

**ATTACHMENT B:
Unedited Responses to Community Feedback Instrument
regarding May/June 2020 Protests**

Feedback Instrument Free-Form Question 1: Can you please describe, as detailed as possible, the Cleveland Division of Police's handling of the protests that you observed? If you attended multiple protests, please describe each event separately. (3,000 Character limit)

1. I was in attendance on May 30th at the free stamp. After we rounded the justice center all hell broke loose. On the lakeside street I later saw the police issue a go home warning but as I was on the Ontario side of the building there was a group of us having conversations with police officers and I Guarantee you we DID NOT HEAR ANY Announcements to go home . As a matter of fact I spoke with an officer and said this turned out ok and his reply was It's another story on the other side I think it's best for you to go home, which I did. People were agitated but the police were the biggest agitators or the event. And if people came here to get it started the police made it very easy for them to do so.
2. Aggressive, overtly combative, fearful, and not well trained to handle situations such as these that occurred.
3. I was not as focused as I could be as I can there with the intent of being a peace keeper
4. Justice Center: I saw and heard citizens marching on Ontario past the Justice Center which had a line of heavily armed/riot gear wearing cops in front of its doors. I saw NO ONE from the March participants step out of line toward the cops. I saw NO ONE from the march participants throw any objects at the cops. There was no provocation on the part of the citizens. I heard people starting to scream, I saw some people starting to run away from the Justice Center steps and I saw some of the cops moving down the steps toward the marching citizens. It seemed to me that the cops took some sort of aggressive action against citizens but the feed ended at that point.
5. I don't think they were prepared for the crowd after it got out of control.
6. The police did not have sufficient manpower and no prior planning. Although the Free Stamp protest was billed as intended to be peaceful, the Department should have had sufficient personnel and plans to handle arrests in the event agitators interfered with citizens attempting to peacefully protest or citizens attempting to conduct business and protect their property. Based on the riotous situations occurring elsewhere in the country, the Department should have been prepared that first night. The protest at the First District had sufficient personnel and Drummond did an excellent job interacting with the protestors!!
7. May 30 - Over 3000 peaceful people sang together, listened to speakers & chanted in a big Kumbaya moment at the Free Stamp, and then Marched down the street a few blocks to the justice center and I believe that lack of planning on both the community & the Cleveland police Lost control of the agenda. There were no efforts to bring peacekeepers in to plan; no one but the Guardian Angels, who were quickly over run. A few brazen protesters in the crowd went up to the building started throwing bricks rocks bottles - whatever they could find - at the windows of the Justice center while the rest of the cheering crowd looked on. The police did not try to corral any one; especially rock throwers, nor did they mount a

strategic line of defense that I could see. The police command seemed unprepared and basically did nothing until they felt like the crowd was growing unruly and then they called off the protest and started threatening. Teargas shields beanbag guns and other weapons were used against the protesters and protesters started to run in all directions.

8. "I was devastated when I saw the violence and rioting from people pretending to be downtown for a peaceful protest. I think officers should have had more back up, resources and better support from their supervisors who at no time had control of the situation nor responded to multiple calls for help from the front line. As a lifelong resident and tax payer of this city we deserved better from leaders who knew this was coming. It's devastating that law abiding citizens and business owners have lost their incomes and sense of security from this. Our officers did the best they could with what they were given which was next to NOTHING.
9. "At the Free Stamp, the demonstration was well-handled and police were prepared to protect the demonstrators' 1st Amendment rights. At the ""Justice Center"" the police were far too aggressive and reacted without giving notice to the demonstrators. Indiscriminately firing beanbag projectiles and chemical gases/pepper spray only aggravated the situation and caused demonstrable harm to people who were peacefully demonstrating. The Cleveland police were mixed with other ""safety forces"" and there was not any apparent planning or command control. I heard that there was at least one sign saying ""Blue lives matter"". I did not see it. But if it was there and promoted by the Cleveland police, it was inappropriate. The June 2nd demonstration at the First District seemed to be appropriately handled."
10. The CPD seemed overwhelmed by the crowds at the May 30th protest, and their actions seemed to indicate that they were afraid of the crowd. From what I observed, their response to the crowd at the Justice Center was aggressive and it escalated tension instead of diffusing it. At the June 2nd protest, I observed a completely different CPD - a tribute to Commander Fay. The officers seemed respectful and genuinely concerned for the safety of the attendees. The atmosphere was completely opposite of the May 30th protest at the Justice Center, where the police officers seemed concerned about themselves more than the crowd.
11. I saw a 5/30 protest in front of the Justice Center. Protesters were spread out across the Lakeside Avenue stairs and Lakeside Avenue. Police may have been lined up in front of the Justice Center, but I'm not sure.
12. The June 6th one was ok, but CDP should be ashamed of themselves for the level of force and violence used at the other protests. Absolutely sickening to see.
13. Initially the protests at the free stamp were peaceful and everything was fine. As the protest went down Lakeside Avenue towards the Justice Center that's when things began to escalate in intensity. Water bottles, and cans, and other projectiles were thrown at the building. I watched as Cleveland Division of Police lined up in front of the Justice Center and began to pepper spray protesters so that they would disperse from in front of the building. At that point to avoid being trampled and because of my asthma, I decided to walk back to my apartment building. Once inside, I turned on the local news and observed that the police were in fact throwing tear gas and flash bangs at protesters to disperse. I looked on Snapchat to see videos of Downtown being looted as protesters dispersed from the Lakeside Avenue area towards E. 4th and Euclid Avenue.

14. Aggression and overreacting in the moment followed by lies and division. Completely unacceptable use of force and intimidation of use of force. Provoked the crowd. Heavy handed response.
15. May 30 at Justice Center, things escalated quickly. It went from very little police presence to sound cannons and tear gas in no time.
16. Overly rough; no respect for peaceful protesters
17. The May 30th police response seemed very disorganized and haphazard. While watching Cleveland dot com footage I observed police fire tear gas over the front line of protestors and into an area set up for medical care. I also did not understand the lack of police presence to stop damage to property.
18. The police escalated the situation with no good reason. People were protesting peacefully, not quietly, but peacefully. All of the sudden, without warning, tear gas bombs were being thrown into the crowd. It felt like a war zone. Any minor violence from protesters (the throwing of water bottles at the Justice Center windows) was escalated 10 fold by police.
19. May 30th: Cleveland Police were understaffed, underprepared, and under equipped. The city leadership underestimated and poorly analyzed the risks. Their goal was political correctness and facilitating the social experience for protesters with no focus on prioritizing public safety for residents, businesses, and officers. Cleveland public safety leadership at City Hall, like the mayor leading it, is filled with walking dinosaurs with 40 to 50 years on the public payroll who are self-serving and self-preserving. City Council public safety committee leadership is also non-existent under self-serving Matt Zone who, after the city burns, plays performative politics with a hearing. Tune in as businesses continue to leave this city thanks to unsafe conditions and poor public safety leadership.
20. Both police and protesters were peaceful at the Free Stamp. At the Justice Center I saw police escalate tensions and provoke violence. Protesters remained peaceful, shouting and carrying sign, but no one I saw was armed, and no one was violent. At most, a couple of people threw empty water bottles at the building (never at a person). The posting of snipers, the entry of SWAT-gearred up police a little before 4:00, and then the flashbangs and tear gas were unprovoked violence against peaceful protesters exercising their first amendment rights. I heard NO orders to disperse or warnings before they opened fire with gas and flashbangs, let alone any guidance on which routes were safe to exit. I left shortly after the gas started, but I have seen photos and videos, and heard stories from trusted friends that the police violence escalated wildly thereafter, including firing rubber bullets directly at people at eye level (not the ground), riding into the crowds on horseback, and other dangerous, violent activity.
21. Absolute failure. Escalation of violence was 99% on CPD, curfew enforcement unconstitutional, and the damage at playhouse square painted as protest related despite being 10 blocks down. CPD should be ashamed.
22. At the protest on May 30th, I saw the police throwing tear gas onto people who weren't doing anything but respectfully protesting. I had tear gas thrown at me while I was just standing there, some 200-300 feet away from any police or the front of the justice center. Police hit my friends with rubber bullets when they were peacefully protesting. It was clear that the police were not there to deescalate the situation - they were riling up the protestors and

shooting dangerous items into the crowd. Carelessly, as we have learned from the man who had his EYE shot out by the police.

23. Not much police...just saw protestors mostly.
24. "I was devastated when I saw the violence and rioting from people pretending to be downtown for a peaceful protest. I think officers should have had more back up, resources and better support from their supervisors who at no time had control of the situation nor responded to multiple calls for help from the front line. As a lifelong resident and tax payer of this city we deserved better from leaders who knew this was coming. It's devastating that law abiding citizens and business owners have lost their incomes and sense of security from this. Our officers did the best they could with what they were given which was next to NOTHING.
25. Police used excessive force and chemical weapons against unarmed peaceful protestors. I'll never understand why police need full military gear and weapons to use in response to PLASTIC WATER BOTTLES. That seems extremely weak and as if they are intimidated by even the smallest things. Police actions were reactive and uncontrolled. Tear gas was fire randomly and not strategically.
26. "Excessive use of violence used on the 30th. That protest escalated because of the role of police in escalating. They refused to engage with any conversation with the protestors which came across very apathetically on the 6th. I remember one protestor calling out across what she called the ""blue wall"" the following words: ""where is your humanity?"" Protestors should be heard. Their recommended policies considered and implemented. There is a real and serious issue of police accountability and oversight in regards to police brutality. The best way to handle this is not shooting civilians with rubber bullets and spraying them with pepper spray. Listen to them and work to fix the problem. "
27. The Cleveland Police did not handle the protest at the Justice Center on May 30, 2020 professionally or effectively and at times, infringed on protestor's Constitutional rights. Instead of ensuring the protestor's right to assemble, the Police escalated tension by shooting rubber bullets and tear gas at peaceful protestors causing injury, panic, fear, and anger to rise to the surface. The way the City handled the announcement of a curfew (about 15 minutes before it started) and they way the police enforced it immediately exacerbated a violent situation. The police knew the short notice of the curfew did not give people enough time to have notice of the curfew or leave, especially since public transportation and cars were forbidden to get through. The police should be ashamed of how they behaved, take responsibility for their role in causing a peaceful protest to turn violent, apologize for their actions, and more importantly, enact real change in accordance with the Black Lives Matter Cleveland demands. In protesting police brutality, the police showed just how brutal they could be.
28. "May 30, 2020: CPD did not appear to have enough officers to handle the violent protestors in the crowd. Police were being hit by various types of hard dangerous objects and projectiles being violently thrown at them by protestors. Protestors also had bats, hockey sticks, and metal pipes that they used against police officers and businesses. The police gave multiple warnings to the protestors to leave the area which were largely ignored. Police watched as protestors set cars on fire and destroyed businesses. The police did not seem to move in to

make any arrests of these violent and dangerous protestors and I can only assume it was to prevent escalating the tensions in the crowd. Police waited way too long to take action when the police finally began to respond the crowd eventually dispersed. Unfortunately it was too late as the protestors appeared to feel above the law since no action was being taken against them and they began destroying all of the businesses in area. It was a terrible day and the message of the peaceful protestors was lost due to the violent mob. Why is there no laws in Cleveland that prevent people from attending protests with baseball bats and hockey sticks? June 2: First District: There seemed to be plenty of police presence and although there were some agitators in the crowd everything was peaceful. June 6: Second District: Same as June 2nd."

29. The police department was reserved and professional. The agitators interrupted a peaceful demonstration. They preyed on poor Cleveland African American residents and convinced them to loot their own city. It was very sad.
30. I was part of a large crowd that started at the free stamp and walked to the justice center. We were standing outside of the justice center chanting together and police started firing tear gas/stun grenades/rubber bullets into the crowd unprovoked. There were several elderly people and children in the crowd. I saw one young woman get hit by a police projectile and she seemed severely injured - very dazed, lying in the ground, and seemed to have a concussion. Medics quickly gathered around her and started waving and screaming "please stop" at the cops so they could help her, but they continued firing tear gas canisters and stun grenades. Luckily they were able to carry the woman away from the police.
31. I only saw what the news media recorded. Police was severely outnumbered. Very poor planning on Cleveland Administration. No foresight on the Administration's part. Just plain stupidity.
32. the police attacked innocent people. Hotel guests down the street where I was haling tear gas!
33. "At the Justice Center protest I watched police pepper spray protesters not engaged in any violent activity on a stream. At the free stamp I had to breathe some type of gas from police as I dropped off water."
34. On May 30th, I was at the doors of the justice center shortly after the official march ended. Bike cops were in front of the doors, but the riot squad had not appeared yet. People in the back of the crowd (I believe on the steps of the justice center) were throwing empty water bottles at the doors of the justice center. I did not see any bottles hit the police. I observed peaceful protestors in the line in front of the police being pepper sprayed at point-blank range by officers. These protestors had their hands in the air and were not advancing when they were sprayed. It was horrifying. I left the area shortly after.
35. "On May 30th at the Justice center, The police did not warn us, or give us any audible commands before they started pepper spraying and tear gassing us. Even then, when we backed up, they moved forward and became aggressive again. I witnessed them launching tear gas canisters over the crowd into the park across the street where families with children were holding signs. At the point where they first started firing the only aggression besides things being yelled and chanted was water bottles being thrown at the riot gear clad officers. I understand that they were being hit with them. But they were in full riot gear, and the cops in yellow were already behind them. It's just not OK to do that. They were targeting medics,

people who clearly had marking such as a cross like the one red cross uses, whom were carrying injured people away. That's a war crime any other time. I lost a lot of faith in the Cleveland P. D. that day. And to be honest, I didn't have a lot left before that. For the most part the other protests were peacefully. I would be nitpicking to point out anything else, because none of it is even close to their reaction on the 30th."

36. The Cleveland Division of Police were being extremely violent against peaceful protestors. There was no violence or vandalism done by protestors prior to the police shooting off tear gas and rubber bullets. This is my first hand witnessed account. People were running back from the crowd bleeding from getting hit with canisters shot by police. From my experience, the police escalated the situation against the protestors while peace was still being maintained.
37. May 30th was a very peaceful protest until the police were present in full shields and protection. At 4:30pm, 30 min before the protest was over, Cleveland police started shooting off loud cannons and the word began to spread that protesters were being tear gassed. I have PTSD from the sounds and smoke clouds coming from the police department. The loud sirens and vans filled with police started piling in. We left, and things began escalating. I called a friend that was still there and things were escalating.
38. "The answer for each protest in Cleveland I saw, from start to finish, went the exact same way. I had a friend who was live streaming the events. She was in the protest, they were chanting and trying to rally morale when it seemed each night the police pulled whatever they could as silently as they could out of thin air. She ended out almost being trapped when the city called curfew MINUTES before curfew was set to start, with the roads OUT of the area blockaded so anyone protesting was detained after being disallowed to go home for the curfew they had no warning about. It was later reported that people were locked in handcuffs in nearly freezing weather with no blankets, food, water or BATHROOMS for 14 hours. I have heard there was a death, and blankets and water were only considered after someone had to be taken to the ER after a seizure. If anyone asked what was happening, after being forced to sit outside in the open in freezing while trying to stay apart from everyone else due to Covid, so in actually dangerous situations, their cuffs were painfully tightened and the cops who did so refused to give any answers, instead expecting the pain to speak instead. During another protest she was live streaming, trying to record the sense of unity and community. She thought the protest was going to remain peaceful. She believed it was going to be calm. Instead tear gas was tossed into random places. She was able to get away from that, and ended out lost in the chaos as the protest that had been peaceful altered. Police started tossing tear gas, shooting rubber bullets directly at people's heads. Riots popped out of nowhere and it wasn't what many reporters were claiming the next day, which completely enraged anyone who was there or had watched how everything corroded. I'm pretty sure by the time she shut off her camera, after two hours, finally out of range of the nightmare fuel she'd gone through, seeing mutilations and maims, blood and injury, cops shooting huge chunks of metal thinly covered in rubber which did little at the speeds they were at when aimed at heads and chests, where they were specifically NOT supposed to aim them, she was in shock. She wasn't expecting to see police aiming at people standing still, news reporters, she thought she'd seen cops shoot at medics, but we all thought she was just in shock until we

heard reports later. I live in Columbus. We had our own riots. Our cops here aren't any better, but Cleveland's cops, they are their own special brand of horror. It's been weeks and I still have friends overseas who message me and ask if I'm alright because I was so close to Cleveland. I am around 15 miles away from where the Columbus riots took place, but people world wide got to see Cleveland Police shoot at innocent civilians, then hear about them shooting the medics that came to help. Cleveland needs a LOT of help."

39. Officers needlessly escalated violence at the Justice Center despite the fact that no officer or bystander was threatened with physical harm in any way. I observed unlawful and aggressive use of chemical weapons by the fully armored police on unarmed peaceful protesters, many of whom were kneeling. I observed journalists and medics being targeted in direct violation of the 1st Amendment.
40. Cleveland police were non-existent from the beginning 1 PM until protesters were at the doors of the Justice Center. I left the protest at 3:30.
41. I didn't see any police at the free stamp. At the Justice Center they were combative at best. The fact that no one stopped the officers that were escalating the interaction with the crowd - tear gas, rubber bullets, fucking mounted officers "pushing back" by riding their horses into the crowd - means that all of the officers are guilty of escalating the violence/interaction. Even some of the more mild tactics employed were threatening - like having an officer in plain clothes signal others toward me (because I stepped between him and other protestors).
42. The protestors who stormed the justice center were wrong. the protestors that broke windows and broke into stores and stole things were wrong. The organizers who brushed comments on those actions off as anger and expected were wrong. I want the police to be polite and I want them to have permission to not use deadly force. I want them to be able to step in and stop one another when they go overboard.
43. I observed the one at the Free Stamp and the Justice Center via Live Feed and Recordings. It did not look good. I observed the one at the First District in person and thought it was done properly. I thought Deputy Chief Drummond, Commander Fay, Sgt. Jackson, and the other officers who took the time to talk the people did a great job.
44. Such a ridiculously insincere show of solidarity particularly in the context of the police murders that have happened in our city that these same fucking cops defend and a union that is trying to pay/rehire Brelo. Also such an awkward amount of time to kneel clearly uncomfortable and forced show of support.
45. "May 30: The Cleveland Police were immediately expecting a hostile situation to arise and instigated it. From the beginning, when we were all assembling at the free stamp, police officers, some heavily armed, could be seen on the roofs of nearby buildings. That immediately created the impression that we were not trusted and that they did not want us there, exercising our right to protest. As we marched down the street and passed the justice center, I saw a small group of protesters up by the windows banging on the glass/plastic and throwing water bottles at the window. They were clearly very unsuccessful and seemed to be throwing harmless objects. Later, I watched a recorded video from a newscaster up by the justice center windows, which appeared to be taken after the larger group had marched on towards public square. A row of police were aggressively standing in front of the justice center. Protesters in the front row were peacefully standing there, occasionally yelling at the

police but not threatening them. The police a couple of times got hit with half-empty water bottles, and responded by spraying pepper spray, sometimes directly into the eyes of protesters. I saw one protester who was yelling at a cop get thrown to the ground and arrested. This was before anything was set on fire, anything was irreparably damaged - the cop escalated the situation quickly and without cause. Beating protesters and spraying a dangerous chemical into their eyes is an outrageous response to being hit with plastic when you have full body armor on. Later, the police had pushed protesters back onto the street and were repeatedly throwing tear gas and smoke bombs into the group of peaceful protesters. Nothing was happening in the large group, and yet the police aggressively showed up with riot gear and threw tear gas into the crowd indiscriminately. I saw several people experience severe eye pain and temporary blindness. Then, that night, after 8pm we received phone alerts that there was an 8pm curfew. The police immediately began marching along the streets and shooting anyone in sight with rubber bullets. This is a huge escalation to us just standing there on the street and sidewalks without weapons. I also think the handling of the next several days was egregious. The city was shut down for 4 full days after a single day of protesting. People could not get to work or get supplies and it was unnecessary and dangerous. June 6: This large and peaceful protest was also met with hostility and an anticipation of violence. As we marched through the streets, police were constantly on the edges of the sidewalks and blocking off side streets. This is very dangerous because if things had escalated, there is no way that protesters could have run away to return to their homes. Police and the national guard were wearing full body armor and riot gear which was completely unnecessary and only made us feel fearful of them."

46. Regarding the May 30th protests: CPD started out peacefully enough, and there had been no clashes by the time I left. After observing video later that day, it seems gravely unfortunate that officers feel threatened enough by a strong outpouring of emotions and some plastic water bottles to feel that pepper-spraying protestors is an appropriate response. In my understanding of events, the "supposed violence of protesters" a complete misnomer, as destruction of property should in no way be equated to violence against other human being destruction of property escalated as a direct response to the disproportional violence directed against protesters. This only upholds the image of CPD as trigger-happy, incompetent, violent bullies held by many on the national stage. If only the officers had done anything to prove critics wrong.
47. The response May 30 was literally criminal. At a minimum, dozens of police officers should be charged with crimes including assault. At other demonstrations, undercover officers wore gun extremist and white supremacist t-shirts and tried to instigate confrontations with peaceful demonstrators while repeatedly touching their guns.
48. I watched the live cam of Cleveland.com, from the beginning at the Free stamp, the parade, and the final stop in front of the Justice Center. From what I could see, the entire event was peaceful until a few minutes after stopping in front of the Justice Center. I was proud of Cleveland until then. You could hear the speaker with the cam say, " there are a few people in the front that seem to be throwing water bottles at the windows". That is when things began to go down hill. I watched as the police began to fire into the protesters. The part that I didn't like, and felt very disturbed by, was when they fired further out into the peaceful

people who were doing nothing wrong. After a couple minutes of watching this happen, the woman with Cleveland.com announced things were too unsafe and she stopped the live cam to leave for her safety.

49. "The May 30th protests were beyond poorly handled by the police. The police showed up in full riot gear and with their horses and didn't even give the protesters a chance to continue peacefully. The march to public square and back to the free stamp and the justice center were peaceful and powerful and not aggressive. There was some banging on windows and some spray painting, but nothing should have prompted the relentless tear gas and pepper spray and flash bangs and rubber bullets. The police had their shields and their full protective gear so the couple water bottles that were thrown at them should have been nothing more than a minor inconvenience. It was a disgusting display of abuse of power and it was absolutely unprompted and violent. The June 6th protest at the second precinct was as peaceful as could be. The national guard was there and IMMEDIATELY that set people on edge. Though it remained incredibly peaceful, it could have turned extremely dangerous if even one of them got trigger happy. "
50. Awesome
51. "At the Justice Center things escalated to violence only after one of Cleveland's police attacked the crowd with mace. The cops then proceed to wage war with its own citizens. As the police terrorized the city the people threw back to the police the weapons which they were using to terrorized Clevelanders. The objects thrown at the cops were the same ones they had just thrown to attack and maim the citizens they supposedly protect. Because Cleveland Police decided to attack the protesters at the Justice Center, the downtown area was left unprotected and abandoned. Looting would not have happened if the police had not focused their manpower on terrorizing its citizens and instead went out to protect them. "
52. CPD initiated and escalated violence against peaceful protestors.
53. Aside from helicopters, I did not see much, if any police presence at the Free Stamp. At the Justice Center, things became confusing and police actions didn't make sense to me. It was a bit hard to see from where I was, but I saw some items being tossed in front of the entry to the justice center, but it did not appear to be directed at the building itself. I heard from friends who were up by the building that an officer opened the door, sprayed some pepper spray, and then closed the door quickly. How could anyone think that would do anything other than disrespect/anger the protesters, from my viewpoint were peaceful at that point.
54. From the recordings, it appeared the police overall acted appropriately
55. cops were hurting the people by killing the people.
56. I attend the protest on May 30th and the police utilized tear gas. I feel that was a bit extreme. I did read in the newspaper that a police officer was using excessive force. It would be nice to learn of how the department handled this and the policies and procedures in place. Overall, I did not witness excessive force. I think the 4th district did an excellent job in managing the Juneteenth rally.
57. Wear riot gear & you will have a riot.
58. THEY DID THE BEST THEY COULD UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES TO NOT ADD TO THE NEGATIVE EVENTS ALREADY IN PROGRESS.
59. Was terrible , watched a kid get kicked in the head and my daughter n sister maced

60. "I really only noticed the CPD as they were between the crowd and the sheriffs on the steps of the justice center. The CPD was pretty cool but perhaps this is only in contrast to the Sheriffs, who behaved badly and escalated the situation. later as i was leaving i saw a kid walking on the sidewalk on the west of the Justice Center ... a few seconds later he was shot in the face from a bullet that came from one of the broken windows of the justice center. John Sanders lost an eye and has several more surgeries to rebuild his face. I carried Mr.Sanders out of the drifting teargas and ran to 2 undercover CPD in a car at the intersection just south of us. I would like to say that these two responded to someone being injured despite a burning cop car 100 yards away. it seemed to me the CPD did well, the Sheriffs should be ashamed of themselves ... whoever shot John Sanders should be fired and face justice. "
61. I watched live feed, I saw shielded officers in row formation trying to protect the building and trying to hold off protesters, there were items flying in the air back and forth. Lots of crowd noise.
62. "While protesters did engage in acts of graffiti and breaking windows, there were never serious attempts to enter the building When Cleveland Police did respond to the aforementioned acts of protest, they did not make any attempts at de-escalating the situation. Rather they made intentional decisions to further instigate the protests by deploying teargas with no recognizable warning, and later forcing a small handful of officers to face a crowd of hundreds if not thousands It should be noted that there were attempts made to diminish the need for acts of violence. A number of protesters took it upon themselves to try to form a dialogue between the Police officers and the larger group of protesters. But while they acted in good conscience, the Police Officers could not effectively communicate their goals, rather continuously resorting to acts of violence and further escalation, and as a result the protesters had a deep lack of trust in the officers and their intentions throughout the evening. The continuous use of force was largely indiscriminate, and where the ability to target specific people and segments of the crowd was possible (such as with the use of paintballs and rubber grenades), the officers using those weapons often targeted the wrong people A few anecdotes from my perspective: One protester would kneel in a lowered praying position with his head near the ground throughout the protest. He had done this for hours when police marched down the western lawn of the justice center. A rubber grenade exploded 6 inches from his head while he continued to kneel. At that point I rushed over to ensure his safety, wherein he and I were fired upon by paintballs. I crouched over to protect him while continuing to be struck by paintballs until I retreated. Later, immediately after being forcibly removed from standing on the sidewalk I took a position on the double yellow lines in the road and knelt. I was targeted and struck by two rubber grenades in quick succession forcing me to move back behind the road. In both of those occasions the people being targeted posed no threat to officers or impeded their movement. In both cases multiple weapons were used suggesting a targeted attack rather than a simple case of poor aim
63. As it became clear that the police had prioritised the removal of protesters from the justice center, protesters fled to other parts of downtown where they would not be targeted by Police, ultimately destroying more property in their act of protest. At that point, even though no protesters had caused substantial harm to any officers, SWAT teams were activated and

moved closer to the scenes in question. Brandishing and flagging protesters with weapons of deadly force, the SWAT teams did little to control the situation, and sparked cries of ""Next time we'll bring ARs, then you'll show us respect"" referring to earlier protests against the COVID pandemic lockdown at Statehouses across the country where no incidences of conflict occurred"

64. I only attended the first hour of the protest. I needed photos for my homework. I watched the crowd move from the FREE Stamp and down towards the J.C and over to Public Square. I knew then with all of them in one place like that it was not going to be good and I exited stage left. I think the city could have handled this protest much better than it was handled. we had prior notice that they were coming and we also saw the destruction in the preceding cities. While they were destroying city property, we should have had teams ready to go in and detain those causing damage. This caused our city a lot of money and now we may possibly have layoffs because the city didn't step in and stop this when we were warned. I am okay with PEACEFUL protesting but I AM NOT OKAY WITH DESTROYING ANYTHING THAT DOES NOT BELONG TO YOU.
65. "I really only noticed the CPD as they were between the crowd and the sheriffs on the steps of the justice center. The CPD was pretty cool but perhaps this is only in contrast to the Sheriffs, who behaved badly and escalated the situation. later as i was leaving i saw a kid walking on the sidewalk on the west of the Justice Center ... a few seconds later he was shot in the face from a bullet that came from one of the broken windows of the justice center. John Sanders lost an eye and has several more surgeries to rebuild his face. I carried Mr.Sanders out of the drifting teargas and ran to 2 undercover CPD in a car at the intersection just south of us. I would like to say that these two responded to someone being injured despite a burning cop car 100 yards away. it seemed to me the CPD did well, the Sheriffs should be ashamed of themselves ... whoever shot John Sanders should be fired and face justice. "
66. Cleve. police handled protests best they could with limited resources& lack of adequate equipment. Peaceful protesting is acceptable, but rioting should immediately be maintained for the public, media and all first responders (EMS, police,fire) safety.
67. up until it became not a protest but a free for all the police did their job, after that that they did what I would have done if I were their shoes
68. Incredibly poor handling of them. At the justice center on May 30th dozens of tear gas canisters were administered into crowds of peaceful protesters - many of which were nowhere near the justice center and were simply observing from as far as the steps of city hall. Militant response was used 1 hour after the protests started, even though the demonstration was scheduled to last 3 hours. Not once was there ever any directions given to protesters - instead they just deployed tear gas and small grenades (?) that seriously injured many protesters. No warnings were ever given. Later in the evening - again with no warning - after the national guard was deployed they shot rubber bullets into a crowd that was doing nothing disruptive or even physically endangering to the group/line of police. There were teenagers in the crowd of protesters who were shot at.
69. "May 30th - I observed disproportionate and unacceptable use of force by police towards protesters. Anger from a crowd protesting the police murder of yet another Black person

should have been expected. As a subset of protesters began to try to break the glass at the Justice Center, the number of police swiftly increased, and tear gas and various projectiles were deployed on protesters, including many who were standing nearby doing absolutely nothing. I heard no communication from the police and felt and observed their actions were a direct threat to the public's safety. June 6th - Fortunately I did not observe the types of police aggression on June 6th as I did on May 30th, though arriving to the protest to be greeted by members of the state national guard and lines of police officers including ones on horses and on tops of buildings added a feeling of intimidation and threat that is completely unheard of in most civilized countries. "

70. I was at the lake side entrance of the justice center for about an hour between 230 and 330 on May 30. There were demonstrators along the stairs and along the sides and a close group by the front entrance. One person who must have been being belligerent was escorted out by fellow protesters. The police bike unit came up once and left returning shortly there after. From my vantage it was not clear what The police were doing. However there was some escalation in the animosity and tension in the group. At one point several people ran down the stairs in panic due to something I did not see. Further escalation and sued when the riot police showed up at the entrance. In other words, the crowd was rowdy but calm before the police came. More water bottles etc. were thrown after the police arrived.

Feedback Instrument Free-Form Question 2: Is there anything else that you would like us to know about these events?

1. The police and the city should have been a Key element to the events. Have a representative speak, offer some water offer to listen to the people because obviously you are just hearing the noise.
2. What could you have done better in terms of how this event was policed?
3. Yes. They were/are legal events in which citizens have a Constitutional right yo participate.
4. it sadden me to think that I am reliving the 60's.
5. Everyone with whom I spoke on Sunday morning expressed feelings from unease to outright fear. Living within the city, my neighbors and local business people have expressed interest to me in relocating outside the city.
6. Tamir Rice Marches & The RNC protests were handled so much better. Cooperation between civilian & CPD is key
7. I think it's important to be sure that any actions attributed to CPD officers at the May 30th protest, for purposes of your work, were actually taken by CPD officers. The Sheriff's Office was also present at the May 30th protest and for your purposes any data must be above reproach. While actions taken by the Sheriff's Office may be of great concern, that office is not the subject of your work. So, I sincerely hope you are taking the correct investigative steps to ensure that only the actions of the CPD officers are reported.
8. no. I don't attend because I am 75 years old and can't walk well.
9. I believe the Cleveland Division of Police was overly aggressive in its approach to how it handled Downtown. There have been other peaceful protests in other parts of surrounding areas and there hasn't been trouble.

10. I don't have a very high confidence in the police and these events only reinforced that.
11. It is unacceptable for police to use military-style warfare on citizens, especially when there is no warning given.
12. It is my sincere belief, having seen what I did and heard what I have, the police came looking for a fight and viewed the protesters not as citizens they're sworn to protect, but enemy combatants to subdue. The protesters were not the ones who started the violence, and the police not only forwent every opportunity to de-escalate, they purposefully acted to incite violent clashes.
13. The way that police used holes in the justice center windows to shoot rubber bullets at protestors was horrifying. It separated protesters and made it impossible to get across the street without risking getting hit in the face with a rubber bullet. I am disgusted at the actions of the police.
14. More police would have been nice.
15. They should have been permitted to walk all the way to public square.
16. I am disappointed with the actions of the police in regards to excessive use of violence as well as being complicit in inaction.
17. The police presence and actions on May 30, 2020 made a tense situation explode into violence. I blame them for turning a peaceful protest violent. I was listening to the police scanner during the protest on May 30, 2020 and the police stopped using radios to talk about the situation and make plans. They switched to telephones and texting (as they asked each other to do on the scanner). I think the switch from public to private communication by the police was not in the public's interest or appropriate.
18. Where were the fire hoses to be used on the protesters? Why weren't the businesses warned of what may take place??
19. I refrained from bringing my family to later events solely based on the actions of Cleveland police.
20. I was astounded at the escalation by the police that I personally witnessed.
21. "I think it's real fucked up that the people we pay to uphold the law, turned on thier own people so quickly. Tear gassing families. What do you even say about that? "
22. It was an absolutely peaceful and beautiful protest until the police arrived.
23. There are multiple live streams recorded on the internet. If you want to look and see what you can, they are online and easy to find, many of them multiple hours long. Just about all of them are edited/pixelated for content or given a mature rating due to the violence. The only thing every one of these videos has in common is that the violence was sudden, and caused by the police. Protesters started NONE of it and were given no warning before things escalated, and the whole of the world got to witness it. After seeing the news and the live streams, which I played to show honesty, my mother in law, who is a lifelong hardcore republican is rethinking her voting because she doesn't want to vote people into office to see things like that happen to innocent people.
24. Police acted shamefully and hurt people for no reason. They clearly demonstrated that they care more about property than people. Graffiti and a few lobbed water bottles are no excuse to use chemical and projectile weapons on civilians. If they had behaved that way against enemy forces in a conflict, they would be charged with war crimes, so why is it acceptable to

our so-called leaders to escalate to this level against our own neighbors during a peaceful protest?

25. For a minute I thought Cleveland was actually doing things right. When the police presence was lower the crowd (protesting police brutality) was more calm. Adding angry militarized riot cops MADE THINGS WORSE. I didn't see a single god damn police officer actually attempting to DE-ESCALATE. This should be THE primary tactic and it wasn't even employed. I'm beyond disgusted with CPD.
26. I live in an east side neighborhood near downtown. the neighbors, though physically distancing a little bit at this time, were not talking about the protests. they were busy with their lives. the kids were chalking on the sidewalks , Black Lives Matter, but otherwise, were playing and not discussing the events. Juneteenth was a very big celebratory event on the street this year. I totally liked a report I heard on NPR yesterday. Two reporters wrote a report about how taxes once upon a time funded the police, then in '65 that became a lot less and police had to raise money through traffic stops, ticketing jay walkers etc. which made normal people distrust and avoid the police and also, for many reasons, disproportionately affected poorer people and people of color
27. I thought the protests at the Justice Center should have been prepared for much better than it was. It appeared that the police got some bad intel and it looks like they relied upon it. However, they were prepared for the one at the First District, and from what I was told, did a good job at the Second District.
28. Our police department needs to be dismantled and rebuilt from the ground up! No more Blue brotherhood protecting murders and criminals get rid of them all! Fuck these people “never seen a civil servant in our neighborhoods, lending a helping hand, smiling and interacting with our citizens, changing tires, assisting in any way other than to arrest and/or harass. We are met with scowls and disdain and fear. They should not be allowed in our neighborhoods paid by our dollars.
29. I think police across America, but particularly here, come off looking like defensive blowhards incapable of taking any criticism. CPD has hardly brought any disciplinary action against the dozens of officers who have shot and killed civilians many of them unarmed since the year 2000. I would hope it wouldn't be too much to ask to clean house, starting with cops who harass, intimidate, harm or murder civilians, then moving on to cops who pepper sprayed and tear gassed protestors because they were frightened by bottled water.
30. Arrest and charge these criminals.
31. I am not sure if this happened, but I feel the police should have marched with the peaceful protesters to keep them safe. THIS would have made a huge statement to the public, as well as protecting our Cleveland citizens. I remain hopeful for positive reform. Thank you for this opportunity to share in making a contribution.
32. It wasn't a protest. It was an organized riot Call it what it was.
33. "Cleveland Police is extremely irresponsible and waging a misinformation campaign on its own citizens. Without any evidence the irresponsible chief of police determined that there were outside agitators when upon inspection from local media proved this to be false

34. Cleveland Police should be disbanded because its leaders are conspiratorial and believe there is a scary boogeyman ready to destroy Cleveland. When the reality was that Clevelanders are done with being terrorized by their non-Cleveland police force"
35. No tear gas against protestors.
36. I left the area about 3:45pm, as I could feel a change in the mood of the gathering. I did not know what to attribute that to, but it felt ominous. I later learned that was about the time the officers began with teargas and rubber bullets, apparently hurled indiscriminately across the street. I hope policies are changed to prohibit tear gas and rubber bullets and bean bag items from being discharged into a crowd. Way too dangerous, and you hurt peaceful people.
37. No. I know police work is a hard job. It is imperative that we hold everyone accountable to the law.
38. CONGRATS TO ALL THE CLEVELAND POLICE OFFICERS WHO WERE CALLED TO THESE EVENTS.
39. We gotta be better prepared if there is a next time.
40. Seems there was lack of planning & oversight of the May 30 protests/riots, which quickly escalated.
41. even a dog will fight if push into a corner.
42. The police should not be treated, equipped, or trained to think as though they are the military. The failure of the consent decree process to have made a dent in CPD's known use of excessive force is why many now see the limits of reforms and are calling for meaningful and significant reallocation of funds from the police to services that promote well-being - a call I support.