



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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LOWELL D. KERN
Chair

JESSE R. BODINE
District Manager

September 9, 2020

Hon. Andrew Cuomo
Governor
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Hon. Bill de Blasio
Mayor
City Hall
New York, New York 10007

Hon. Corey Johnson
Speaker, City Council
224 West 30th Street, Suite 1206
New York, NY 10001

Re: Request for Oversight hearing regarding the attempted arrest of Derrick Ingram

Dear Speaker Corey Johnson, Mayor de Blasio, and Governor Cuomo,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) at its duly noticed Full Board meeting on September 2, 2020, voted, by a vote of 34 in favor, 2 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 0 present not eligible to vote, to respectfully request that the City Council's Committee on Oversight and Investigations launch an investigation of the NYPD for accountability in connection with the attempted arrest on August 7, 2020, of Derrick Ingram on West 45th Street in Manhattan. We believe the following questions need to be answered:

1. Who within the NYPD command and control structure (a) conceived of, and (b) authorized the massive scale of the arrest operation against Mr. Ingram (including deployment of NYPD helicopter, K9 units, members of the Strategic Response Team, multiple officers in tactical gear, and closing of a Manhattan block to traffic for several hours)?
2. What was the total number of officers who were involved in the arrest operation of Mr. Ingram and what is the total estimated cost of the arrest operation?
3. Why did the NYPD approach Mr. Ingram at his home more than six weeks after the alleged crime without an arrest warrant?
4. Have any members of the NYPD been held accountable for the excessive measures and resources that were used during this arrest operation?

5. According to Mayor de Blasio, the Police Commissioner did not know about the scale of this arrest operation until well after it was underway, as has been reported. How can such costly, multi-department operations be launched with so little oversight? Especially in this time of budget shortfalls.
6. To what extent was facial recognition software used to identify Mr. Ingram? How and from where was the data obtained?

We understand Mr. Ingram is alleged to have committed an assault by using a loudspeaker directly in an officer's ear during a Black Lives Matter protest in June. However, the scale of the attempted arrest appears to be grossly out of proportion to the alleged offense. Indeed, by surrounding Mr. Ingram's apartment building with K9 units, members of the Strategic Response Team and multiple officers in tactical gear, and closing off the block to traffic, an impression was created of an immediate and grave danger to the community.

These heavy-handed, costly, grossly excessive police tactics against a citizen in our District must be investigated, and there must be public accountability for the NYPD. Please confirm that the City Council will investigate this shocking incident and address our community's concerns expeditiously.

Sincerely,



Lowell Kern
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4

[Signed 9/9/20]

Katy Stokes
Co-Chair
Social Justice
Working Group



Viren
Co-Chair
Social Justice
Working Group

Enclosure

cc: Dermot Francis Shea, Commissioner, NYPD
Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Jerry Nadler, U.S. Congress
Hon. Brad Hoylman, NYS Senate
Hon. Robert Jackson, NYS Senate
Hon. Dick Gottfried, NYS Assembly
Hon. Linda B. Rosenthal, NYS Assembly
Hon. Helen Rosenthal, City Council