



# LOS ANGELES POLICE COMMISSION

## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 2, 2014

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### ***INSPECTOR GENERAL SEEKING WITNESSES IN NEWTON OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING INCIDENT***

*Los Angeles:* On August 11, 2014, at approximately 8:00 p.m., there was an officer-involved shooting in LAPD's Newton Area that resulted in the death of Mr. Ezell Ford.

As has been widely reported, Mr. Ford was an unarmed, young man walking along 65<sup>th</sup> Street in the Florence neighborhood of Los Angeles when two LAPD gang officers made contact with him. Also as previously reported in the press, the details of what occurred beyond this point are unclear, with accounts provided by the involved officers and community members varying widely.

Mr. Alexander Bustamante, Inspector General for the Los Angeles Police Commission, stated: "As the Inspector General, I am responsible for ensuring that all investigations into officer-involved shootings are done thoroughly and impartially. I report only to the civilian-led Police Commission. I do not answer or report to the Chief of Police or his staff. I have the authority to look into every aspect of this shooting and get the necessary statements, documents, and evidence from Los Angeles Police Department, and I will. To get a complete picture of the events of that night, however, I need witnesses to come forward."

Bustamante went on to state: "Since the time of the incident, my office has been trying to obtain witness statements and any video, to the extent it exists, that anyone may have regarding the shooting. For whatever reason, although many individuals have indicated that multiple witnesses exist, only a single witness has come forward with information regarding this case. My office needs all the information that exists so that a thorough investigation can be conducted and the actual facts of the incident can be determined."

"If you have information, please come forward and provide it to us. Without your information, we will only have an incomplete picture as to what occurred on the evening of August 11th. If you do not wish to communicate with the LAPD, you can contact my office directly at (213) 482-6833 or email me at [communityrelationsoig@lacity.org](mailto:communityrelationsoig@lacity.org)."

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