better promote community safety than policing--stagnate. The SLCPD has seen a rise in overtime pay which, when too often paid out to officers responsible for harassing unhoused, Black, Indigenous, and Latinx residents, is deeply insulting. I am demanding that the City Council defund the SLCPD. I demand a budget that adequately and effectively meets the needs of impacted Utahans during this trying and uncertain time, when livelihoods are on the line. I demand a budget that supports community wellbeing, rather than empowering the police forces that tear us apart. Although City Council has thus far avoided voting or revising Mayor Mendenhall's budget proposal, the document is back in your hands. It is your duty to represent your constituents. I am urging you to completely revise the SLC budget for 2020-2021 fiscal year, and to fund care, not criminalization and incarceration. You must adopt a budget for the people. Public opinion is with me. Please use your power for good. Please help your people. Can we count on you? Thank you for your time, M.</p>
8/11/2020 10:36	Jackson Keller	<p>Hello Councilman Mano, I was involved in the wave of comments about defunding the SLCPD. It has been a while since I have had the time to send an email, so I wanted to send an update email about my feelings as your constituent. I'm glad that the Council decided to take the actions that they did, and did defund the police, even if not to the extent that I hoped. Thanks to you and the City Council for listening to your constituents. I look forward to seeing how the Commission on Racial Equality in Policing acts in the future. Finally, what is the best way to contact you and your office most effectively? I know that different officials have different preferences depending on their staff and that preferences might be different during the pandemic. I know the most effective way to contact many of my officials, but not your office. Thanks, Jackson Keller</p>

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Comment
8/11/2020 10:32	Patsy O. Johnson	<p>Dear Chris, At the GACC meeting on Wednesday night, you mentioned that you had heard from many people asking you to defund the SLC police. I am writing this email to request that you do not do so, because the police would benefit from more training including using advanced martial arts, which potentially could be used instead of guns, and interventional de-escalation conversation techniques. Such training might require more funding from the city, rather than less funding. I support freedom and equality for all, but I have no sympathy for those people who riot and destroy property. I want to live in a safe neighborhood, where I can walk safely on our streets, own a well-cared for home and garden, and know that property won't be destroyed or stolen. Please do not defund the police! Sincerely, Patsy O. Johnson</p>
8/11/2020 10:44	Nicole Huntsman	<p>Dear Mayor Mendenhall, I just wanted to take a moment to let you know the new BLM mural is beautiful. It's nice to see you supporting a cause so strongly. I'm sure, they notice and appreciate it the support. I would like to know the process on how to go about getting a Back The Blue mural in Salt Lake? Preferably on the city's property so the police can feel the overwhelming community support. These men and women deserve to know the citizens have their back. It's clear Mayor Mendenhall doesn't. The majority of the Salt Lakes Citizens do not feel comfortable protesting or being anywhere in public showing support for these heroes who deserve it more now than ever. It's not safe on our streets. And it's not because of the officers. We are living in a society where criminal behavior is accepted and idolized. Where the definition of peaceful is not what it meant a year ago. If those are bad enough, we have a mayor who speaks publicly for the criminals. Instead of condoning the behavior, you encourage it. Heck, Mayor you have allowed murals on city property, of criminals! Can you imagine what it would feel like if you were a victim of armed robbery from Bernardo or Zane James? Pardon my language but what a big F You you are sending to those INNOCENT people. Since these other murals have already been done and approved by the city. Please let me know how we can go about getting a Back The Blue Mural on the streets and possibly a mural for all the fallen officers in Utah. During this time where the moral is low, I think they can use a little extra support. Thank you for your time & I'll look forward to your response. Nicolette Huntsman</p>

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8/11/2020 10:45	Tran Turner	Hi Dan, I am one of your constituents. I was dismayed to learn about the recent charges brought about BLM protesters recently. They are inappropriate and unacceptable. Please do what you can to see that these charges are dropped. Thank you, Tran Turner
8/11/2020 10:43	Tiffany Caldwell	Hello Sim Gill, Thank you for reading this email (city and county council members, I also appreciate you're reading this email). I'm a Salt Lake County resident and a voter and I'm asking you to reduce the charges against Madalena McNeil and Marvin Oliveros. The charges as filed are extreme. I understand if your original intent was to send a strong message to protesters about civil disobedience. But the message that I (and likely other members of the public) received is that you are willing to overreach for charges that serve your purpose and intimidate. I don't think these felony charges, especially the gang enhancement, were filed in good faith. I do think it's important for the public to trust the DA's office to be fair and just. The extreme degree of these charges, I believe, erodes that trust. The Salt Lake Tribune's report includes these alleged details from the charging documents: buying paint, storing paint, shouting, trying to "incite" and balling up fists and shifting her weight " 'as though to' slam into an officer." "As though to" isn't strong language, it describes a possibility. If strong verbs would have been accurate, prosecutors would have used them. These actions don't warrant a possible life sentence. Thank you again for taking the time to read this message, and thank you in advance for your consideration and work on this situation. Tiffany Caldwell
8/11/2020 10:42	McNeezus anonymous	I understand you wanting a good turnout for elections, I feel the same. But suggesting that going out to vote will change anything is an insult. We've already voted democrats in, they aren't listening either. At least Republicans don't pretend to be our friends. Police violence has gone on long enough and voting does nothing. You shouldn't be telling us to vote, you should be telling all the democrats in office to do their jobs for us the people who voted them in.
8/11/2020 10:36	Lou Flint	Dear Chris, As a voter in your District, I encourage you NOT to defund the police force. Lou Jean Flint

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Comment
8/11/2020 10:35	Kenneth Pavia	<p>Hello SLC Mayor and City Council, It's great to see that the "Black Lives Matter" mural has been completed and now graces the area around the city and county building downtown. According to local articles, the city commissioned the mural after a panel selected 8 local artists and provided them with a stipend of \$300 each. Since Salt Lake City has seen fit to make the public area around the City and County building into a public forum in which political slogans are commissioned and painted on public property using public funds, I would like to request permission that the slogan "All Lives Matter" be commissioned in similar manner and painted in the same area to work in conjunction with the beautiful mural that is now downtown. I applaud the City in allowing public property to become a public forum in which citizens can exercise their free speech rights in such a beautiful and artistic way. I look forward to the opportunity to be able to see Salt Lake City paint more beautiful murals. Thank you and I eagerly await your response! Kenny Pavia</p>

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Comment
8/11/2020 10:33	Lisa Hazel	<p>Hi District Attorney Sim Gill, I am a citizen of Salt Lake City and I am deeply troubled at your decision to prosecute protestors that damaged buildings with paint. I have read that you are "a champion on ... alternatives to prosecution."¹ While you have decided to take a hard line with the prosecuting of protestors with felonies, the murderers of Bernardo Palacios-Carbajal have now been empowered by you. These violent police officers are among us, out and about, allowed to walk free and clear with no charges. This is so backwards and resembles prosecution brutality for those who have good intent while giving obvious exceptions to those who prefer to administer death. Officers not receiving any punishment for the killing of another human being leaves me severely disappointed, unhappy and as a result ashamed to call you my district attorney. Additionally, I find it extremely harsh and not aligning with claims I have read of your championism. What are you thinking? Do you feel good about keeping murders in the streets? Do you instead wish to feel good about hurting good people who made small mistakes to try to make this city and county a better, safer place for all who reside here? Where is your conscience? I want you to throw out the felony charges from the protestors and replace them with misdemeanor charges. You must examine your bad decisions and change them. It makes no sense and goes against the character the democratic party proclaims you have. You need to be ashamed. You are supposed to be a beacon of light in the state of Utah. We need you to be an example in this harsh state. You are contributing to the problem rather than being a part of the solution. Cease your participation in felony charges for protestors immediately and convert them to misdemeanors with some community service. I think they have most definitely done something wrong. It is appropriate to give them a misdemeanor. However, it does not make sense to ruin these people's lives because they want Salt Lake City and County to be just to all its residents. It is essential for you to convert this charges. It is time to show mercy to those who care about their fellow men. This is appropriate for these good people who want to see justice for a man who was murdered by the police force in Salt Lake City. I want to see Salt Lake City and County as a place where rehabilitation is put above harsh prosecution. I know one of the protesters, Michelle Mower. *Continued 1/2*</p>

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Comment
8/11/2020 10:34	Lisa Hazel	<p>*Continued 2/2* She is a beautiful intelligent woman who graduated from the University of Utah. She is kind and caring. It is obvious she cares about more than herself. She is frustrated. She needs to be seen as someone who cares about the struggles of brown and black folk. It is obvious your felony charges go against all of what you claim to be. Michelle Mower does not deserve your charges of first-degree felony counts of criminal mischief and third degree felony counts of rioting. If you continue and see these charges to completion I will see you for what you will have become: a district attorney who encourages and enables our ragged and harsh justice system. I will no longer see you as part of the solution for "alternatives to prosecution." You will be a district attorney who has aligned himself with the likes of Sean Reyes. This is extremely disappointing. It does not make sense and requires your immediate retraction. Additionally, I have read that you intend to give some of the protestors charges for gang enhancement. What is it that is possessing you to do such a thing? Again, is it because you do not have a law you can charge the real scoundrels for? If so, this misdirected harshness by you and your office must stop and be directed to changing this corrupt criminal justice system. All of what I have read about you says you are an exception to Utah's corruption. Be that exception now while you are directing anger where it must not go. Do what you claim to be so good at: show mercy and recommend alternatives to prosecution. I will wait to hear your response. I sincerely hope you are the district attorney you have claimed to be for so long.</p> <p>Regards, Lisa Hazel</p>