

CITY OF UNION CITY
HOUSING AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING :
: TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED
: PROCEEDINGS
:
:

3911 Kennedy Boulevard
Union City, New Jersey

Tuesday, June 17, 2014
Commencing at 5:10 p.m.

M E M B E R S P R E S E N T:

TERESA CORNELIO, COMMISSIONER
DELSA T. DeMARTINEZ, COMMISSIONER
DOROTHY JETTER, COMMISSIONER
MARGARITA GUTIERREZ, VICE CHAIRPERSON

M E M B E R S A B S E N T:

EDWIN MARINEZ, COMMISSIONER
DENNIS E. GONZALEZ, COMMISSIONER
MARTIN T. MARTINETTI, CHAIRPERSON

A L S O P R E S E N T:

VIRGILIO CABELLO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/BOARD SECRETARY
JULIO C. MOREJON, ESQ., COUNSEL
JOSE ALBA, MODERNIZATION ADMINISTRATOR
RAFAEL NATERA, ASSISTANT TO CFO
WALDO MORIN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

A P P E A R A N C E S:

MESSRS. TARELLA & LIFTMAN
BY: JAMES A. TARELLA, ESQ.
Attorney for Toni Beshara

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1 MS. DILLON: On the record.

2 MR. CABELLO: On the --

3 Okay, let's salute the flag please.

4

5 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was
6 said.)

7

8 MR. CABELLO: Thank you very much.

9

10 **ROLL CALL:**

11

12 MR. CABELLO: Roll call.

13 Chairperson Martinetti?

14 Absent.

15 Commissioner Teresa Cornelio?

16 COMMISSIONER CORNELIO: Yes.

17 MR. CABELLO: Commissioner Delsa Martinez
18 (sic)?

19 COMMISSIONER DeMARTINEZ: Yes.

20 MR. CABELLO: Vice Chairperson, Acting
21 Chair Margarita Gutierrez?

22 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Yes.

23 MR. CABELLO: Present.

24 Commissioner Edwin Marinez?

25 Absent.

1 Commissioner Dennis Gonzalez?

2 Absent.

3 Dennis called me and said he's down in
4 Washington, D.C. with the ObamaCare, so he can't
5 make it.

6 Dorothy Jetter?

7 COMMISSIONER JETTER: Here.

8 MR. CABELLO: Present.

9 And that's it.

10 Okay, I need a motion to go into Executive
11 Session.

12 COMMISSIONER DeMARTINEZ: Motion.

13 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Second.

14 MR. CABELLO: Motion by Delsa Martinez
15 (sic).

16 Second by Teresa.

17 Okay.

18 MS. DILLON: One moment.

19 MR. CABELLO: Okay, one moment.

20

21 (Whereupon, there was a pause in the
22 proceedings.)

23

24 (Whereupon, the Board moved to Executive
25 Session at 5:11 p.m.)

1

2 (Whereupon, the Board returned to Open
3 Session at 5:26 p.m.)

4

5 MS. DILLON: Yes, on the record.

6 MR. CABELLO: Okay, we're on the record.

7

8 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY, 29, 2014 MEETING**

9 **(REGULAR MEETING AND EXECUTIVE SESSION) and**

10 **APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS OF BILLS:**

11

12 MR. CABELLO: I need approval of the
13 minutes and the bills from the last meeting.

14 COMMISSIONER CORNELIO: Approve.

15 MR. CABELLO: Motion made by Teresa.

16 Second by Vice Pres -- Gutierrez.

17 Roll call.

18 Martinetti?

19 Martinetti is absent.

20 Cornelio?

21 COMMISSIONER CORNELIO: Yes.

22 MR. CABELLO: DeMartinez?

23 COMMISSIONER DeMARTINEZ: Yes.

24 MR. CABELLO: Gutierrez?

25 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Yes.

1 MR. CABELLO: Marinez is absent.
2 Dennis Gonzalez; absent.
3 Jetter; present.
4 Okay.

5
6 **BOARD RESOLUTION #2014-03 - TO APPROVE HUD'S AND**
7 **STATE OF NEW JERSEY OPERATING BUDGET FOR FYE**
8 **2015:**

9
10 MR. CABELLO: Next one is Resolution.
11 If we go to the Resolutions it's 2014-08
12 (sic). That's the -- for the Approval of the
13 Budget for the State, as well as HUD.

14 So if you go to page 1 and 2 we have the
15 HUD budget and behind is the State budget.

16 As we can see we have a positive cash flow
17 this year, not by much, but we'll do all right.
18 We don't anticipate any changes on that.

19 So if we could have a vote on the budget
20 please.

21 A motion?

22 Motion by Teresa.

23 Second by Gutierrez.

24 Roll call.

25 Martinetti?

1 Absent.

2 Cornelio?

3 COMMISSIONER CORNELIO: Yes.

4 MR. CABELLO: Yes.

5 DeMartinez?

6 COMMISSIONER DeMARTINEZ: Yes.

7 MR. CABELLO: Gutierrez?

8 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Yes.

9 MR. CABELLO: Marinez?

10 Absent.

11 Gonzalez?

12 Absent.

13 Dorothy Jetter?

14 COMMISSIONER JETTER: Yes.

15 MR. CABELLO: Okay, good.

16 Thank you very much.

17

18 **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

19

20 MR. CABELLO: Now, we're going to open this
21 to the public right now. There's the issues that
22 we would like to address.

23 And for everyone's information -- have five
24 minutes per person when they want to speak.

25 Because there's a lot of people here, so

1 everybody will have to have five minutes.

2 Right, counselor?

3 MR. MOREJON: Yes, that is correct.

4 MR. CABELLO: All right, so we have with us
5 the Captain who's coming in to listen to some of
6 the issues that are, you know, involved with
7 this.

8 Okay?

9 All right, would you like to start, Miss
10 Beshara? Or the attorney representing Beshara?

11 If you give us your name and --

12 MS. DILLON: Right over here.

13 MR. CABELLO: Yeah, over here, sir, so they
14 could record.

15 Your name and --

16 Let me know about the five minutes.

17 MS. DILLON: Hmm?

18 MR. CABELLO: Let me know about the five
19 minutes.

20 MR. TARELLA: Ready?

21 MR. CABELLO: Yes, --

22 MS. DILLON: Name for the record please?

23 MR. TARELLA: My name is James Tarella.

24 My law firm is Tarella and Liftman, 1576
25 U.S. Highway 130, North Brunswick, New Jersey.

1 I'm here tonight on behalf of Miss Beshara
2 because I understand that you wanted to address
3 not only her concerns but also speak to the --
4 some of the other people who may be involved.
5 And we weren't quite sure what the format was
6 going to be or how it was going to work, so she
7 thought it would be best to have counsel here.

8 Now let me say by way of background that I
9 grew up in Union City and I'm pretty familiar
10 with it. And what I've heard about the problems
11 at this particular complex bother me because I
12 think it reflects badly on the City, very simply.

13 And what I don't understand and Toni's been
14 asking me about this for a while, I've spent
15 almost 40 years representing landlords and
16 tenants and I have dealt with all kinds of issues
17 of lease violations. And the things that have
18 been told to me about drinking in public, late
19 night parties and generally disruptive behavior
20 are really issues that to me should be addressed
21 by the landlord, not by the Police.

22 Because I understand that there's been -- I
23 know there have been a ton of Police complaints
24 but one of the concerns of this body has been
25 that there haven't been summonses issued.

1 Well, from my perspective, summonses get
2 issued when you have assaults, when you have
3 violence, when you have real criminal behavior.
4 And the Police in Union City have better things
5 to do than shutting down loud parties. I know
6 it's a quality of life issue but I think that
7 there should be some prioritizing there.

8 And I also know that when my clients have
9 reported to me behavior that seems inappropriate
10 shall we say, that one of the first things that
11 gets done is that we do a little bit of
12 investigation to make sure that the complaints
13 are justified. And I'm quite certain that any
14 number of you are local; you could drive by these
15 buildings on a Friday night or a Saturday night
16 or depending on when the party has started, a
17 Thursday night or if it goes over into Monday,
18 and see for yourself what's going on and see
19 whether this is the kind of conduct that you want
20 from tenants in your buildings.

21 My next point is that the most
22 straightforward way to deal with these problems
23 as a landlord is to issue a notice to cease.
24 That is the step under a lease that serves as a
25 warning. It's not a termination notice; it's not

1 | telling people that they're going to court or
2 | that they're going to be evicted. It's saying
3 | this is the problem, this is the behavior we
4 | would like you to change. And you give people a
5 | period of time in which to effectuate those
6 | changes.

7 | If the problems continue, then maybe you
8 | have to take more steps. Maybe you need to
9 | identify -- because in most cases where you have
10 | groups of people who like to party, for lack of a
11 | better way to put it, there are usually one or
12 | two who are the ones that are the life of the
13 | party. They're the ones who get the party going;
14 | they're the ones who keep the party going and
15 | other people come and go. But if you can
16 | identify those few and you can give them a
17 | warning, then usually, usually if people want to
18 | keep their homes, then that is sufficient to deal
19 | with the issue.

20 | But I can assure you, because I've been
21 | doing this for an awfully long time, -- the gray
22 | in my beard is for real -- that most tenants if
23 | they don't get a notice don't take it seriously.
24 | They figure that the landlord really isn't
25 | serious about dealing with the problem, that the

1 behavior isn't as bad as somebody might think it
2 is and it just keeps going. It's that simple, it
3 just keeps going.

4 And I, frankly, don't understand because
5 I've got a file that's sitting over there, it's
6 about this thick, that goes back to last year.
7 And there was a notice --

8 MS. DILLON: That's five minutes.

9 MR. TARELLA: Thank you. I was just about
10 to wrap up.

11 There was a notice to cease issued maybe a
12 year and a half ago and things improved
13 significantly. But as time goes on and people
14 forget about that things worsen again.

15 That's really the step that I think should
16 be taken.

17 Thank you.

18 MR. CABELLO: Thank you.

19 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Thank you,
20 sir.

21 MR. CABELLO: Next?

22 A VOICE: No, Evelyn. Evelyn

23 A VOICE: Evelyn.

24 A VOICE: Evelyn.

25 A VOICE: Read it.

1 MS. GOYANNES: No.

2 A VOICE: No?

3 MS. GOYANNES: I only have five minutes.

4 MS. DILLON: Your name and address for the
5 record please?

6 MS. GOYANNES: Evelyn Goyannes, 308 44th
7 Street.

8 I have been a tenant on the second floor
9 for ten years. And up until three, four years
10 ago when I became friendly with Miss Borrero,
11 Richie, Debbie and Arty, that's when the problems
12 started.

13 Miss Beshara wants to make complaints about
14 public drinking but here I have pictures of her
15 drinking in public in parties with Miss Adelaida
16 Borrero.

17 She has called the cops on my 10 year old
18 daughter for playing basketball in the yard. I
19 have the Police complaint here because I filed a
20 Police report for it because my daughter's
21 intimidated by her. Anytime she sees her she's
22 scared. She don't want to know about her. The
23 Police report is right here where the cops were
24 called; I made a complaint against her because
25 she yelled at my child. And, yes, I got

1 confrontational with her because she was only 9.

2 You want to speak, you speak to me. I'm
3 her parent.

4 I also have here from surrounding neighbors
5 -- not only people in the Veterans complex but
6 surrounding neighbors next door in other houses
7 that live on 44th Street, that signed a petition
8 to show that she's the problem.

9 We have one particular neighbor that lives
10 on 44th Street that moved out because of the
11 continuous harassment that she has caused them.
12 And they just recently moved back a year ago
13 because they saw that there were more Hispanic
14 people living in the neighborhood, so they felt
15 content coming back.

16 Every time we're sitting outside, whether
17 it's one o'clock in the afternoon, two o'clock in
18 the afternoon, having coffee, conversating, she
19 comes. She walks into peoples' homes. She does
20 whatever she wants. And she comes to Housing a
21 million times. We've come to Housing a million
22 times. Nothing's done. But when she comes a
23 Board Meeting is held.

24 So, where's the discrimination here? It's
25 not fair. It's not fair to us either.

1 I understand the music playing late at
2 night. That's understandable. I work. My
3 children go to school. You don't want to hear
4 that all times. But it's not every day. And
5 it's not all the time. We also have quality of
6 life. We also have the right to enjoy each
7 other. We're all neighbors. The majority of us
8 get along with the exception of her. With the
9 exception of her.

10 So at the end of the day she's the problem,
11 not us.

12 MR. CABELLO: Thank you.

13 A VOICE: Well said.

14 MS. GOYANNES: That's it; I'm done.

15 MR. CABELLO: Okay, thank you.

16 MS. GOYANNES: Thank you.

17 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Thank you.

18 MR. CABELLO: Next? Anyone else?

19 Who's coming? The lady?

20 MS. DILLON: Name and address for the
21 record.

22 MS. O'NEILL: My name is Alice O'Neill. I
23 live at 304 44th Street, Apartment 2.

24 MS. DILLON: Could I ask you to spell your
25 name for me?

1 MS. O'NEILL: Which one?

2 MS. DILLON: The last name.

3 MS. O'NEILL: O, apostrophe, N-E-I-L-L.

4 MS. DILLON: Thank you.

5 MS. O'NEILL: You're welcome.

6 I'd like to know when I was supposed to be
7 drinking in public at any parties?

8 That's what I want to know.

9 And I want to know who made a complaint
10 against me?

11 I think I have that right.

12 MR. MOREJON: Are you addressing your
13 question to the Board?

14 MS. O'NEILL: Yeah, to whoever it is.

15 I got a letter stating that a complaint was
16 made. I want to know who did it? Call Housing
17 made a complaint.

18 MR. MOREJON: I don't know. You have a
19 letter from this entity?

20 MS. O'NEILL: Here's the letter saying that
21 there's drinking going on, --

22 MR. MORIN: Oh, the letter you sent --

23 MS. O'NEILL: -- people, all kinds -- he's
24 my neighbor. He don't have no complaint against
25 me.

1 MR. CABELLO: This was sent to everyone.

2 MR. MOREJON: Yeah, this was a --

3 A VOICE: It's a form letter.

4 MR. MOREJON: -- form letter, ma'am.

5 MR. CABELLO: Right.

6 MS. O'NEILL: Yeah.

7 MR. CABELLO: Circulated to everyone.

8 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: To every
9 neighbor.

10 MR. MOREJON: Yeah.

11 MR. CABELLO: Everyone.

12 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: To everybody.

13 A VOICE: Everyone didn't get one.

14 A VOICE: Everyone did not get one.

15 MS. DILLON: Okay.

16 MR. MOREJON: I mailed this letter regular
17 mail and also by messenger --

18 MS. O'NEILL: Um-hum.

19 MR. MOREJON: -- it was delivered.

20 MR. PALLAZZO: Rudy did not put one in
21 everyone's mailbox. Only the selected few got
22 it. The ones that live there less than ten
23 years.

24 MR. MORIN: No the problem was that the
25 letter was sent to those tenants that had made

1 | complaint --

2 | MR. MOREJON: Right.

3 | MR. MORIN: -- to the Housing Authority.

4 | If I'm correct.

5 | MR. MOREJON: Right.

6 | MR. MORIN: That's why not the whole
7 | neighborhood got it.

8 | A VOICE: Okay.

9 | MR. MORIN: That's what --

10 | MR. CABELLO: All right.

11 | MR. MOREJON: Yeah, I was --

12 | MR. MORIN: That's what the Board decided
13 | last time.

14 | MR. MOREJON: I was instructed --

15 | MR. CABELLO: Yeah, --

16 | MR. MOREJON: Yeah.

17 | MR. CABELLO: -- just the people that had
18 | issues.

19 | MR. MOREJON: Who didn't receive a letter
20 | here today?

21 | Everybody here received a letter?

22 | MR. PALLAZZO: We all got the letter.

23 | MR. MOREJON: Okay. All right. Good, so I
24 | don't have to read it.

25 | MR. O'NEILL: Well, 30 families to me;

1 don't make sense.

2 The cops was never called on me there and
3 there was never a complaint made against me. And
4 if there was, I'd like to know by who.

5 MR. MOREJON: Well, this isn't necessarily
6 made against you, ma'am. This could also be
7 inviting residents here who have made complaints.
8 Not necessarily have had --

9 MS. O'NEILL: I made no complaint --

10 MR. MOREJON: -- complaints against --

11 MS. O'NEILL: -- about nobody. I have
12 nothing against nobody here.

13 MR. MOREJON: All right.

14 MS. O'NEILL: They don't bother me. I
15 don't care what they do.

16 MR. MOREJON: You're not Florence Quinn
17 (phonetic) though, right?

18 MS. O'NEILL: No, that's my sister. She's
19 a very sick woman.

20 MR. MOREJON: Okay.

21 So, I addressed this letter --

22 MS. O'NEILL: And I live there.

23 MR. MOREJON: I addressed this letter as
24 instructed by the Board to this person.

25 MS. O'NEILL: Yeah, well my name's on the

1 | lease.

2 | MR. MOREJON: Okay. Well, I'm answering
3 | your question.

4 | MS. O'NEILL: Right.

5 | MR. PALLAZZO: So what he's saying, Alice,
6 | in plain language is you've got nothing to say,
7 | only Joanie (phonetic) can.

8 | Florence Quinn --

9 | MR. MOREJON: No, I'm not -- that's not
10 | what I'm saying, sir.

11 | MR. CABELLO: No, not --

12 | MR. MOREJON: That's not what I'm saying at
13 | all.

14 | MR. CABELLO: -- not necessarily.

15 | What he said is that --

16 | MR. MOREJON: What I'm --

17 | A VOICE: Well, that's the way it sounds.

18 | MR. CABELLO: This lady's upset because --

19 | MS. DILLON: One at a time for the record,
20 | Mr. Morejon.

21 | MR. MOREJON: Yeah. You know what, I'll --
22 | I can speak for myself.

23 | MR. CABELLO: Yeah.

24 | MR. MOREJON: All I'm saying is that letter
25 | was sent.

1 I don't generate my own work. I take
2 instructions from this Board. The Board, after
3 our last meeting, gave me a list of names. They
4 said, look, these are individuals who reside in
5 this area, this complex, and have either -- have
6 made complaints or have had complaints made
7 against them.

8 So I sent out the letter that you received,
9 Miss O'Neill.

10 It didn't specify that you -- there was a
11 complaint made. I was trying to make it as
12 generic, as open-ended as possible to get you
13 here. Obviously it worked, you're here. You
14 know, you want to converse, you have the
15 microphone for five minutes, --

16 MS. O'NEILL: No, I did what I had to --

17 MR. MOREJON: -- you can speak.

18 Okay.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. CABELLO: Okay.

21 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Thank you.

22 MR. CABELLO: Anyone else?

23 Next?

24 Okay, this lady.

25 MS. DILLON: Name and address for the

1 record?

2 MS. BORRERO: My name is Adelaida Borrero.
3 I live at 305 44th Street, Apartment 1.

4 MS. DILLON: Spell your first name for me?

5 MS. BORRERO: A-D-E-L-A-I-D-A.

6 MS. DILLON: And your last name?

7 MS. BORRERO: Is B-O-R-R-E-R-O.

8 MS. DILLON: Thank you, ma'am.

9 MS. BORRERO: You're welcome.

10 MR. MOREJON: What is your address, ma'am?

11 MS. BORRERO: It's 305 44th Street,
12 Apartment 1.

13 MR. MOREJON: Thank you.

14 MR. CABELLO: Okay.

15 MR. MOREJON: Go ahead, ma'am.

16 MS. BORRERO: For the past almost five
17 years Toni has harassed me. All I keep saying is
18 for her to leave us alone; me, my husband and my
19 kids.

20 Whatever it is that we do -- it could be
21 one o'clock -- I haven't been -- I haven't done
22 not even a party. The only thing I do is my
23 kids' birthday parties. And what I do is every
24 time I'm about to do it, I call here and I'll let
25 Renee know, every single time.

1 After the parties I make sure I clean
2 everything up; I don't leave no garbage, nothing
3 and everybody goes home.

4 The other day she went in my house.

5 MR. MOREJON: She being whom?

6 MS. BORRERO: I -- I was home --

7 MR. MOREJON: You mean Miss Beshara?

8 MS. BORRERO: Yes.

9 MR. MOREJON: Okay.

10 MS. BORRERO: I was home in the morning, I
11 was getting my kids ready to go to school. My
12 father-in-law and my husband they installed
13 ceiling fans in my house. Well she knocked on my
14 door -- I heard the knocking. By the time I went
15 into the living room she was in my house.

16 She was telling me that she couldn't sleep
17 because I guess the noise of the ceiling fan.

18 Ceiling fan in my living room didn't even
19 have the blades on; it had just the lights on.

20 The ceiling fan in the kitchen was off. I
21 didn't know that I have to ask her permission for
22 me to put something in my house.

23 She's constantly, constantly harassing me.
24 I don't want her near me, near my husband, near
25 my kids. I just want her to leave us alone.

1 That's all I want.

2 She says her story but she doesn't say the
3 whole truth. She's a real pain in the ass and
4 I'm tired of it.

5 And right now I call Renee not -- a couple
6 of days ago to inform her that my daughter, she's
7 gonna turn 13, that I wanted to do a, you know,
8 birthday party that she wanted her friends to
9 come over to the house.

10 Well she told me that I needed to have I
11 guess a letter in writing to ask permission.

12 MR. CABELLO: Okay.

13 MS. BORRERO: So I do have that letter.

14 MR. CABELLO: Is this party gonna be in the
15 apartment or outside?

16 MS. BORRERO: I normally do it outside
17 'cause the apartment is small and, you know, it's
18 summer time.

19 My kids are always inside the house during
20 the wintertime. You know?

21 I have -- I also bought, when my husband
22 came from Iraq, we bought a waterslide. I called
23 here. I asked Renee before we bought it --
24 'cause it's expensive. She say, sure, no
25 problem. So, -- we don't put it out every single

1 time. My husband just put it out, I think, for
2 Memorial Day and we have to leave it out for a
3 day or two because to dry out. Once it's
4 completely dried out then we roll it up and I put
5 it down in my basement. But it's not gonna be on
6 because she's 13. She's too big for that anyway.

7 But I do have the letter to hand it to you
8 guys.

9 And that's all.

10 MR. CABELLO: Okay. That's it?

11 Thank you.

12 MS. BORRERO: You're welcome.

13 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Thank you.

14 COMMISSIONER DeMARTINEZ: Thank you.

15 MR. CABELLO: Okay, next?

16 MS. CRESPO: Hi. My name is Nancy Crespo.

17 MS. DILLON: Nancy?

18 MS. CRESPO: Crespo.

19 MS. DILLON: Spell for me?

20 MS. CRESPO: C-R-E-S-P, as in Paul, O.

21 MS. DILLON: And your address?

22 MS. CRESPO: 301 44th Street.

23 MS. DILLON: Thank you.

24 MS. CRESPO: My problem is that I don't

25 really -- she -- we have a barbecue, whether it's

1 | just to throw some meat on the grill -- 'cause
2 | it's hot in the house to cook and those
3 | apartments are really small. I live on the
4 | corner. She lives two houses over. That smell
5 | should not bother her whatsoever. And she'll
6 | make it her business, when it's just in process,
7 | to come down, pass my house, walk all the way to
8 | the corner on 43rd Street, come back, look at
9 | what's going on, goes back, as soon as the grill
10 | goes on, boom, the cops come.

11 | The officer came -- when was it, I think it
12 | was Sunday.

13 | A VOICE: Saturday.

14 | MS. CRESPO: Saturday?

15 | A VOICE: Yeah.

16 | MS. CRESPO: Saturday the officer -- the
17 | officer comes over. We had music on. He said we
18 | need the music -- your neighbors are complaining,
19 | it's loud, can you please turn the music off?

20 | All right, officer, no problem. I
21 | unplugged it. I bring the radio inside. It was
22 | called three more times after that. Thank God
23 | that the same officer roamed that block like
24 | three or four times to see that there was no
25 | noise and there was no music on. But still they

1 | got called for noise and music.

2 | So the officer came over to us and he said,
3 | listen, they just called again but I told whoever
4 | -- the Sergeant, I don't know who he was -- he
5 | goes I spoke to them and I let them know that
6 | there's no noise here. It was -- and then it was
7 | the day of the fight. There was no noise.
8 | Nothing was going on. But still they keep
9 | calling the officers.

10 | And, yeah, you know what, it is
11 | inconvenience for the officers 'cause somebody
12 | can be dying down -- downtown or down -- uptown,
13 | wherever, and they're over here on a little bit
14 | of noise.

15 | Why? Because they're older? Because they
16 | used to have parties. They used to have parties
17 | all the time.

18 | A VOICE: Yes.

19 | A VOICE: Um-hum.

20 | MS. CRESPO: They had a pool in the back.

21 | A VOICE: Um-hum.

22 | A VOICE: Um-hum.

23 | MS. CRESPO: They had -- they had their
24 | barbecues. They had a screen TV outside, they
25 | would watch it. But now the new generation came

1 in and it just so happens that the new ones have
2 children.

3 I don't -- my daughter, she's 21 years old.
4 But the neighbors have children, so the neighbors
5 can't be out, nobody can have fun because we got
6 one neighbor that keeps coming in and out of the
7 house to just -- to stare us down or to walk and
8 say, oh, you need to -- that smoke is going in my
9 house.

10 So how could that smoke be going in your
11 house? I'm all the way on the other -- opposite
12 side of the corner. If it's not bothering my
13 neighbor, it shouldn't be bothering her. 'Cause
14 my neighbor lives right upstairs from me. It
15 should be bothering them, Miss Debbie and Arty
16 because they live directly across.

17 So I don't understand, you know, why the
18 cops keep -- and nobody's doing anything.

19 So my thing is what is it -- what is it
20 that she has that all these letters are coming
21 out that now we can't do nothing?

22 There's only two months -- there's only two
23 months for these kids to have fun, to be out.
24 And some people can't afford to take them to
25 Great Adventure or can't afford to take them to

1 Hershey's Park or to the -- because to get into
2 those places is \$60.00. So you're talking about
3 a family of five, you're talking way over two,
4 three hundred dollars. Can't afford it.

5 So you put something outside so the kids
6 can play and you got one or two neighbors that
7 keep complaining?

8 And then I just don't think it's fair. I
9 don't think it's fair that we should be getting
10 these things because you know what, they have
11 barbecues on Cantello, they have barbecues on 5th
12 Street, they have barbecues on 40th Street, on
13 every Housing, so they're gonna send only us the
14 letter? 'Cause nobody else got the letter; only
15 we got it 'cause we have two neighbors that feel
16 like complaining all the time. And I don't think
17 it's fair 'cause those same two neighbors were
18 partying at their time. They're just older now.

19 Okay, I understand that. All right, you're
20 older, you don't feel -- you don't feel like the,
21 you know, the B.S. All right, that's fine. But
22 to stop kids from playing, that we have to be in
23 the house, that we can't be outside, we can't
24 enjoy our area? Why? Why? We're paying rent
25 just like she pays rent and just like the other

1 | ones that are complaining pays rent. It
2 | shouldn't be.

3 | And you know what then there should be
4 | something told to them that keep complaining.
5 | 'Cause nobody else is complaining; it's only
6 | them. And I don't think it's fair.

7 | I'm finished.

8 | MR. CABELLO: Okay.

9 | Thank you.

10 | VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Thank you.

11 | COMMISSIONER DeMARTINEZ: Thank you.

12 | MS. MUNDORF: I'd like to say something.

13 | MR. CABELLO: Okay, sure.

14 | Go ahead, ma'am.

15 | MS. DILLON: Name for the record, ma'am?

16 | MS. MUNDORF: My name is Debra, D-E-B-R-A,
17 | Mundorf, M-U-N-D-O-R-F.

18 | MS. DILLON: And your address?

19 | MS. MUNDORF: 300 44th Street.

20 | MS. DILLON: Thank you, ma'am.

21 | MS. MUNDORF: I just want to say, as far as
22 | whatever Evelyn said, Nancy, Adele, Alice, ditto
23 | goes for me with this.

24 | It's just -- all it is is harassment. We
25 | keep getting harassed; we can't do anything

1 | there.

2 | Adele has a party -- hell, yeah, we have a
3 | couple of drinks, yeah. But so did we years ago
4 | back there. We had everything in the back.

5 | I mean, you know Waldo, we had the pool
6 | like we said before, the kids, basketball,
7 | everything, barbecues. We had it great. And
8 | where Adele's barbecue is is in the back of the
9 | house. It's not in the front. She's all the way
10 | in the back. And we just all get along.

11 | And I want to know why I got a letter?

12 | Because I never barbecue. I get invited by
13 | my friends but I don't barbecue. And my husband
14 | and I, you know, we're living -- I'm living there
15 | 21 years.

16 | So I think it's very unfair what's going on
17 | here.

18 | MR. CABELLO: The reason everyone got a
19 | letter --

20 | MS. DILLON: Can you just hold one second;
21 | just let the siren pass. Sorry.

22 | MS. MUNDORF: I understand --

23 | MS. DILLON: Just one second, ma'am; the
24 | siren.

25 | MS. MUNDORF: Sorry.

1 MS. DILLON: Go ahead.

2 I'm sorry.

3 MS. MUNDORF: Go ahead. What were you
4 going to say?

5 MR. CABELLO: The reason that everyone got
6 a letter is because of these issues. We hear one
7 story, we get the other story, so we want to see
8 what --

9 MS. MUNDORF: Let me tell you.

10 MR. CABELLO: So, it's not personal with
11 anybody.

12 MS. MUNDORF: I understand that --

13 MR. CABELLO: We're just trying to --

14 MS. MUNDORF: -- but --

15 MR. CABELLO: -- resolve the situation.

16 MS. MUNDORF: -- it's still not nice.

17 I'm living there 21 years, --

18 MR. CABELLO: I understand.

19 MS. MUNDORF: -- I never received a letter
20 like that from the Housing.

21 MR. MUNDORF: And all the partying we did.

22 MS. MUNDORF: Never. All the partying we
23 did --

24 And I just want to say that I'm all for 4-4
25 and that's it. That's all I have to say.

1 MR. CABELLO: Thank you, ma'am

2 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Thank you.

3 MR. CABELLO: Sir? You're okay?

4 MR. MUNDORF: Yeah, that's my wife.

5 MR. PALLAZZO: All right, it's me.

6 A VOICE: Ditto.

7 MR. PALLAZZO: All right.

8 MS. MUNDORF: That's right, ditto.

9 MR. PALLAZZO: My name is Richard Pallazzo,
10 P-A, double L, A, double Z as in zebra, O.

11 I live at 304 44th, Apartment 1.

12 MS. DILLON: Thank you, sir.

13 MR. PALLAZZO: I concur with my friends and
14 my neighbors. And I guess, since the lawyer went
15 back that far, I can go back 60 years.

16 I've lived in this city my entire life; I
17 will be 60 years old in two weeks. I lived
18 downtown my entire life until I was 55 years old.
19 I moved up here because I was a fire victim. I
20 wanted to live up here because I thought it was
21 nice and everybody got along. Until I found out
22 -- and I met them and they welcomed me and helped
23 me and loved me.

24 Okay?

25 I found out at a barbecue, the first

1 | barbecue that the neighbors had, two people lived
2 | there --

3 | How long did you live there, Evelyn?

4 | MS. GOYANNES: Ten years.

5 | MR. PALLAZZO: Ten years.

6 | Debra, 21?

7 | MS. MUNDORF: Um-hum.

8 | MR. PALLAZZO: They didn't know one another
9 | until that barbecue.

10 | Maybe it's my fault, I got a great
11 | personality, I know a lot of people, --

12 | MR. CABELLO: Mr. Charm, right?

13 | MR. PALLAZZO: Yes, that's me.

14 | No, I won't say what I was gonna -- yeah, I
15 | will, because they -- they've all heard it.
16 | You --

17 | I came to the block, I sprinkled my fairy
18 | dust; I missed a few.

19 | We -- we don't fight, we don't argue, we
20 | have breakfast -- we have coffee in the morning,
21 | talk about the kids. As you could see, I got a
22 | good porch. This is where the tan came from; I
23 | sit on the porch. I watch the children when
24 | they're on the side of the house. And we all
25 | watch the neighborhood.

1 To be honest with you I think 44th Street,
2 that little complex, is the safest place in Union
3 City. We're fenced in and there are eyes
4 constantly on the children, their dog, the
5 neighbors, the people up the block.

6 I'll tell you everybody's car.

7 So, maybe it's because I came there; I
8 introduced everybody, I got everybody together.
9 I would think this is what you want; happy
10 neighbors, people getting along. Not cursing
11 them. Not calling them names. Not giving them
12 looks like a 12 year old girl.

13 You know I'm talking to you, Toni, even
14 though you were looking down and writing.

15 I don't get it. I was so happy the first
16 year here. And she was nice to me, too. And
17 then she turned. I don't know. My lifestyle?
18 My attitude? My -- I -- my happiness? My
19 wanting everyone to have a good time, get along?

20 We have dinner together. We have barbecues
21 together. We watch the children. We go shopping
22 together. Isn't that what you want?

23 You don't have that somewhere else.

24 Because I know in a couple of other complexes if
25 they had guns they'd all be dead because they

1 | would shoot one another.

2 | I'm not mentioning no names or any areas
3 | but you know who they are. They fight
4 | constantly. They're arguing constantly. None of
5 | them get along.

6 | This is what you want for your complexes,
7 | for people to get along.

8 | When I first moved there I was told I
9 | couldn't put my barrel with the other barrels. I
10 | wasn't allowed on the grass. God forbid I went
11 | on the grass. And you lived downtown, I hope you
12 | don't bring roaches with you.

13 | MS. GOYANNES: Very true. I have all the
14 | pictures. The birdfeeders. The nuts.

15 | MR. PALLAZZO: Now, --

16 | MS. GOYANNES: The cats.

17 | MR. PALLAZZO: -- I would think that my
18 | garbage can can go with the other garbage cans.
19 | No, because -- Jim, I'm sorry, I'm throwing you
20 | under the bus -- he's got ten garbage cans.

21 | MS. GOYANNES: Um-hum.

22 | MR. PALLAZZO: Why can't my garbage can go
23 | with the rest of the garbage cans?

24 | MS. GOYANNES: My apartment's infested with
25 | ants because I have to have the garbage cans

1 | against the house. Infested with ants.

2 | MR. PALLAZZO: I'm very confused. I'm
3 | really befuddled by this whole situation.

4 | MR. GOYANNES: My daughter can't go on the
5 | grass because it's --

6 | MR. PALLAZZO: And I'd like to know what's
7 | inappropriate behavior. Give me the list.

8 | Now's the time, lawyer. Give me the list
9 | of inappropriate behavior. What do you consider
10 | inappropriate? Give it to us. Let us have it.

11 | MR. TARELLA: Actually I think I did when I
12 | spoke.

13 | MS. DILLON: Mr. Morejon?
14 | Can't speak from there.

15 | MR. PALLAZZO: No you didn't.
16 | Inappropriate isn't inappropriate.
17 | Am I done now? Am I finished?

18 | A VOICE: Six minutes. Sit down.

19 | MR. PALLAZZO: I'm good?

20 | A VOICE: You're a minute over.

21 | MR. PALLAZZO: I'm sorry. Excuse me.

22 | MR. CABELLO: Okay.

23 | MR. PALLAZZO: But thank you.

24 | VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Thank you.

25 | COMMISSIONER JETTER: Thank you.

1 MR. CABELLO: I want to clarify something
2 that you mention.

3 Everything that you say we heard. That's
4 the reason of this meeting. But you state
5 something about lifestyles. We really could care
6 less about lifestyles.

7 MR. PALLAZZO: No, I understand that.

8 MR. CABELLO: You understand.

9 MR. PALLAZZO: Because they all --

10 MR. CABELLO: Oh, I want to be clear.

11 MR. PALLAZZO: -- they all love me, trust
12 me.

13 MR. CABELLO: I want to be clear on that,
14 okay?

15 MR. PALLAZZO: No, no, no, --

16 MR. CABELLO: Thank you.

17 MR. PALLAZZO: -- I understand that.

18 No, I got that.

19 MR. CABELLO: All right.

20 MR. PALLAZZO: It wasn't directed at
21 you, --

22 MR. CABELLO: Okay.

23 MR. PALLAZZO: -- the Board.

24 MR. CABELLO: Okay.

25 MR. PALLAZZO: It was not directed at --

1 No, it was not directed at none of you,
2 none of the Board.

3 MR. CABELLO: Okay. Good.

4 Now, --

5 Anyone else?

6 MS. DILLON: Name and address for the
7 record please?

8 MS. BESHARA: Toni Beshara, 305 44th
9 Street, --

10 MS. DILLON: Thank you.

11 MS. BESHARA: -- 2nd floor.

12 My complaints haven't really been about the
13 barbecues, per se, about anyone congregating, per
14 se. It is when it gets loud or very late and my
15 -- in front of my apartment has been the main
16 hangout for years.

17 Just recently it had gone -- it disbursed a
18 little bit to different porches. I did not
19 complain; didn't call. Figured if some --
20 although I could hear it, quite often, figured
21 okay at least it's not here.

22 Regarding the barbecue, regarding -- the
23 only thing I ever said about the barbecue, if I
24 was complaining about the barbecue was if it's
25 street-side, the smoke crawls right up the wall

1 and into my apartment. It's like I'm inside the
2 barbecue. I asked if you could move it over to
3 the side a little, that's all. And you often
4 argued with me on that that.

5 That's the only problem I have with that
6 barbecue.

7 Recently, --

8 A VOICE: There's a time and place on how
9 to speak to people.

10 MS. BESHARA: There is and, yes, and you
11 have called me an f'ing C many times.

12 MR. MOREJON: You know, ma'am, --

13 A VOICE: But you called me an f'ing B.

14 A VOICE: Let's not --

15 MR. CABELLO: No, wait, wait.

16 MS. DILLON: Wait.

17 MR. MOREJON: Right -- yeah.

18 Right now everybody had an opportunity to
19 speak --

20 A VOICE: Right. Let her talk.

21 MR. MOREJON: -- and let's just leave it at
22 that.

23 And I think when we're done, we have the
24 Captain here and then, you know, if the Board
25 decides then to have a dialogue. But right now

1 | you're getting an opportunity and let's be --

2 | MR. CABELLO: State your case, yeah.

3 | MR. MOREJON: -- respectful of that.

4 | Thank you.

5 | MS. BESHARA: And this sort of behavior --
6 | the problems started when it began several years
7 | -- three, four years ago to congregate in front
8 | of my apartment.

9 | The daytime it did get loud but I rarely,
10 | rarely called the Police in the daytime. It's at
11 | nighttime that I would call, usually after
12 | midnight. And then I was told various things,
13 | shut up, close the windows. Sometimes the
14 | windows are closed, the air condition on, the TV
15 | on and I could still hear it.

16 | Just recently there was a barbecue, it got
17 | quite loud and I was one of the ones who called.
18 | And then remnants of that began to move right in
19 | front of my apartment.

20 | As a matter of fact, June 6, the table --
21 | it used to be a tent, then it became like a
22 | picnic table, usually it goes up like clockwork
23 | in April and down in October. This time the --
24 | it was delayed, it did not go up right away and
25 | people were going to the different porches. As

1 of June 5th the table went up and there's a lot of
2 activity in front of my apartment again.

3 And lots of -- even when there's only a few
4 people, quite often, it's F, MF -- the full words
5 -- right -- you can hear this inside my
6 apartment. Even if it's just a few people, they
7 can get very loud.

8 If it's -- you know how small the gardens
9 are, if there's six to ten people under your
10 window, do you have any idea how maddening that
11 is when -- especially when you add liquor. Six
12 to ten people hanging out, add liquor, imagine
13 what it sounds like.

14 Just the other day the -- I don't know if
15 there was liquor or not. I do know Eddie drinks
16 almost every day but I didn't see a whole lot of
17 liquor.

18 A VOICE: Don't be saying that Eddie drinks
19 every day.

20 MR. CABELLO: Okay.

21 A VOICE: Okay?

22 MR. CABELLO: Please. Please.

23 Let's make a note --

24 A VOICE: That's not -- that's not fair.
25 He's not here.

1 A VOICE: That's not true. He's not here
2 to defend himself.

3 A VOICE: All right? 'Cause he's not here
4 to defend himself.

5 MS. BESHARA: The point, there's liquor
6 present. Sometimes the liquor is discretely, you
7 know, hidden. However, imagine how much -- just
8 the other day, on Saturday, no less than 12 hours
9 -- again, it wasn't always a full house, people
10 coming, going, coming, going. But it was the
11 hangout for 12 hours.

12 Okay?

13 And I did have the windows open. There's
14 was no -- it's the hangout that bothers me; not
15 that people are sitting anywhere in particular.
16 It's the hangout. And then it gets very loud.

17 If it's down the corner, most of the time I
18 don't call. And you can check the Police
19 reports. Very rare.

20 Okay?

21 It's when it gets too long, too loud or in
22 front of my house, too long, too loud or too
23 late.

24 In the wintertime it was being brought
25 inside. This winter not so much. And I have

1 | said that. It has improved. But, we're back to
2 | full activity again.

3 | A VOICE: Are we gonna be able to rebut any
4 | of this?

5 | MR. CABELLO: Let her finish.

6 | A VOICE: Oh, okay.

7 | MS. BESHARA: You know and that's that.

8 | The language that, even in a normal
9 | conversation, -- and some of these people work at
10 | the Board of Education --

11 | MS. DILLON: Five minutes.

12 | A VOICE: I do. I do.

13 | MS. BESHARA: Okay?

14 | A VOICE: Your point?

15 | MR. CABELLO: Okay, wait, wait, wait.
16 | Please.

17 | Okay. Thank you.

18 | Now before we open for -- if the Board
19 | chooses to --

20 | Oh, I'm sorry, Jimmy?

21 | MR. MADONNA: Yeah, I guess I'll --

22 | MR. CABELLO: Okay, sure.

23 | MR. MADONNA: -- say something.

24 | Since you brought me into it.

25 | MR. PALLAZZO: I'm sorry, Jimmy.

1 MR. MADONNA: Good evening. I want to
2 thank the Board for giving me the opportunity to
3 come here and speak.

4 MS. DILLON: Your name, sir?

5 MR. MADONNA: I'm here because I received a
6 notice.

7 MS. DILLON: Your name?

8 MR. MADONNA: My name is James Madonna.

9 MS. DILLON: And your address?

10 MR. MADONNA: 306 44th Street.

11 MS. DILLON: Thank you, sir.

12 MR. MADONNA: I've been living on 44th
13 Street over 50 years. I've worked very hard over
14 the 50 years to keep the neighborhood decent as
15 well as you can.

16 I initiated neighborhood crime watch. I
17 encouraged over the years the Housing Authority
18 to put up fencing to secure the behind the
19 buildings so we didn't have homeless people or
20 guys leaving the bar going back there. I
21 instituted the Housing Authority -- requested the
22 Housing Authority to put up lighting to also not
23 have that situation and they did that and it's
24 worked wonderful over the years.

25 I'm here, basically, because I have to say

1 that for many years 44th Street was considered one
2 of the nicest blocks you could live on. But the
3 past three or four years I'm afraid it has gotten
4 out of hand. People being extremely loud and
5 when they start drinking it really gets
6 obnoxious.

7 On top of that you have profanity. Believe
8 me, I've been ironworker or truck driver and I
9 never heard cursing like that in my life. And
10 thank God my children are married and gone.

11 But anyway I'm here to say that the quality
12 of life has gotten, in the past three years,
13 absolutely horrendous.

14 Now since this incidents have started it
15 has subsided a little, thank God. I keep my
16 windows down and my storm windows down. My air
17 condition's running; my TV on. Many a time I can
18 hear them like they were right outside my door.
19 I mean nobody objects to people having parties
20 and get-togethers. We've been doing that for
21 over 50 years, people getting together and
22 sitting down talking and everything else.

23 As far as children goes, nobody bothers any
24 children. We have never -- we've always had
25 children in the neighborhood. We got a beautiful

1 park right there on 44th Street; it's a water
2 park. You could take your child right there.
3 There's a guy that watches the park and
4 everything else. There shouldn't be any problem.

5 I would hope that something could be done
6 to just bring back the quality of life.

7 Now someone did mention about kids can't go
8 on the grass. I don't know if they're referring
9 to my -- behind where I live. I have a large
10 area there; just so happens the way the buildings
11 are laid out. But when I moved there it was a
12 lot with weeds, rocks, stone, car tires, pieces
13 of lumber from construction. Over the years I
14 cleaned it up, I planted shrubs, I put down sod.
15 I made it really a nice thing to look at.

16 I've never told a child that they couldn't
17 go on the grass. Never. A child can't hurt
18 grass walking on it; it's impossible. Yeah we're
19 gonna play soccer on it, then maybe I'd have an
20 objection 'cause that tears up the grass. But
21 anyway I don't know what that's about.

22 All I know is that their -- the drinking
23 encourages the volume going up and I just hope
24 that that could be brought under control.

25 Most people just want to live in the

1 neighborhood, raise their kids, send them to
2 school. That's what most people are looking for.
3 I don't think anybody's looking to really punish
4 anybody for having a good time or having a party
5 or a barbecue. We've been barbecuing for years.

6 Sometimes you got to watch where you
7 barbecue, that may be true. I have a barbecue
8 but it's away from the building and the smoke has
9 never bothered -- if it bothered someone, I would
10 move it.

11 Someone complained that I got too many
12 garbage cans. I have a few garbage cans. I have
13 one can that I use for the lawn clippings and
14 flower clippings. I have two recycling cans
15 'cause I recycle.

16 I don't know what you want me to do. You
17 want me to eliminate garbage cans? I'll
18 eliminate garbage can.

19 Some of the -- the one barrel I have down
20 the alleyway a little bit, I use that to store
21 certain things that don't have to be brought into
22 the house.

23 Over the years I've spent a lot of time and
24 a lot of money to make it a thing that you look
25 out your back window and you enjoy looking at the

1 | flowers and the plants. Unfortunately my wife is
2 | handicap; she's in a wheelchair.

3 | MS. DILLON: Five minutes.

4 | MR. MADONNA: Oh, I'm sorry.

5 | She's in a wheelchair. So I do a lot of
6 | it, maintaining it, so that she can enjoy it.

7 | And I do have a birdfeeder in the back of
8 | the yard, 'cause she enjoys watching the birds
9 | eat the birdseed.

10 | Okay, thank you very much.

11 | I'm sorry I went over my time.

12 | MR. CABELLO: No, that's okay.

13 | VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Thank you.

14 | Thank you, sir.

15 | MR. CABELLO: Okay, did we miss anyone else
16 | back that there wants to address --

17 | MS. MUNDORF: I just wanted to say --

18 | MR. CABELLO: Sure.

19 | MS. DILLON: Wait, you have to come back.

20 | MR. PALLAZZO: You gotta go back.

21 | MS. DILLON: Just so I can get your
22 | comments on the record.

23 | MS. MUNDORF: I didn't know I gotta go
24 | back.

25 | MS. DILLON: That's all right. Just state

1 | your name for me.

2 | MS. MUNDORF: Debra Mundorf.

3 | MS. DILLON: Thank you.

4 | MS. MUNDORF: I just want to say about what
5 | Toni was saying that there's constant drinking.

6 | I'm 61 years old. I drink. I'll have some
7 | wine, some beer, whatever but -- we all do. And,
8 | of course, when you do drink you do get a little
9 | loud.

10 | Now Nancy had a barbecue last Saturday
11 | night.

12 | Am I correct, Nancy? Was it last Saturday?

13 | A VOICE: The day of the fight.

14 | MS. CRESPO: The day of the fight.

15 | MS. MUNDORF: I didn't go to the barbecue.
16 | My mom had just passed away. So I wasn't in the
17 | mood. I didn't go.

18 | Now my bedroom is here. The party was
19 | right across the street from me. Nancy's right
20 | across the street from me. I went to sleep.
21 | Closed my windows and that was it.

22 | But we do not drink every day. No. You're
23 | wrong with that.

24 | That's all I have to say.

25 | MR. CABELLO: Thank you.

1 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Thank you
2 ma'am. Thank you.

3 MR. CABELLO: Okay.

4 MR. MOREJON: Okay, you want to --

5 Everybody who wants to speak initially has
6 spoken, right?

7 MR. CABELLO: Okay. Now, I'd like to --
8 Mr. Attorney, you asked why the police officer is
9 here. As you see we have different --

10 MR. TARELLA: I didn't ask.

11 MR. CABELLO: Okay, no when -- with your
12 opening statement that this is a matter for the
13 landlord, not the Police. Well the issues have
14 been brought that the Police hasn't been
15 responding and when they go there they don't see
16 things, et cetera. That's why we decided to have
17 the Captain here. Which the Chief could not make
18 it; he was busy with a fire.

19 And we also want to avoid any fistfights
20 here, so we figured we'd have that.

21 CAPTAIN LUSTER: So I guess I'm the muscle
22 today.

23 MR. PALLAZZO: You brought the right one.
24 You brought the right one.

25 MR. CABELLO: Tough.

1 MR. PALLAZZO: You brought the right one.

2 MS. DILLON: Just your name for the record?

3 MR. CABELLO: For the record.

4 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Sure. It's Captain
5 Nichelle Luster.

6 MS. DILLON: Thank you.

7 CAPTAIN LUSTER: I probably will be a
8 little over five minutes.

9 MS. DILLON: I'm not --

10 MR. CABELLO: That's all right Nichelle.

11 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Just teasing.

12 MR. CABELLO: No, no, --

13 MS. DILLON: -- timing you.

14 MR. MOREJON: Nobody's going to tell you
15 that you're over time.

16 MR. CABELLO: Yeah, I don't think we want
17 to --

18 MR. PALLAZZO: She's gotta gun.

19 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay, some familiar faces;
20 some not familiar faces. I'll start kind of
21 generically.

22 I do a lot of community meetings within the
23 area. And I'll describe kind of what the Police
24 function is and how we deal with some of the
25 problems that we get within neighborhoods or

1 within Housing complexes because it's not unusual
2 for us to become involved in neighbor/neighbor
3 disputes.

4 Let me just first start by saying what
5 you're describing doesn't sound like it's an
6 insurmountable problem. I think that -- I don't
7 necessarily think that it's a Police issue; I
8 think that it's a neighbor/neighbor issue. But,
9 again, the Police Department in Union City we're
10 full service. We kind of get involved in
11 everything regardless of whether it's a Police
12 matter or not.

13 So, that being said, noise complaints,
14 public drinking, that kind of thing. A lot of
15 times what happens is people will ask, well is
16 there any time that it's -- that there's a cut-
17 off for the noise?

18 Our standard answer is usually 10 p.m.
19 However, we're big proponents of quality of life
20 within Union City.

21 So, say for example I work nights. If my
22 neighbor is having a raucous party out in the
23 garden area or upstairs and it's one o'clock in
24 the afternoon and I can't sleep or it's so
25 disturbing to me, I can call the Police at one

1 o'clock in the afternoon and say, hey listen, the
2 neighbors are having a party and I can't sleep,
3 is there anything you can do.

4 The Police Department usually will come
5 over and say, hey listen, the neighbors called
6 and this is what's happening, can you turn down
7 the music and normally the neighbors try and
8 accommodate that.

9 Now we're looking for a reasonable level.
10 I understand everybody has a different level of
11 sensitivity. We get calls about people walking
12 on the ceiling. We get calls about furniture
13 moving, chairs sliding across the floor. So we
14 have to kind of take things -- we live in an
15 urban environment, so we have to be reasonable.

16 I was having a discussion with somebody
17 before. We get calls and complaints from people
18 that live over bars.

19 MR. CABELLO: Yeah.

20 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay, you live over a bar
21 and obviously there's going to be some noise.

22 You live in an urban environment in a
23 Housing complex, upstairs, downstairs, courtyard,
24 you're going to have some noise. That's just
25 part of kind of the nature of living in a city.

1 That being said, we still have to be
2 conscious and conscientious with our neighbors.
3 It doesn't sound like things can't be overcome.
4 It sounds like there needs to be some compromises
5 made. It sounds like the garbage cans are an
6 issue. It sounds like the barbecue's an issue.

7 So, I hear somebody willing to say, okay,
8 I'll cut down on a couple garbage cans and
9 instead of --

10 A lot of times, too, what we find is once
11 somebody's aggravated with the situation, then it
12 doesn't matter what you say, it's normally how
13 you say it.

14 If the barbecue's always in the same spot
15 and I'm to the point where I'm just so annoyed
16 that I'm like I've talked about this before, my
17 house is full of smoke, so I come over and come
18 out and I'm a little bit nasty about asking to
19 move the barbecue, it's because I'm frustrated
20 and I need the barbecue moved because my house is
21 like a smoke pit. But you're frustrated because
22 it's an ongoing issue. So frustrated and
23 frustrated it's never gonna mix.

24 My suggestion to you would be, listen,
25 let's not put the barbecue there anymore. If you

1 know it annoys her, instead of trying to annoy to
2 poke the snake a little bit, let's just never put
3 the barbecue there again.

4 If you know that there's an issue with
5 however many garbage cans you have, let's try and
6 accommodate the neighbors and maybe knock two of
7 the garbage cans.

8 Just because, again, it's about compromise.

9 You're probably never gonna be happy and
10 you're probably never gonna be happy, however, we
11 need to get along. Urban environment. Small
12 close proximity. We need to compromise. We need
13 to accommodate.

14 So, the drinking. And I understand people
15 get upset about, oh they were drinking all night,
16 they were doing this. From a policing
17 perspective, you can sit inside your apartment
18 and drink 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days
19 a year. I have no judgment on that. You want to
20 be a heavy drinker --

21 You throw Eddie's name out there, I don't
22 care. Eddie can sit and drink all day. It
23 doesn't -- it's not disparaging to me. So I
24 understand you trying to defend somebody's honor
25 but it's really not about that.

1 What it's about is public drinking. So
2 public drinking is what is gonna be the issue.
3 And we're talking --

4 Just let me -- let me run through and we'll
5 go --

6 MR. PALLAZZO: Okay, go ahead.

7 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- go through there.

8 Again, not fair, not fair, past is past. I
9 understand. You can talk about raucous parties
10 15 years ago, whatever. We still, as the Police
11 Department, if somebody calls us and says, hey
12 they're having a party, there's public drinking,
13 we go over there -- whether it's, you know, a sea
14 of red Solo cups with beer in it or, you know, a
15 six-pack of Coronas, public drinking is public
16 drinking. Again, we need to be respectful of our
17 neighbors.

18 Now if there's an understanding within a
19 gated area or somebody's backyard, that's one
20 thing. But I'm not hearing an understanding and
21 maybe, again, compromises. It sounds to me like
22 congregating in front of her apartment or her
23 area is an issue.

24 I don't know how much space you have. Can
25 we slide everything to the side. Can we do

1 something -- can we just take the volume down.

2 Can we have our guests and our friends be
3 mindful.

4 Maybe if you guys are out there with red
5 Solo cups and, you know, the level is turned down
6 a little bit, maybe it's not as egregious to her
7 as if you're standing in front of her apartment.

8 I think if you give a little bit and you
9 give a little bit, because right now nobody's
10 gonna win.

11 I can't speak for Housing but I've been
12 around this City a long time. Nobody's getting
13 kicked out. Nobody's going anywhere. We need to
14 come to some type of compromise.

15 I don't know if this is the right forum for
16 it; if you can say, listen, I need you to be at
17 this location on the property. They're not gonna
18 stop having get-togethers; they're not gonna stop
19 having parties.

20 If you say, listen, after ten o'clock --
21 you know, in her defense, I looked at the Police
22 reports and I looked at how many calls for
23 service were made. Yes, she has called but
24 usually the times that she calls, kind of late.

25 So, I get it. I get the issues. But I

1 think at this point now everybody's so
2 aggravated. And I know the issue that you had
3 with your child playing basketball.

4 I think that we've got to the point now
5 where everything is so petty that it's like a
6 scab and you keep picking at it. You guys can go
7 tit for tat back and forth and again, like I
8 said, nobody's gonna win. You can bring up every
9 little thing, she can bring up every little
10 thing, it's gonna accomplish nothing.

11 So we need to come to some type of
12 compromise where you guys can be social, she can
13 have some type of quality of life and we can just
14 kind of move forward.

15 Does anybody think that there's no way to
16 move forward?

17 There's got to be hope.

18 MR. PALLAZZO: On, no, we got hope.

19 A VOICE: We got hope.

20 MR. PALLAZZO: We got hope.

21 CAPTAIN LUSTER: And I think that --

22 MR. PALLAZZO: We need now.

23 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Right.

24 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: And summer's
25 coming, so everybody have to get along together.

1 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Summer is coming. And
2 that's kind of why I think it's --

3 MR. CABELLO: Yeah.

4 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- good timing for the
5 meeting --

6 MR. CABELLO: That's why we decided to --

7 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- to try and get a handle
8 on it.

9 MR. CABELLO: One at a time.

10 CAPTAIN LUSTER: And I'm gonna -- I'm gonna
11 ask you guys to kind of just give me a moment and
12 I'd like to see if -- if you think that
13 compromise is possible.

14 Do you think that there's a workable
15 solution that we can come to some type of
16 understanding?

17 And please don't --

18 I think she's been a little villainized and
19 I get it but I think -- again, I think this has
20 been going so long everybody is just -- so
21 frustrated.

22 So do you think there's a workable
23 solution?

24 MS. BESHARA: There have -- I mean the
25 first couple of years it was going on I tried not

1 to go to Housing. I tried to work directly with
2 them. I used to get along very well with them.

3 CAPTAIN LUSTER: So, --

4 MS. BESHARA: I still care for them.

5 However, the issue is that -- you know they
6 just kind of --

7 MS. DILLON: Just stand up, Miss Beshara,
8 for me. Just stand up.

9 MR. MOREJON: She needs to hear you.

10 MS. DILLON: Just so I can get you on the
11 record better.

12 That's fine.

13 MS. BESHARA: They eschewed any sort of
14 compromise. This is my place. I can do --

15 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay, so --

16 MS. BESHARA: -- what I want in my place.

17 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- we're gonna move
18 forward from that. We're gonna leave the past in
19 the past. We're gonna move forward from that.
20 And we're gonna say today, this coming up weekend
21 moving forward, how do we fix this?

22 Do we say move to the side? Is there an
23 area that would be --

24 MS. BESHARA: There is no -- no, they sit
25 on their little patio. It's still under my

1 window.

2 MR. PALLAZZO: There is a side area.

3 MS. BESHARA: There's a --

4 MR. PALLAZZO: A side --

5 MS. BESHARA: -- courtyard.

6 MR. PALLAZZO: -- common area.

7 MS. BESHARA: After a certain hour it's
8 really got to stop. Because even just
9 conversing, you can -- it's -- you can hear
10 everything that -- for years after ten, eleven --
11 I only call after midnight usually.

12 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Right.

13 MS. BESHARA: You can hear it. You can't
14 have a hangout out in the front after ten
15 o'clock. And these things used to go into the
16 wee hours of the morning.

17 Again, it's improved and in some cases
18 recently it had gone to different areas. I
19 didn't call even if it was loud.

20 CAPTAIN LUSTER: So is there an improvement
21 when there's different areas?

22 MS. BESHARA: Yeah, when it's away from
23 under there, yeah.

24 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay, what's the --

25 MS. BESHARA: After a certain --

1 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- different area that's
2 the improvement?

3 MS. BESHARA: When they go to the different
4 porches and congregate there. I mean if it's
5 gonna be for long term. Nobody cares if you're
6 gonna sit in the front and talk for a little
7 while after dinner. Kids, even the kids when
8 they get nuts, so what, they're gonna get nuts
9 every once in a while. But after a certain hour
10 and for a certain period it can't be just the
11 hangout.

12 And my area was the main area for -- up
13 until a couple of months ago then -- I don't know
14 where the word came from but it was going to
15 different porches. Sometimes still very loud.
16 And I'm telling you, the -- when -- we're talking
17 the language is serious. It's deadly.

18 Have I ever let fly? Sure. But not for
19 three, four, six hours and not at the --

20 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay, so my question to
21 you is other than the immediate area, are you --
22 is there a location --

23 And maybe I'll ask you guys; is there a
24 location that would be ideal other than what
25 she's describing where it would be a little

1 | quieter where it would be beneficial for you guys
2 | to kind of congregate?

3 | Obviously after 11 o'clock, after ten
4 | o'clock you guys -- you know, it's time to take
5 | it inside.

6 | A VOICE: Um-hum.

7 | MS. BESHARA: Well, that's another thing.
8 | I'm sorry.

9 | Taking it inside used to be an all night
10 | thing too.

11 | CAPTAIN LUSTER: Well, then you're gonna
12 | have to get the Police involved.

13 | But let's take baby steps. We're not --
14 | Rome wasn't built in a day. We're not gonna fix
15 | this all at once. But we're gonna try and
16 | compromise. Again, it's compromise.

17 | You can't tell someone that they can't
18 | enjoy their home. And language is language.
19 | What you think is tolerable and acceptable, again
20 | may not be what is their value system or what is
21 | tolerable and acceptable to them. When it starts
22 | to impact your quality of life because of the
23 | volume, again, that's when we need to say
24 | compromise.

25 | But, again, I'll address it to you guys.

1 | Is there an area that we can kind of scooch over
2 | to during -- prior to taking it inside?

3 | MR. PALLAZZO: Okay, can I --

4 | MS. DILLON: Yes, just stand up for me.

5 | VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Yeah, stand
6 | up.

7 | MR. PALLAZZO: You've come to our block.

8 | CAPTAIN LUSTER: Yes.

9 | MR. PALLAZZO: You see we all have a little
10 | section of heaven on the block.

11 | CAPTAIN LUSTER: Right.

12 | MR. PALLAZZO: By Adele and Nancy, on the
13 | side between the other row of houses, there is a
14 | common area. In the back of my house there is a
15 | common area. But even when we go to the common
16 | area --

17 | CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay, so which common
18 | area --

19 | MR. PALLAZZO: It's a problem.

20 | CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- is the least offensive
21 | to her?

22 | MR. PALLAZZO: To her?

23 | MS. BESHARA: When it's over by Nancy --

24 | MR. PALLAZZO: When it's over in back of my
25 | house and then it's offensive to him.

1 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay.

2 MR. PALLAZZO: So we got -- we got no
3 really common common area. We have a common area
4 but --

5 MR. MUNDORF: It's not common.

6 MR. PALLAZZO: -- it's not common.

7 Thank you, Arty.

8 CAPTAIN LUSTER: My suggestion is --

9 MR. PALLAZZO: Because if we sit between
10 307 and 305 in the common area, she's still gonna
11 hear it.

12 MS. BESHARA: Yeah, 'cause I live on the
13 end.

14 MR. PALLAZZO: She's still gonna hear it.

15 CAPTAIN LUSTER: How loud are we being?

16 A VOICE: We're not.

17 MS. BESHARA: Oh. We are.

18 But there's another area, a big yard, by
19 Nancy. And that's on the opposite street on
20 Palisade Avenue.

21 MR. PALLAZZO: That's not a common --

22 MS. BESHARA: It still gets very loud.

23 MR. PALLAZZO: -- area. It's a yard.

24 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay, is it a place that
25 we could --

1 This is the thing. Common area, not common
2 -- we're not talking about a birthday party.
3 Obviously we're using the common areas for
4 birthday parties.

5 We're talking about --

6 MR. PALLOZZO: Yeah.

7 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- hanging out, having a
8 couple drinks --

9 A VOICE: Um-hum.

10 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- in somebody's yard.

11 A VOICE: Um-hum.

12 CAPTAIN LUSTER: What about by Nancy?

13 MS. GOYANNES: The cops still get called.

14 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay, let's -- again,
15 we're gonna -- we're gonna try this.

16 A VOICE: Okay.

17 CAPTAIN LUSTER: This is just --

18 MR. MUNDORF: Yeah.

19 A VOICE: Okay.

20 CAPTAIN LUSTER: We're trying for a
21 solution. We're not trying for perfection, just
22 a solution.

23 A VOICE: Agreed.

24 CAPTAIN LUSTER: If Toni is willing to --

25 MR. MUNDORF: They can come over to 300.

1 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- try and work with us
2 and you're willing to try and work with her and
3 this area is further away, again, then maybe we
4 cut down on the complaints about public drinking,
5 maybe we cut down on the complaints about noise.
6 Let's try it for two weeks. Let's see what
7 happens.

8 Again at the end of the day all we want is
9 you guys to be able to hang out, whether it's in
10 your yard or whatever. It doesn't have to be the
11 common area. The common area, great for the
12 kids, whatever, let them play.

13 A VOICE: Yes.

14 CAPTAIN LUSTER: But, particularly, if
15 you're talking about consuming alcoholic
16 beverages, you don't want to do that in the
17 common area. You want to do that in somebody's
18 yard. There's a less of an issue with the
19 Police.

20 MS. GOYANNES: That's my question.

21 MR. PALLAZZO: All right, yeah, --

22 MS. GOYANNES: What's considered
23 public drinking?

24 MR. CABELLO: Wait. Wait.

25 MR. PALLAZZO: Stand up.

1 MS. DILLON: Wait. Wait. Wait.

2 MR. CABELLO: Wait.

3 Let --

4 MS. GOYANNES: What's considered public
5 drinking?

6 If we're behind our gate, can we still get
7 fined? I just --

8 MR. PALLAZZO: On our little piece of
9 heaven.

10 MS. GOYANNES: I just want to know.

11 CAPTAIN LUSTER: It's quasi-public
12 property, --

13 MS. GOYANNES: Um-hum.

14 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- so yes.

15 MS. GOYANNES: Okay.

16 CAPTAIN LUSTER: You can.

17 MS. GOYANNES: Okay.

18 CAPTAIN LUSTER: However, --

19 MS. GOYANNES: So, if I'm behind my gate,
20 --

21 A VOICE: Right.

22 MS. GOYANNES: -- which is closed off --

23 CAPTAIN LUSTER: In your yard.

24 MS. GOYANNES: -- in the yard, which is
25 completely closed off.

1 CAPTAIN LUSTER: You're fine.

2 MS. GOYANNES: Okay.

3 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Again, you can still get a
4 summons for noise.

5 MS. GOYANNES: Yes, I --

6 A VOICE: Well, yeah.

7 MS. GOYANNES: -- understand that.

8 Um-hum.

9 CAPTAIN LUSTER: So, -- and just so you
10 guys understand, there is a difference between
11 the yard and then the quasi-public property,
12 which is the common area, --

13 MS. GOYANNES: Which is the front.

14 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- which is public
15 drinking.

16 MR. MADONNA: Can I just address that?

17 A VOICE: The common area is not the front.

18 MR. MADONNA: The common area behind my
19 house --

20 MS. DILLON: Just stand -- stand up
21 please, --

22 MR. MADONNA: -- is used --

23 MS. DILLON: -- Mr. Madonna.

24 MR. MADONNA: -- is used as a common area.

25 I have a table and an umbrella.

1 A VOICE: So do I.

2 MR. MADONNA: She has a table and an
3 umbrella.

4 A VOICE: Um hum.

5 MR. MADONNA: Ginny Hunt (phonetic)
6 downstairs has a table and an umbrella.

7 They've had parties back there and kids and
8 everything. Fine. But come 11:30, 12 o'clock at
9 night, --

10 MS. GOYANNES: And I turn it down and he
11 knows it.

12 MR. MADONNA: -- then --

13 In the beginning it wasn't that way.

14 MS. GOYANNES: The minute he throws the
15 garbage out the window, I know it's over. I know
16 it's time to wrap it up and everybody go home.
17 That's my cue.

18 MR. CABELLO: That's a cue. Thanks Jimmy.

19 MS. GOYANNES: That's my cue. That's my
20 cue. I already know.

21 MR. CABELLO: You're very subtle, Jimmy.

22 CAPTAIN LUSTER: And you know what that's
23 fair; 11 o'clock at night --

24 MS. GOYANNES: Yes and we -- we've really
25 never gotten along. But, --

1 MR. CABELLO: But what?

2 MS. GOYANNES: -- he's an elderly man and
3 so is his wife. So I try, sometimes, to give him
4 that respect. So we already know his -- the
5 minute the window goes up, --

6 MR. CABELLO: Captain, I --

7 MS. GOYANNES: -- garbage goes out the
8 window, we know to close it. That's it.

9 MR. CABELLO: I want to clarify about the
10 common areas and the little gardens.

11 You have seen the area, right?

12 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Yes.

13 MR. CABELLO: Really what we refer as
14 common area is like the passways.

15 CAPTAIN LUSTER: The little strip.

16 MR. CABELLO: Right, the strip.

17 The other things in front of each unit, I
18 guess that would be the private area, you know.

19 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Yeah, a lot of times --

20 MR. CABELLO: Have you seen that?

21 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- people think because
22 they're on the pathway inside the gate it's like
23 a free zone. When you play freeze tag or
24 something and you -- you're behind the gate, they
25 can't get me for public drinking. Sure we can.

1 But, again, we enforce what we respond on.
2 So, again, if somebody's calling and saying, hey
3 listen, there's public drinking, we're gonna go
4 and we're gonna take the appropriate action.

5 If somebody calls and says there's a noise
6 complaint, we're gonna go and take the
7 appropriate action.

8 But if we can come to some agreement where
9 you guys move down out of the common area -- and
10 I'll just use that for lack of a better time --
11 by Toni's house and you guys are over in the
12 backyard and that gives her a little more wiggle
13 room, --

14 And again I'm not saying that this is gonna
15 be a full-blown party till 11:30 or 12 o'clock at
16 night; you still have to be respectful of the
17 hours.

18 -- let's try it. Let's see if it works.
19 Let's see if it gives any relief.

20 Move the barbecue. Cut down on the trash
21 cans.

22 I mean I know you've been there for a long
23 time but it seems to be something that's like
24 sticking in peoples' crow, so.

25 MR. PALLAZZO: No, only because I was told

1 I wasn't allowed to put my garbage can over
2 there.

3 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Apparently you're not the
4 only one because I heard an ant comment down
5 there. So, compromise.

6 Yes, ma'am?

7 MS. BESHARA: I have one more issue.

8 During the day --

9 MS. DILLON: Stand up please, Ms. Beshara.

10 MS. BESHARA: Sorry.

11 During the day, if --

12 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Your knees okay?

13 MS. BESHARA: Yeah, it's -- I stepped on
14 something yest--

15 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay.

16 MS. BESHARA: I'm healing. I'm fine.

17 The -- if there's a lot of people, -- again
18 I don't usually complain if there's a lot of
19 people, I come, I go -- in the daytime. But it
20 does get loud. It does get raucous sometimes.

21 However, even that aside, sometimes there's
22 so many people, people then start blocking the
23 stairs. That's the --

24 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Your stairs?

25 MS. BESHARA: The porch stairs. Going up.

1 I can only get to my apartment --

2 CAPTAIN LUSTER: We're gonna make sure that
3 doesn't happen.

4 A VOICE: You know what? You're lying.

5 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Right?

6 A VOICE: You're lying.

7 MR. MUNDORF: We move all the time.

8 A VOICE: It doesn't happen.

9 MR. PALLAZZO: You're lying.

10 MR. CABELLO: Wait. Wait. Wait. Timeout.

11 MR. PALLAZZO: You're lying.

12 A VOICE: She's lying right there.

13 MS. MUNDORF: She even hit my husband with
14 a laundry bag the one time.

15 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Was he sitting on the
16 stairs?

17 MS. MUNDORF: Yes.

18 MR. PALLAZZO: And he moved.

19 MS. MUNDORF: And what she -- he moved but
20 --

21 She almost hit me the other day with the
22 laundry bag walking --

23 A VOICE: No matter --

24 MS. BESHARA: And then now I have --

25 MS. MUNDORF: And everybody moves for you.

1 (Several people speak at once.)

2 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Guys, can we just have a
3 clean -- can we agree --

4 MR. CABELLO: One at a time.

5 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- to have a clean slate?
6 Richie?

7 Thank you.

8 MR. PALLAZZO: Yeah, we had --

9 CAPTAIN LUSTER: I just expected the black
10 suit and the little white collar but I know
11 better.

12 Okay, so clean slate. I get it. It's
13 petty back and forth. We could go back and forth
14 with the stairs, with the blocking, with the
15 laundry bag, with the basketball, with the kids.
16 Stop. Enough. Let's start fresh.

17 MR. PALLAZZO: Okay.

18 CAPTAIN LUSTER: If it doesn't work, it
19 doesn't work. And then we'll revisit it. But at
20 least try. Because now I mean I get it. I get
21 it. We've all had neighbor/neighbor problems. I
22 get it. I understand. However, we got to get
23 passed it. It's gonna be a long summer
24 otherwise.

25 MR. PALLAZZO: Just one thing.

1 MR. CABELLO: Yeah.

2 MR. PALLAZZO: We're not -- it's not that
3 -- the only time strangers, per se, come is if
4 there's a birthday party or --

5 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Right.

6 MR. MUNDORF: Birthday party.

7 MR. PALLAZZO: -- a barbecue.

8 The people she's talking about are the
9 neighbors.

10 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Right.

11 MR. PALLAZZO: We're just the neighbors
12 meeting with the other neighbor --

13 CAPTAIN LUSTER: But --

14 MR. PALLAZZO: -- having coffee. It's not
15 like there's strangers --

16 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- if it --

17 MR. PALLAZZO: -- there --

18 CAPTAIN LUSTER: If it's impacting her
19 quality of life --

20 MR. PALLAZZO: -- and loitering.

21 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- then --

22 A VOICE: What about the cats?

23 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- then we gotta --

24 MR. PALLAZZO: Well, you want to talk about
25 quality of life?

1 CAPTAIN LUSTER: No. We're wrapping up.

2 MR. PALLAZZO: Okay. Because I got a cat
3 issue that will curl your hair.

4 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Is it with her?

5 A VOICE: Yes.

6 MR. PALLAZZO: Well with her and someone
7 else.

8 CAPTAIN LUSTER: All right, so why don't we
9 do this, if there's a cat issue over there, if
10 there's stray cats, if there's feral cats, if
11 we're feeding cats, --

12 A VOICE: Um-hum.

13 CAPTAIN LUSTER: I'm a pet lover.

14 A VOICE: We all are.

15 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Anybody can attest to
16 that.

17 A VOICE: We all are.

18 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay.

19 A VOICE: I got two dogs.

20 A VOICE: I have a dog.

21 MR. PALLAZZO: I'd love, too. I'm just
22 allergic to them.

23 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay. What we can do is
24 this. Unless there's somebody's pet cats -- and
25 I get it, we have neighbors that feed cats all

1 the time.

2 MS. BESHARA: I don't feed the cats.

3 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay.

4 MR. PALLAZZO: No.

5 A VOICE: But you take them in your house.

6 A VOICE: You take them in your house.

7 MS. BESHARA: I just gave him medicine. He
8 just got attacked and --

9 A VOICE: Well, whatever.

10 MS. BESHARA: -- the door -- wait, the door
11 is always open, --

12 A VOICE: You bring them in your house
13 every single day.

14 MS. BESHARA: -- the hall door is always
15 open --

16 MR. CABELLO: Okay, okay.

17 A VOICE: Okay.

18 MR. CABELLO: Ladies. Ladies.

19 MS. BESHARA: -- then he goes upstairs.

20 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay.

21 MR. CABELLO: Ladies. Please.

22 MS. BESHARA: I take the cat out.

23 CAPTAIN LUSTER: I could see treating a
24 sick cat but I also get your point because then
25 you have cats defecating in the yard and --

1 A VOICE: All over the place.

2 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- peeing and stuff like
3 that.

4 A VOICE: It stinks.

5 CAPTAIN LUSTER: So, we have a couple of
6 options.

7 If there's a ton of cats, what we can do is
8 we can have our animal warden come over and what
9 they do is --

10 MR. CABELLO: They remove them.

11 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- they humanely trap
12 them.

13 A VOICE: Um-hum.

14 CAPTAIN LUSTER: They set up the little
15 metal things and they can trap them. They'll
16 take them to the Humane Society. They'll get
17 them medical care, food, shots, everything else.

18 If you're telling me you have like a feral
19 cat problem --

20 MR. PALLAZZO: They're not gonna bring them
21 back though, right?

22 A VOICE: Yes.

23 CAPTAIN LUSTER: No, they don't -- no they
24 don't bring them back.

25 MR. PALLAZZO: Oh, --

1 CAPTAIN LUSTER: They try and treat them,
2 get them better and then place them in homes.

3 MR. PALLAZZO: -- okay.

4 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Yeah, Rich, we're gonna
5 patch them up and then bring them back.

6 So we have that as an option.

7 Or, if it's only one or two cats, if you
8 guys catch them, --

9 A VOICE: There's a lot of them.

10 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- we can bring them over
11 to --

12 MR. MUNDORF: No, there's a lot.

13 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- the Animal --

14 A VOICE: There's a lot.

15 A VOICE: There's a lot of them.

16 A VOICE: It's out of control.

17 MR. PALLAZZO: Seven and two sets of
18 kittens.

19 A VOICE: And then they have the babies.

20 CAPTAIN LUSTER: So, Toni, would you be
21 comfortable with us humanely trapping the cats?

22 MS. BESHARA: Yeah, there's one in
23 particular that's like everybody's cat.

24 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay.

25 MR. PALLAZZO: That one I have no issue

1 with.

2 A VOICE: That was your cat.

3 MR. CABELLO: All right.

4 A VOICE: Nobody's cat.

5 MR. PALLAZZO: I have no issue with.

6 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay, so, --

7 It doesn't matter. Again, --

8 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: One at a time
9 please.

10 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay. And I get it. I
11 get a sick animal. I'm -- my heart, all the
12 time, I can't tell you how much money I spend on
13 pets that were --

14 MR. CABELLO: Tell me about it.

15 CAPTAIN LUSTER: So, we'll get somebody
16 over there to trap the cats.

17 MS. BORRERO: Excuse me?

18 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Yes, ma'am?

19 MS. BORRERO: I have a question.

20 MR. PALLAZZO: Stand up.

21 MS. DILLON: Stand up please.

22 A VOICE: Over here.

23 MS. DILLON: Just state your name for me
24 again.

25 MS. BORRERO: It's Adelaida.

1 MS. DILLON: Thank you.

2 MS. BORRERO: My question is so I'm not
3 allowed to have nobody sit on my side?

4 CAPTAIN LUSTER: No, absolutely you are.

5 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Yeah.

6 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Absolutely you are.

7 All I'm asking is just be mindful. And if
8 you guys are gonna hang out --

9 MR. BORRERO: Because every since I -- I
10 just -- I give -- I lend a table to Evelyn. I
11 just put the table out. Because in the morning
12 there's a lot of sun, so I put my umbrella up.

13 We haven't been staying that late. And you
14 know that.

15 MS. BESHARA: Well, once or twice. But,
16 yes, it's improved. It's improved.

17 MR. CABELLO: All right, let's --

18 MS. BESHARA: It's improved.

19 MS. BORRERO: Anyway, -- anyway, so I am
20 allowed to have --

21 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Absolutely. It's your
22 property, it's your space. All I'm saying is --

23 MS. BORRERO: It's just when people come
24 over, --

25 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- if you guys are going

1 to hang out for a prolonged --

2 Yeah.

3 MS. BORRERO: -- you know, the first thing
4 I say is don't even look at her.

5 MR. PALLAZZO: We don't.

6 MS. BORRERO: You know, just don't say
7 comments. Don't --

8 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Can I make a suggestion?

9 MS. BORRERO: Um-hum.

10 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Can we try and turn the
11 clock back a couple years and maybe embrace her
12 back into the fold?

13 I know -- I know that the answer is
14 probably gonna be --

15 Extend the invitation.

16 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: And you can
17 come down and join --

18 COMMISSIONER DeMARTINEZ: Yeah.

19 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: -- you know
20 the barbecue --

21 A VOICE: She did.

22 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: -- with
23 them --

24 MS. BORRERO: She used to. She used to.

25 CAPTAIN LUSTER: So, let's turn the --

1 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: You know, just
2 try new --

3 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- let's turn the clock
4 back.

5 MS. BORRERO: She used to.

6 MR. CABELLO: So what happened that this
7 split came about?

8 A VOICE: -- with everybody else.

9 MS. BORRERO: Ever since --

10 Listen, I'm gonna be there nine years. She
11 used to come down. I mean, yeah, I was warned
12 before I moved in that she was a pain in the ass.
13 But --

14 A VOICE: Um-hum. Me, too.

15 MS. BORRERO: But --

16 A VOICE: Um-hum.

17 MS. BORRERO: You know, yeah, we had our
18 issues here and there but we dealt with one
19 another.

20 Ever since -- I never spoke to Debbie. I
21 never spoke to Evelyn, until Richie came along.
22 So I guess it's Richie fault.

23 MR. PALLAZZO: It's my fault.

24 MS. BORRERO: But anyway that's when
25 everything started.

1 CAPTAIN LUSTER: So, let's do this.

2 Let's --

3 MR. MUNDORF: Get rid of Richie.

4 CAPTAIN LUSTER: People have been trying
5 for years, it doesn't work.

6 MR. PALLAZZO: Thank you.

7 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Let's --

8 MR. PALLAZZO: Thank you.

9 MS. BORRERO: So, I -- I mean I do agree if
10 we --

11 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Try to --

12 MS. BORRERO: -- you know could come into a
13 compromise. Okay, I'm down with that. I'll do
14 that. No problem.

15 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Enjoy your property. Just
16 be mindful --

17 MS. BORRERO: Okay, I just -- to make it
18 clear, --

19 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Uh-huh.

20 MS. BORRERO: -- here, just to -- to just
21 leave us alone.

22 CAPTAIN LUSTER: I think --

23 MS. BORRERO: I don't want her to bug.

24 CAPTAIN LUSTER: I think that's clear. I
25 think that at this point I think the message --

1 MS. BORRERO: It's just --

2 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- is loud and clear.

3 MS. BORRERO: You know what it is? It's
4 just that it's not as -- excuse me, can I speak
5 to you on the side? Oh, no, she's nasty.

6 MR. PALLAZZO: Um-hum.

7 MS. BORRERO: It's the way she does it.

8 CAPTAIN LUSTER: And, again, --

9 MS. BORRERO: You know what I'm saying?

10 MR. PALLAZZO: And you're dealing with a
11 lot of personalities.

12 MS. BORRERO: It's like excuse me, can I
13 speak to you on the side or could I -- or, Eddie,
14 can I speak --

15 No, that's not the way she handles things.
16 She's very nasty.

17 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Sometimes --

18 MS. BORRERO: Very nasty.

19 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- there's a reason for
20 everything. You may not know her reason. And I
21 -- that doesn't --

22 MS. BORRERO: Yes, I know.

23 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- I'm not saying that
24 that's the case --

25 MS. BORRERO: Um-hum.

1 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- but everybody has a
2 story; sometimes you don't know what it is.

3 I would just say patience, peace, --

4 MS. BORRERO: Okay, I'm willing -- I'm
5 willing --

6 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Let's try.

7 MS. BORRERO: -- I am willing to do that.
8 I'm saying it right here that I'm willing to do
9 that.

10 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: You're all
11 adults -- you're all adults.

12 MR. CABELLO: How about the rest --

13 MS. BESHARA: May I also --

14 MS. BORRERO: Okay. I am willing to do.

15 MR. CABELLO: -- of the people?

16 MS. BESHARA: -- respond?

17 MS. BORRERO: I have another -- I have
18 another question.

19 A VOICE: I live on the corner.

20 MS. BORRERO: I have another question.

21 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Yes?

22 MS. BORRERO: Well, I guess, Waldo.

23 Am I allowed to put -- I know in my house I
24 could put like cameras in my house. Can I put it
25 outside?

1 MR. CABELLO: You mean you personally?

2 A VOICE: Yes.

3 A VOICE: Yes.

4 A VOICE: Like we'll all chip in and pay
5 for it.

6 MR. MORIN: The attorney --

7 MR. CABELLO: I think that's an attorney
8 issue.

9 MS. BORRERO: Can you let me know?

10 MR. CABELLO: Mr. Attorney?

11 MS. CRESPO: That would be great for
12 everything. Accidents.

13 MR. MOREJON: So, you -- you throw it at
14 me?

15 MR. MORIN: Yeah.

16 MR. CABELLO: No, no, I mean --

17 (Several people speak at once.)

18 MR. MOREJON: Well, the question's really a
19 Board policy. It's --

20 MR. MORIN: Okay, we have to look into
21 that.

22 MR. MOREJON: You have to consider --

23 MS. BORRERO: Okay, just let me know.

24 MR. CABELLO: Yeah, we'll address that and
25 we'll let you know.

1 MS. BORRERO: 'Cause I could do it in my
2 apartment.

3 MR. MOREJON: These properties are
4 different than these properties here.

5 MS. BORRERO: Yeah.

6 MR. MUNDORF: Right.

7 MR. CABELLO: No, you're talking about
8 putting a camera inside your apartment?

9 MR. MORIN: No outside.

10 (Several people speak at once.)

11 MS. BORRERO: No.

12 I'm putting -- I'm putting some in my
13 apartment but I'm talking about outside.

14 CAPTAIN LUSTER: The --

15 MR. CABELLO: Well, --

16 Go ahead.

17 CAPTAIN LUSTER: The problem that we've had
18 is depending on how the camera is angled to --

19 MR. CABELLO: Yeah.

20 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- you may be --

21 MS. BORRERO: No, I just want to --

22 MR. CABELLO: Intrusion.

23 MR. PALLAZZO: And now I know why you
24 looked at me.

25 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Yes.

1 A VOICE: It will be towards the building.

2 MS. BORRERO: I just want it towards --

3 A VOICE: The building.

4 MS. BORRERO: -- my section. Not --

5 MR. CABELLO: No, you know what, I'm glad
6 you brought that up.

7 A VOICE: The common area.

8 MR. CABELLO: We're going to address that
9 in another manner the camera issues.

10 A VOICE: Okay.

11 MS. BORRERO: Okay.

12 MR. CABELLO: Okay?

13 So let's put that to rest.

14 MS. BORRERO: Now who do I give the letter
15 to?

16 MR. CABELLO: Just drop it to anyone here.

17 MS. BORRERO: I need to know for my
18 daughters --

19 MR. MORIN: Give it to me. Yeah.

20 MR. CABELLO: Now, Captain, before --
21 before we wrap it up, one question that's been
22 always brought up, there's drinking and all the
23 noise.

24 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Um-hum.

25 MR. CABELLO: They call the Police. The

1 | Police gets there, the booze gone.

2 | CAPTAIN LUSTER: Right.

3 | MR. CABELLO: And they complain the --

4 | A VOICE: No, they see it.

5 | MR. CABELLO: -- Police don't do anything.

6 | A VOICE: No, they see it.

7 | MR. CABELLO: So what is the position of
8 | the police officer in that situation?

9 | CAPTAIN LUSTER: Okay.

10 | MR. CABELLO: Once they arrive to a
11 | location and there's nothing happening.

12 | CAPTAIN LUSTER: If we arrive and we don't
13 | see any alcohol, we cannot issue a summons.
14 | That's something that we physically have to see.

15 | However, --

16 | MS. BORRERO: But that's happened -- I'm
17 | sorry.

18 | CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- noise --

19 | MS. BORRERO: That's happened many times,
20 | too.

21 | CAPTAIN LUSTER: Noise is an exception to
22 | that rule.

23 | If we get called and somebody is making
24 | noise and we get there and we don't hear the
25 | noise and we meet with the complainant who's

1 called it in and --

2 Normally what happens, say we go, there's a
3 party, there's music, we say turn down the music,
4 they comply, they turn down the music, we get
5 called back again, we get there, we don't hear
6 anything and the person that called us says, hey,
7 listen, just before you guys got here they turned
8 it down or --

9 A VOICE: Yeah.

10 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- somebody was down the
11 block and they said, hey the Police are coming
12 turn down the music, so they turn down the music,
13 the person that called us back is more than
14 welcome to sign a criminal complaint for the
15 noise.

16 If we don't hear it, again, we cannot sign
17 it; however, the complainant or the reporting
18 party is more than welcome to sign it.

19 So just because we don't hear it, doesn't
20 mean that it can't be signed but we won't be the
21 issuing authority.

22 MR. CABELLO: Is everybody clear on that?
23 Because I know that was --

24 MR. PALLAZZO: Yes.

25 A VOICE: Yup.

1 MR. CABELLO: -- an issue that --

2 Okay.

3 MS. BORRERO: Oh, I got one more question.

4 I'm sorry.

5 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Is it a nice question?

6 MS. BORRERO: Yeah.

7 Is it illegal for me to smoke outside any
8 time at night?

9 MR. CABELLO: Depends what you're smoking.

10 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Is it illegal to smoke
11 outside?

12 MR. MUNDORF: She has three children.

13 CAPTAIN LUSTER: It's --

14 MR. CABELLO: Depends what she smokes.

15 MS. BORRERO: I cannot smoke --

16 Cigarettes. Cigarettes.

17 MR. PALLAZZO: No, we're talking about
18 cigarettes.

19 A VOICE: No, cigarettes.

20 CAPTAIN LUSTER: This is considered public
21 property, right?

22 MS. BORRERO: Cigarettes. Yeah,
23 cigarettes.

24 (Several people speak at once.)

25 MS. DILLON: Wait. Wait. Wait.

1 One at a time please.

2 MS. BORRERO: I'm sorry.

3 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Housing property is public
4 property.

5 Correct?

6 A VOICE: Um-hum.

7 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Then you have to be -- I
8 don't recall if it's -- if it's a hundred feet,
9 500 feet, you have to be away from public
10 property.

11 I don't know if it is the same for Housing
12 Authority but I know strict compliance with the
13 Clean Air Act for public property, like a city
14 building or something like that, you have to be
15 50 feet or 75 feet from the building.

16 I don't know if the same applies; if
17 there's an exception --

18 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: A hundred
19 feet.

20 MR. CABELLO: We don't have any exceptions
21 from that.

22 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- for Housing.

23 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: It should be a
24 hundred feet.

25 CAPTAIN LUSTER: So, I don't know if the

1 same applies.

2 MR. CABELLO: We'll look into that.

3 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Because a lot of times
4 what happens with the Clean Air Act is say --
5 like you'll see it in a building, if you're a
6 non-smoker and somebody's standing in front of
7 the door and you have to walk through the cloud
8 of smoke, --

9 MR. PALLAZZO: Um-hum.

10 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- so that's why they put
11 that space. It may be the same with Housing
12 because --

13 MR. CABELLO: We'll --

14 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- it goes into peoples'
15 windows.

16 MR. CABELLO: We'll have our attorney check
17 that out --

18 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Yeah.

19 MR. CABELLO: -- and get back.

20 Okay?

21 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: All right?

22 MR. PALLAZZO: Thank you.

23 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Um-hum.

24 MR. MUNDORF: One issue --

25 A VOICE: I sweep the butts.

1 MR. MUNDORF: -- about the cats.

2 MS. DILLON: Wait. Wait. Wait. Wait.

3 You have to come forward, sir.

4 MR. MUNDORF: How quick will that be

5 done --

6 MS. DILLON: Sir?

7 MR. MUNDORF: -- with the cats?

8 MS. DILLON: Sir?

9 A VOICE: Art, your name.

10 A VOICE: Arty, you gotta put --

11 MR. MUNDORF: Oh, I'm sorry.

12 MS. DILLON: And could just step forward

13 and give me your name and address?

14 MR. MUNDORF: Arthur Mundorf, 300 44th

15 Street.

16 About the cats, how long will it take for

17 somebody to come over?

18 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Today is Tuesday?

19 MR. MUNDORF: Tuesday.

20 A VOICE: Um-hum.

21 CAPTAIN LUSTER: It depends. I'll reach

22 out for Geoff Santini. He's our animal warden.

23 And hopefully either this week or next week.

24 MR. MUNDORF: Thank you.

25 CAPTAIN LUSTER: You're welcome, sir.

1 MR. MOREJON: Was that about cats?

2 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Yes.

3 MR. MOREJON: I'm sorry; I was writing my
4 notes.

5 I know -- I live in Troy Towers and I know
6 there's a gentleman there, --

7 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Yes.

8 MR. MOREJON: -- Tomas --

9 No.

10 You know who I'm talking about; right?

11 CAPTAIN LUSTER: I know who you're talking
12 about, yes.

13 MR. PALLAZZO: Fernando Portes.

14 MR. MOREJON: Fernando Portes.

15 And he's undertaken a whole movement of --

16 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Trapping and --

17 MR. MOREJON: Yeah.

18 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Yes.

19 MR. MOREJON: I mean you're aware of that,
20 right?

21 Oh, okay.

22 Is that somebody that you deal with or --

23 CAPTAIN LUSTER: We have peripherally
24 because there was some issues with him and the
25 neighbors.

1 MR. MOREJON: Okay, I didn't know. I
2 didn't know if it was a friendly -- or not.

3 CAPTAIN LUSTER: I think it is friendly.
4 Normally our first call would be our animal
5 warden.

6 MR. MOREJON: Yeah. Yeah.

7 CAPTAIN LUSTER: It's very humane. They
8 don't -- yeah.

9 MR. MOREJON: No, I know --
10 I just raise that because I know in my
11 neighborhood they would -- you know I didn't --
12 it was raised and there was --

13 CAPTAIN LUSTER: You guys had a huge
14 problem.

15 MR. MOREJON: Right.

16 And then it was addressed and I didn't --
17 you know, I was listening -- I heard peripherally
18 about it but, it's true, you should go through
19 the proper channels. I think this gentleman
20 is --

21 MR. MUNDORF: Without a doubt. We -- you
22 know --

23 MR. MOREJON: Yeah, this gentleman is --

24 MR. MUNDORF: I got a cat.

25 MR. MOREJON: This gentleman has done it --

1 MR. MUNDORF: These people have dogs.

2 MR. MOREJON: -- he's done it kind of on
3 his own --

4 MR. MUNDORF: We love animals.

5 MR. MOREJON: -- he's done it on his own
6 some approval but --

7 CAPTAIN LUSTER: My --

8 MR. MOREJON: -- just figured --

9 CAPTAIN LUSTER: My only request for you
10 guys would be patience, give it a little bit of
11 time to work. And remember, at the end of the
12 day, nobody is going to be completely happy.
13 It's a matter of compromise.

14 You're not gonna be happy. They're not
15 gonna be happy. It's gonna be compromise. It's
16 gonna be baby steps.

17 And, again, it's a city urban environment.
18 We live in close quarters, we have close
19 neighbors. The Police Department is always here,
20 always available to answer questions or to come
21 out and try to mediate if need be.

22 But I would say please, give it some time
23 and try and move forward from the past. If you
24 keep dwelling on everything that's happened, none
25 of the angst or anger or frustration is gonna go

1 away, it's just gonna continue to fester and
2 we'll never move forward.

3 MR. PALLAZZO: Okay, I'm good.

4 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Thank you.

5 A VOICE: Thank you.

6 MR. CABELLO: Thank you, Captain.

7 MR. PALLAZZO: Thank you.

8 MR. CABELLO: Now, before --

9 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: That's all we
10 have for this meeting.

11 MR. CABELLO: -- before wrap it up, yeah,
12 do you have anything to say, Mr. -- counselor,
13 would you like to address the --

14 MR. TARELLA: No, --

15 MR. CABELLO: No?

16 Okay, thank you.

17 Now everyone had questions why we sent
18 letters. Well, this was the reason, to try to
19 resolve this here.

20 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Um-hum.

21 MR. CABELLO: We have tried to resolve this
22 in this manner because the next time we'll bring
23 everybody to court and that's going to be really
24 create a problem for everybody because everyone
25 has a story, like the Captain said we all have a

1 story.

2 And hopefully, if there is any issues,
3 we'll resolve it on each case. Okay? Rather
4 than the insults and all stuff like that. You
5 know?

6 Now as far as the drinking, we're clear,
7 they can drink there in front of their house, the
8 private property, --

9 I'm not too clear on that.

10 MR. MORIN: The rear of the yard.

11 CAPTAIN LUSTER: In a yard area that's
12 individually fenced.

13 A VOICE: In a fence.

14 MR. CABELLO: Not on the common --

15 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Not the main fenced area
16 but an individually fenced area.

17 A VOICE: Um-hum.

18 MR. CABELLO: So --

19 MR. PALLAZZO: So in our little section of
20 heaven?

21 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Yes.

22 MR. CABELLO: In front of your house, for
23 example.

24 A VOICE: Yes.

25 CAPTAIN LUSTER: It's fenced.

1 A VOICE: Okay.

2 A VOICE: Yes. Everything is fenced.

3 MR. CABELLO: Yes, sir?

4 Go on.

5 MS. DILLON: Come forward.

6 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Can I say
7 something?

8 MR. CABELLO: Sure, Marga --

9 Wait, let's --

10 MR. MUNDORF: We were told -- we were told
11 by the police officer take the drinking to the
12 back of the building.

13 A VOICE: 'Cause it's in the back --

14 MR. MUNDORF: Because that way people in
15 the public wouldn't see us.

16 Well, it's usually in the cups, so they
17 won't see the --

18 But he told us to take it to the back of
19 the building --

20 MR. CABELLO: I don't think --

21 MR. MUNDORF: -- and don't drink in the
22 front.

23 MR. CABELLO: I think the main issue with
24 the drinking is that it gets louder.

25 MR. MUNDORF: Oh, yeah.

1 A VOICE: Yeah.

2 MR. MUNDORF: Yeah. Well, --

3 MR. CABELLO: That's what I --

4 CAPTAIN LUSTER: My suggestion is we not
5 have --

6 MR. PALLAZZO: I know I --

7 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- any kind of --

8 MR. CABELLO: I know you talk loud anyway.

9 MR. PALLAZZO: I know I got a big mouth.

10 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- anyplace that's visible
11 from the street, --

12 A VOICE: Yes.

13 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- you're not gonna want
14 to be out with a Corona bottle --

15 A VOICE: Um-hum.

16 MR. MUNDORF: No, it's usually in a cup and
17 the bottles go --

18 CAPTAIN LUSTER: It should be in a private
19 area, as opposed to quasi-public.

20 MR. MUNDORF: Recycle; right there, right?

21 MR. CABELLO: But you were complaining
22 about Jimmy's cans, with the recycling.

23 MR. PALLAZZO: No, I was.

24 MR. CABELLO: Oh, -- oh, you were.

25 All right, Mr. Attorney, would you like

1 to --

2 MR. MOREJON: Yeah, Captain, I had to step
3 out to take a call. I heard about the --

4 MS. DILLON: Captain, can I ask you to come
5 back to the mic?

6 MR. MOREJON: There was -- I stepped out
7 because somebody called me; there was some
8 explosion in West New York. You'll probably find
9 out more when you leave here.

10 But, you know, a lot of different things
11 were discussed. The air was cleared, a strategy
12 devised.

13 If they see violations of your suggestions,
14 -- like if they're -- people are drinking in
15 public where you shouldn't be, was there --
16 encourage to call the Police or resolve it?

17 How was that left? Do you know?

18 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Well, --

19 MR. PALLAZZO: Speak to one another.

20 CAPTAIN LUSTER: That --

21 MR. MOREJON: I'm only asking only because
22 I wasn't here. I'm sorry.

23 CAPTAIN LUSTER: My suggestion would be be
24 good neighbors, --

25 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Um-hum.

1 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- speak to one another.

2 However, --

3 A VOICE: Friends, yes.

4 CAPTAIN LUSTER: -- I think that sometimes
5 when things have escalated to a certain point
6 it's counterproductive to speak to each other and
7 have a face to face confrontation.

8 If it's something where -- I don't know how
9 comfortable Toni's gonna be; I'm hoping that
10 things are going to resolve themselves. Where if
11 she saw something that she thought were
12 offensive, where should just say, listen, you
13 know, it's -- the public drinking is making me
14 uncomfortable or something like that.

15 If she's comfortable doing that and the
16 person is receptive to that and going inside,
17 then I'm all for being neighborly and having a
18 conversation.

19 If it's not a situation where it can be
20 resolved like that I would encourage calling the
21 Police. We'll come over. If we observe the
22 violation, we'll certainly take the appropriate
23 action.

24 What I would say is if it continues to be
25 an issue and there continues to be noise

1 | complaints, at some point it is going to wind up
2 | escalating to legal issues.

3 | What's gonna happen is we're gonna continue
4 | as the Police Department to respond. We're gonna
5 | continue to generate complaints. We're gonna
6 | continue to document things. Whether the Police
7 | Department finds the noise to be a credible
8 | complaint, whether somebody signs a noise
9 | complaint, but all this documentation is just
10 | going to be in place should it wind up in a legal
11 | situation moving forward.

12 | So, if it seems like a -- we're not able to
13 | resolve this amicably amongst each other and it's
14 | going to move in a legal direction, then my
15 | recommendation is call the Police because we're
16 | going to have to start to document this so moving
17 | forward the Board can do what they need to do,
18 | which is unfortunate and, again, counter-
19 | productive for everyone involved.

20 | MR. CABELLO: Yeah we don't want to get to
21 | that point either.

22 | CAPTAIN LUSTER: Yes, it's really -- again,
23 | no one is going to win in this. Regardless of
24 | what you think or how strong you think your
25 | position is, no one wins in this kind of

1 situation.

2 MR. MOREJON: Agreed.

3 MR. CABELLO: Thank you. Thank you.

4 I know Commissioner Gutierrez --

5 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: No, I just
6 want to say that that's why don't get mad at us.
7 We made this meeting because we want to resolve
8 each what's going on. Because she was the only
9 one -- Toni, she was the only one come over here
10 to make the complaints. So we want to hear from
11 you guys.

12 A VOICE: Um-hum.

13 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: That's why we
14 called --

15 MR. PALLAZZO: Oh, all right. Okay.

16 MR. CABELLO: Does everybody --

17 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: We try to
18 resolve the problems, summer's coming, we want
19 everybody be happy --

20 A VOICE: Um-hum.

21 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: -- and get
22 along.

23 COMMISSIONER CORNELIO: Especially the
24 children.

25 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: We live in

1 Union City --

2 COMMISSIONER DeMARTINEZ: You have to be
3 together --

4 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: -- we have to
5 get along.

6 COMMISSIONER DeMARTINEZ: -- and stand one
7 to the other.

8 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Look, my
9 neighbors, on Saturday -- I live in a two-family
10 house. My neighbor he no have no backyard. What
11 he does he made the barbecue in front of my house
12 -- next to it.

13 I don't complain about it.

14 MR. MUNDORF: No.

15 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: I just close
16 my door and that's it.

17 A VOICE: You want to move in with us?

18 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: You know
19 because you have to live -- everybody live happy.

20 A VOICE: Yes.

21 A VOICE: Live and let live.

22 CAPTAIN LUSTER: I'm always happier with
23 the barbecue outside when I get invited and get
24 something off the grill.

25 (Several people speak at once.)

1 A VOICE: You're invited too.

2 MR. CABELLO: Okay, anyone else?

3 Okay, thank you.

4 Thanks for attending.

5 CAPTAIN LUSTER: Thank you so much
6 everybody.

7 Thank you.

8 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Thank you,
9 Captain, for coming.

10 (Whereupon, there was a pause in the
11 proceedings.)

12 MR. CABELLO: Okay. We'll get back to the
13 people.

14 Time out.

15 The Board will, you know, discuss among
16 ourselves and then we'll get back to you with the
17 alcohol and --

18 (Whereupon, there was a pause in the
19 proceedings.)

20 (Off the record.)

21 MS. DILLON: On the record.

22 MR. CABELLO: Sure.

23 We're back on the record.

24 This letter from one of the residents that
25 spoke from 44th Street, Adelaida Borrero, she's

1 requesting permission for her daughter's 13th
2 birthday party, --

3 COMMISSIONER CORNELIO: Yeah.

4 MR. CABELLO: -- to have a little get-
5 together.

6 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Yeah.

7 MR. CABELLO: We want to approve this? I
8 mean --

9 (Whereupon, there was a chorus of yes.)

10 MR. CABELLO: All right.

11 Yes, yes, yes, yes.

12 Okay, roll --

13 MR. MOREJON: Make a motion.

14 MR. CABELLO: Make a motion.

15 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: I make a
16 motion.

17 MR. CABELLO: By -- by the --

18 MS. DILLON: Wait, wait, wait.

19 MR. CABELLO: Wait, wait.

20 MS. DILLON: Please. I beg of you.

21 MR. CABELLO: Okay, --

22 MS. DILLON: Somebody make a motion.

23 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: I make a
24 motion.

25 MR. CABELLO: Motion made by Margarita

1 Gutierrez.

2 MS. DILLON: Second?

3 MR. CABELLO: Second by Delsa Martinez
4 (sic).

5 Roll call.

6 Martin Martinetti; absent.

7 Teresa Cornelio?

8 COMMISSIONER CORNELIO: Yes.

9 COMMISSIONER DeMARTINEZ: Yes.

10 MR. CABELLO: Delsa DeMartinez?

11 COMMISSIONER DeMARTINEZ: Yes.

12 MR. CABELLO: Margarita Gutierrez?

13 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Yes.

14 MR. CABELLO: Edwin Marinez; absent.

15 Dennis Gonzalez; absent.

16 MR. CABELLO: Dorothy Jetter?

17 COMMISSIONER JETTER: Yes.

18 MR. CABELLO: Okay, yes. All, yes.

19 Thank you.

20 All right, --

21 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: You want me to
22 sign that one?

23 MR. CABELLO: -- if you have anything else
24 to discuss?

25 No, that's it.

1 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: No, to sign
2 the letter.

3 MR. CABELLO: Oh, the letter? Yeah, yeah.
4 Okay, good.

5

6 **ADJOURNMENT**

7

8 MS. DILLON: Motion to adjourn.

9 MR. CABELLO: Motion to adjourn?

10 VICE CHAIRPERSON GUTIERREZ: Okay, I make a
11 motion.

12 MR. CABELLO: By Delsa.

13 (Whereupon, there was a chorus of ayes.)

14 MR. CABELLO: Yes.

15 Second by Gutierrez.

16 All in favor?

17 Yes.

18 (Whereupon, there was a chorus of ayes.)

19 MS. DILLON: Okay.

20 MR. CABELLO: All right, thank you very
21 much. This is the last meeting of the summer.

22

23 (Whereupon, the proceedings were concluded
24 at 6:53 p.m.)

25

1 STATE OF NEW JERSEY:

2 :

3 COUNTY OF ESSEX :

4

5 I, KAREN A. MARINO, assigned transcriber,
6 do hereby affirm that the foregoing is a true and
7 accurate transcript in the matter of the REGULAR
8 MEETING of the CITY OF UNION CITY HOUSING
9 AUTHORITY, held on Thursday, June 17, 2014, and
10 digitally recorded.

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25 Monitored and Proofread by: Deborah Dillon