March 19, 2019

Susan Hutson
Office of the Independent Police Monitor
2714 Canal Street, Suite 201
New Orleans, LA 70119

Ms. Hutson:

Thank you for the recommendations detailed in your March 1st letter. We welcome this input as we examine ways to better improve our systems. As stated in your correspondence, our approach emphasizes cooperation and collaboration with the community. It was in that spirit that we invited the community to tour the Real Time Crime Center (RTCC).
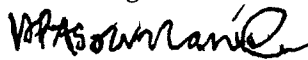
In the coming year, the Mayor's Office of Human Rights and Equity will be working with each city department to develop equity plans. The Office of Homeland Security has shown great willingness to work with us to develop metrics that ensure that the RTCC's operations do not disproportionally affect communities of color, immigrants or other marginalized residents.

The Human Relations Commission functions as a division of the Office of Human Rights and Equity and provides a great forum for community participation. The Commission's Advisory Committee holds monthly public meetings. We encourage residents to use these forums to register their concerns and offer suggestions as to how we might improve. We are also happy to engage in dialogue with the community and its leaders.

Regarding two of the most prevalent concerns cited by the community, City policy expressly prohibits the use of facial recognition technology at the RTCC and will continue to do so. In addition, our 30-day retention policy was developed to ensure privacy for our residents. This policy complies with Louisiana Public Records Laws and affords the necessary protections.

The Office of Human Rights and Equity remains committed to ensuring that our streets are safe and that City programs protect and promote the rights of this city's residents. Please continue to reach out to me in the future.

Kindest regards,

Vincenzo Pasquantonio
Director

Cc: Mayor LaToya Cantrell
Cc: Sunni LeBoeuf