

From: jesse lawrence <jglawrence212@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 12:23 PM  
Subject: Public comment for title 11

Opon the Apple Valley protests, multiple groups of armed counter-protesters rallied in front of the Best Buy in Jess Ranch to “protect the community from looters & rioters” which is a lie. In other words, they were there to attack outraged minorities who might partake in the civil unrest occurring around the county (excluding cities in the high desert) in an act of protest. Police officers accompanied these groups in standing guard of Best Buy and advised us protesters that it would be safer to stand elsewhere. While the rest of my group decided to leave, I stood in solitude holding a sign, peacefully and at an extremely healthy distance I might add. The group of counter protestors decided to approach me and harass me, proceeding to put hands in my face, throw homophobic slurs my way and all the while, police officers watch (also from a healthy distance) and say/do nothing. Police then approached me after and spoke softly in my ear that they were deciding to abandon the situation out of a lack of fear that anything would escalate to violence, meanwhile I’m still being harassed. Instead, officers decided to disperse the situation as the counter protestors tensions started to rise. I can only imagine how the situation would have transpired had I’d been an African American. While this discussion in itself is progressive, we need to make physical change! Not just to our law enforcement but to our morals/standards as a community. Apple Valley has a nasty reputation for being a white supremacists town full of violent racists and homophobes. If the rumors are false then we need to make a effort to prove that. This is not just about making a change to the corruption within the systems, this is also about not being complacent with white supremacy and not allowing bigots to over power our community’s. DO SOMETHING, APPLE VALLEY! WE ARE HOLDING YOU ACCOUNTABLE!