



Santa Cruz Police Department  
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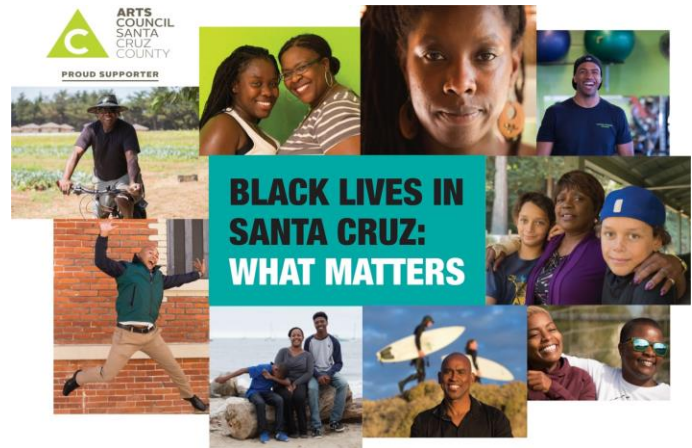
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 24, 2018

**Chief Mills Invites Community to a Reception for “Black Lives In Santa Cruz: What Matters” Portrait Exhibit  
On Monday, April, 30<sup>th</sup> at the Santa Cruz Police Community Room**

**SANTA CRUZ** —Santa Cruz Police Chief Mills and wife Cathy Mills will host a reception for the portrait exhibit: *Black Lives In Santa Cruz: What Matters*”. Open to the public, the community is invited to a reception and exhibition on Monday, April 30, 2018, from 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm at the Santa Cruz Police Community Room.

Inspired by the national conversation about race and with a grant from the Cultural Arts Council of Santa Cruz County, freelance photographer Allison Garcia explores the day to day reality of being black in Santa Cruz. The exhibit comprised of portrait photos, writings, and interviews from a cross-section of Santa Cruz community members who share their perspective on being black in Santa Cruz.



“The artistic expressions reflect a deep impression of the reality of racism in our culture. Allison’s photographs and interviews capture true emotions translated through her art in both expressive and realistic ways” said Chief Mills. “Both Cathy and I believe that art can help us as a society to find common ground, to create dialogue, and to understand each other in meaningful ways.”

The reception for this exhibit will include a few words from Chief Mills, photographer Allison Garcia and photo participants. Light refreshments will be served. The event is free and open to the public.

Please join us Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup> for the portrait exhibit of “Black Lives In Santa Cruz: What Matters” in the Santa Cruz Police Community Room, 155 Center Street. We hope to see you there!

For more information regarding the reception, contact [Joyce Blaschke](mailto:Joyce.Blaschke@santacruzpolice.com), Santa Cruz Police Community Relations, (831) 420-5844 or Photographer [Allison Garcia](http://allisongarciaphotography.com) – [allisongarciaphotography.com](http://allisongarciaphotography.com).