



STATEMENT REGARDING THE USE OF FORCE INCIDENT BY SANTA ANA POLICE OFFICERS

Santa Ana, Calif. (October 5, 2026) – Video of an arrest and use-of-force incident shows Santa Ana Police Department officers repeatedly and violently punching a handcuffed young man. At no time does the individual appear to pose an imminent physical threat to officers or the safety of the public.

This incident once again calls into question the department's policies and de-escalation practices. No resident in our county should worry about being a victim of violence at the hands of law enforcement that is sworn to protect them.

While we appreciate Santa Ana Police Chief Rodriguez' commitment to fully review the incident, a full and transparent investigation is what the public and the family deserve, as well as full discipline for the officers involved, in the event that abuse of force, civil rights violations, or other crimes were committed.

That is the minimum the department must do to maintain the trust of residents.

Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento was elected to the Orange County Board of Supervisors in November 2022. He represents the Second District, which includes Santa Ana and portions of Anaheim, Garden Grove, Orange, and Tustin. For additional information, visit <https://d2.ocgov.com/supervisor>.