



June 29th, 2015

Good Day Ladies & Gentleman of the City Council,

My name is Michael Austin a proud member of Picture the Homeless I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to address you today.

I'm requesting and **BEGGING YOU** at the same time to pass The Right To Know Act

**Intro 182A & 541**

In 2014, I had a very bad encounter with the NYPD, I was stopped frisked, charged falsely and given a summons that was illegible. Had this encounter been legal and within the guidelines of to protect and serve I would not be here before you today but here I am.

After being stopped by a Patrol car, asked for my I.D. in which I complied and never being told the reason for the unconstitutional stop I then had to deal w/ the anger of my I.D. being returned with a summons for public intoxication & disorderly conduct for which neither was true.

My name, address & d.o.b. along w/ other vital information that was incorrect. I still don't know why I received the summons or the officers involved in violating my rights as a citizen of New York other than to fulfil a quota and to give me a record unjustly.

To them, this was and is business as usual and to me I'm considered drunk in public and a trouble maker of which I'm neither. **THIS IS WHY IT IS VITAL THAT INTRO(s) 182A & 541 BE PASSED BY YOU.**

Thank You for your attention to this matter.

Mike Austin



June 29th, 2015

Good day members of the City Council,

My name is Doug Williams, and I am a member of Picture the Homeless. I am also here to give testimony as to why it is vital that you pass the Right To Know Act legislation before you today.

I was sitting on the corner of Hancock and Malcolm X. I was throwing away a container into the garbage and three guys pulled up in a black car and took the container from the trash. They never told me who they were I was pushed to the ground and taken to jail in handcuffs but never told what I was being charged with nor ever identifying themselves. They took me to the 81st Precinct I told them constantly that I wanted to go to the hospital to take care of my injuries I got from this assault and to find out the names of the officers who assaulted me.

I was told that if I do go to the hospital, I would be in the system longer. They told me to be quiet. They gave me two tickets, one for disorderly conduct, and one for an open container. I was never seen by the judge and sent out the back door of the precinct. The 81st precinct has as history of physical abuse. After three to four months, I am just now able to use my hand after being diagnosed with temporary nerve damage. Picture the Homeless is assisting me with legal representation. I have documentation from the doctor and the tickets of this encounter.

- The summonses are illegible which is prolonging my legal remedies.
- I still don't know the names of the officers who did this to me.
- And with the approval of the Right To Know Act and Bill 182A, this type of behavior would stop the N.Y.P.D from the use of this type of daily abusive behavior towards New Yorkers.

Douglas Williams



June 29, 2015

**Why New York City needs the passage of the “Right To Know Act” legislation.**

**When officers do not identify themselves in unsubstantiated stops feel free to violate the constitutional rights of citizens of New York. It is also my personal opinion that requiring documentation of a “consent to search” which is void under duress or coercion will reduce the element of official “perjured testimony” resulting in the admission into evidence of inadmissible contraband in order to secure an “illegally “obtained conviction.**

**It has been my personal experience that when members of our New York City Police Dept. accost a citizen on the streets of New York City without having to identify themselves the potential for illegal unconstitutional behavior is increased. This is due to the fact that all agents of the law enforcement community are fully aware of the fact that without the ability to identify an offending officer any allegation rendered to our civilian complaint review board is rendered an “unsubstantiated complaint and summarily dismissed.**

**It is my contention that the two proposals for legislation now before the city council are vital to maintaining our rule of law and to ensure a positive level of integrity within our current New York City Criminal justice system.**

**Respectfully**

**Jean Rice**