



**Los Gatos**

**Monte Sereno**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Peter Decena, Chief of Police**

# PRESS RELEASE

**Date:** August 16, 2019

**Time:** 10:00 AM

**Original:**

**Update:**  **No.**

## Community Briefing Video

The Los Gatos-Monte Sereno Police Department has prepared a Community Briefing video regarding an incident that occurred on April 19, 2019. The incident involved use of force by a Los Gatos-Monte Sereno Police Officer, Johnathon Silva, who is no longer employed by the Town of Los Gatos.

The Officer was dispatched to a dispute between neighbors in which the reporting party sought assistance with a subject who was yelling and cursing at her. The Officer contacted the subject who was uncooperative and refused to identify himself. Almost immediately, the subject began reaching for something in his right front pants pocket. A physical struggle ensued, ending in his arrest. During the course of the struggle, the arrestee sustained several fractured ribs and was rendered unconscious via a carotid restraint control hold. He was issued a citation and treated at a local hospital. His court case is currently in process.

Over the last three years, in 55,000 contacts with the community, Los Gatos-Monte Sereno Police Officers have only had to utilize force options in 13 incidents. The April incident was the only use of force that meets the parameters for release pursuant to Penal Code Section 832.7.

Every use of force by a Los Gatos-Monte Sereno Police Officer is subject to an internal administrative review to ensure all applicable Department policies and practices were properly applied. In this case, the Officer's actions were determined to be objectively reasonable and within Department policy. Additionally, two reviews by external use of force experts independently came to the same conclusion.

No matter the outcome, use of force reviews also provide an opportunity to identify areas of improvement in training, policies and best practices. This is part of our continuous effort to hold our employees to the highest standards of professional policing, while delivering an extraordinary level of service to the community.

The link to the Community Briefing video is:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OTnw5oJimpM&feature=youtu.be>

Authorized by:

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8.16.19

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