

JAIME CABRERA | SPARTAN DAILY

A car enters the 10th Street garage located off of San Fernando and 10th streets. The garage averaged at about 90% capacity before the coronavirus pandemic.

## Commuters ride ‘stress express’

By Don Le  
STAFF WRITER

As many San Jose State students return to in-person classes, commuter students say they struggle to find parking or use alternative modes of transportation to get to campus.

Economics senior Richard Cao said he was excited to return to classes but commuting to campus is distressing.

“I was excited to go to in-person classes just for like, you know, the in-person activities and just learning better in the classroom. But definitely, driving to school makes me unhappy,” Cao said.

SJSU Parking Director Eric Cross said parking is less affected than previous years.

Cross said the Fourth Street and 10th Street garages would typically be at

“

I think we should have free parking. I would rather have free parking than a multi-million dollar gym that I’m not going to go to because it’s in downtown.

Aivy Le  
environmental studies senior

PARKING | Page 2



A&E

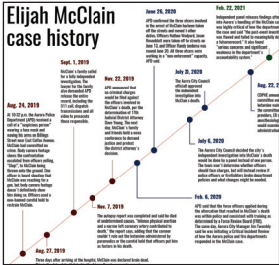
Oakland poet and educator mesmerizes Spartans community

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Scan me

Check out our “Mariachi Oroazul” video coverage



Opinion

Law enforcement indictments are rare, small justices

Page 4

### CAMPUS IMAGES

## Greek life organizations kick off rush



PHOTOS BY EVAN REINHARDT | SPARTAN DAILY

Left: Applied math senior Madeline Yslava launches her pitch during a kickball rush event on campus Tuesday. Alpha Kappa Omicron sorority and Alpha Kappa Omega fraternity held a group mixer to welcome rushing students into the Greek community. Right: An Alpha Kappa Omicron student catches the ball. Those hoping to join the fraternity or sorority played in the game.

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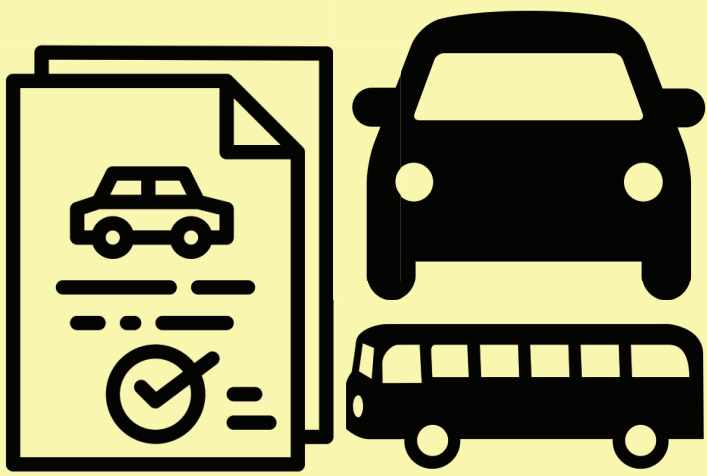
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# SJSU parking garages

University Parking Services updated its services over the course of the coronavirus pandemic including a new parking garage in South Campus and an online parking app. South Campus is the base for university athletics department facilities just shy of two miles away from main campus. SJSU has three parking garages on main campus: the 10th Street, Seventh Street and Fourth Street garages.



## Garage capacity

- The Fourth Street garage averages about 30% capacity and the 10th Street garage is at about 50-60% capacity this fall.
- The Fourth and 10th streets garages would typically be at 90% capacity at this point in the semester.
- The Parking Services office members were concerned because it was anticipating larger parking numbers than what was recieved.

## Parking permits

- On-campus parking permits range between \$85 to \$192 each semester.
- Parking Services has sold about 9,700 permits so far this semester, in which about 7,000 belong to students.
- The department typically sold more than 15,000 permits before the COVID-19 pandemic.

INFOGRAPHIC BY BRYANNA BARTLETT; SOURCE: SJSU PARKING SERVICES

## PARKING

Continued from page 1

90% capacity at this point in the semester. Cross said the Fourth Street garage averages at about 30% capacity and the 10th Street garage is at about 50-60% capacity currently. He said the parking office was concerned because it was anticipating larger parking numbers than it received. Cross said the lower parking numbers are largely because of the transition to hybrid classes. “In 2019, the bulk of our classes were set aside to be in person and now the mix has been transitioned a lot more to hybridized,” he said. SJSU Parking Services has been updating its services over the course of the pandemic, Cross said.

It also built a new parking garage in South Campus, made paying for parking garages easier with the use of an online parking app and has continued to operate the Park and Ride lot on Seventh Street at South Campus, Cross said.



I was excited to go to in-person classes just for like, you know, the in-person activities and just learning better in the classroom. But definitely, driving to school makes me unhappy.

**Richard Cao**  
economics senior

SJSU has three parking garages on campus, according to SJSU’s Parking Services website. The 10th Street, Seventh Street and

Fourth Street garages are located on SJSU’s main campus, according to the same website. The South Campus garage is located approximately two miles South from main campus at the corner of South 10th and Alma streets. South Campus includes Park and Ride lots, CEFCU Stadium, Simpkins Athletics Building, Simpkins Center and other athletics facilities, according to the SJSU website. Cross said the newly constructed four-story garage provides 1,500 parking spaces. “[The South Campus garage] was made with the intent of providing parking for commuters to mitigate the impacts that we’ve had at the park and ride, which you know, typically at this time of the year would be at capacity, overflowing,” Cross said. While the university has multiple garages available for campus community members, some students say they prefer to park on streets near campus and walk. Environmental studies senior Aivy Le said she doesn’t like parking on campus or using Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) services when coming from her South San Jose home. Le said she parks in the free spaces around campus but the commute is stressful. “Driving in downtown is confusing because there’s a lot of one way streets and there’s a lot of signs for parking that are confusing,” Le said. Cross suggested students don’t park on nearby streets because of various city permits needed. “Unless you have a street permit, don’t do it,” he said. As of Aug. 13, University and South University Neighborhood permits are required to park on residential streets around SJSU campus, according to the City of San Jose website. Fines go up to \$65 in those areas and there are certain time zones and limits for certain parking spaces, according to

the same City of San Jose website and the official South University Neighborhood website. Cross said the university gave back its leases on city permit meters around the campus perimeter to provide spaces for Uber and Lyft drop-off and pick-up zones and decrease traffic. “[City parking officials] patrol this place like a hawk and the city is very good at what they do in that aspect,” he said. Le said she doesn’t prefer to park on campus because of the expensive fees. “I think we should have free parking,” she said. “I would rather have free parking than a multi-million dollar gym that I’m not going to go to because it’s in downtown.” On-campus parking permits range between \$85 to \$192 a semester, according to the SJSU Parking Services website. Cross said SJSU Parking Services has sold about 9,700 permits so far this semester. “This is way below,” Cross said. “Typically, we would have a total of well over 14,000, maybe 15,000 permits sold.” He said about 7,000 of those permits belong to students. Cross said many students live close enough to campus that it would be more cost effective to leave their cars at home. He said students should use other forms of transportation including walking or public transportation to avoid parking permit fees. “[Students] are spending \$400 plus a year for parking. That could go a long way towards books, tuition, food,” Cross said. VTA buses and regional transit are some public transportation options available to SJSU students, according to the SJSU Transportation Solutions website. Cross said the university has been working “extensively” with VTA and other transit partners to make different service lines available near the main campus. After a public transit worker shot and killed 10 people including himself on May 26 at the San Jose VTA light rail yard in the area of Younger Avenue and San

Pedro Street, the VTA station paused its operations, according to an Aug. 25 San Jose Spotlight article. The station reopened on Aug. 29, according to its website. SJSU offers a SmartPass program that includes free transportation on VTA buses and light rail for eligible students, according to its website. Students must be enrolled in either hybrid or in-person classes for the Fall 2021 semester, have a mailing address in Santa Clara County or live in on-campus housing to be eligible for the program, according to the SJSU SmartPass website. Richard Cao said although he doesn’t like commuting because of confusing street sign rules and limited space in parking garages, commuting by bus can take up to 45 minutes. “If you live where I live like [on the] North side, [the bus ride] . . . I’ll be honest, it’s long as hell,” Cao said. He said he has to arrive at the main campus around 6:50 a.m. to avoid parking difficulties. “Once 9-to-10 a.m. rolls around, street parking becomes a little hard to find,” Cao said. “The garage starts filling up by 11 [a.m.] It’s pretty much packed, which is kind of weird because even though there’s less students on campus, the parking garages are still packed.”

**Eric Cross**  
parking director

**Follow Don on Twitter**  
**@sjsudonle**

## Crime Blotter

**Fight in public place**  
Sept. 12, 9:50-10:00 a.m. at Student Union  
Inactive

**Assault with intent to rape, false imprisonment**  
Sept. 11, 2:18 a.m. at Campus Village 2  
Adult Arrest

**Minor possess alcohol**  
Sept. 10, 11:36 p.m. at Campus Village B  
Inactive

**Battery of police officer/emergency personnel/etc.**  
Sept. 10, 12:12 a.m. at Campus Village B  
Active

**Tamper with fire alarm**  
Sept. 10, 4:15 a.m. at South Garage  
Adult Arrest

**Trespass without consent**  
Sept. 10, 1:40 a.m. at Sigma Chi Fraternity  
Adult Arrest

**Exhibit deadly weapon (not firearm)**  
Sept. 9, 11:47 a.m. at Campus village market  
Adult Cited

**Solicit lewd act**  
Sept. 9, 11:34 a.m. at Martin Luther King Jr. Library  
Adult Cited




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# Poetry assists spiritual healing

By Christopher Nguyen  
STAFF WRITER

San Jose State’s Diasporic Peoples Writing Collective (DPWC) featured Tureeda Mikell, long-time Oakland poet and performer, in a roundtable webinar Monday afternoon.

The DPWC is a San Jose State student organization, established around 2018-19, that showcases underrepresented artists and builds platforms for people of color.

“We have a platform to communicate and to voice our experiences, our pain and our hurt,” DPWC president Ume Ali said during the webinar. “We are also very open and vulnerable to criticism, not just from people who disagree, but also within our own community that may not have the same experience or same opinion.”

Mikell reached deep in her life to tell stories right through the computer screen to more than 18 people, who consisted of SJSU students and alumni.

evoke things out of you at a certain time,” Mikell said. “Where I believe past life can intercept present time and just make you aware of something.”

Her book, “Synchronicity: The Oracle of Sun Medicine,” is a poetic-prose journey into sun medicine. It’s filled with a plethora of questions for spiritual journeys and for elitist patriarchs, political satirists and those interested in interspecies communication, according to Mikell’s publisher Nomadic Press.

Her literary style includes wordplay such as changing “son” to “sun” or “joule” to “jewel,” as in her poem “Spell’s Labyrinth,” according to Mikell’s publisher.

“Professor Mikell is a veteran poet and performer. I emphasize ‘performer’ because a lot of us in the Master of Fine Arts program have poetry readings,” DPWC managing editor Carmen Kennedy said. “I think the differentiator for Professor Mikell is that she brings life.”

Mikell is known for her vivacious poetry readings that consist of ripe



PHOTO COURTESY OF TUREEDA MIKELL

**Tureeda Mikell, a long-time Oakland poet and educator, authored “Synchronicity: The Oracle of Sun Medicine,” a poetic-prose journey into sun medicine that was published in Feb. 15, 2020.**

“Body, blood and memory can evoke things out of you at a certain time. Where I believe past life can intercept present time and just make you aware of something.”

**Tureeda Mikell**  
poet and educator

Mikell is a story-medicine woman. She combines life sciences that seal to reveal holism that heals relationships of body, mind and spirit through storytelling, poetry and history.

“Body, blood and memory can

expressions, gestures and lively storytelling.

She’s taken part in events including the Black Panthers’ 50th anniversary and Octavia Butler’s 70th birthday celebration.

Octavia Butler was a renowned

African American science fiction author who wrote multiple award-winning novels including “Parable of the Sower” and “Parable of the Talents,” novels of hope and terror in a post-apocalyptic world, according to her estate’s webpage.

Butler passed away on Feb. 24, 2006.

Mikell is currently a founding director of the Tree of Life Foundation, a health literacy project.

Organizational health literacy is the degree that organizations equitably enable individuals to find, understand and use information and services to inform health-related decisions and actions for themselves and others, according to the U.S. Department

of Health and Human Services website.

While the audience may have thought of homophones as separate entities, Mikell whirled words.

“You have these words that sound alike but have different meanings,” Mikell said. “But at the same time, when these come forward to show themselves . . . it becomes very visceral, very tactile, very visual for me.”

Mikell said she channels power through her performance, wringing anger out but also letting it go.

“I know I’m told that I’m a performance poet, but if you feel strongly about what you’re writing, memorize it and share it, people will call it a performance,”

Mikell said. “I will call it reciting. I just recite what is there to be shared because it is a vision and its purpose is to make people see something that otherwise have been seen or realized.”

The audience looked mesmerized throughout the webinar, especially when Mikell’s performance compelled an audience member to seek the power she spoke of in her poetry. “This is a new concept to me from the place I come from,” SJSU student Phuong Pham said. “People just read. They don’t perform. When I see [Mikell, she] actually perform[s].”

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## CLASSIFIEDS

### CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
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50					51					52	53	54	55	
56					57					58				
59					60					61				
62					63					64				

#### ACROSS

1. Panache
6. Piece of glass
10. Church alcove
14. A herb
15. Frenzied
16. Seed-bearing capsule
17. Ascended
18. Great affection
19. WW1 plane
20. Not ready
22. French for “Head”
23. Related to tides
24. Part of a stair
25. Academician
29. Evildoer
31. Control surface on a plane
33. Pacify
37. Commode
38. Writing implement
39. Impassive
41. Terpsichoreans
42. Gauge
44. Anagram of “Sees”
45. Thin piece of wood or metal
48. Two-footed
50. Not this
51. Declaration
56. Killer whale
57. Anagram of “Star”

#### DOWN

1. Beige
2. Protruding part of the lower jaw
3. Speech disorder
4. Affirm
5. Basic belief
6. Defender
7. Ethically indifferent
8. A short novel
9. Barely managed
10. Temperance
11. Pontiffs
12. Tablet
13. Church officer
21. Crucial
24. Mature
25. Taps
26. Violent disturbance
27. Hodgepodge
28. Congratulate
30. Garb
32. Summary

34. Air force heroes
35. Knights
36. If not
40. Progressive
41. Sediment
43. Casual eatery
45. Ceases
46. Spasm
47. Formula 1 driver
49. Indian millet
51. Coarse file
52. Nipple
53. Skin irritation
54. Chocolate cookie
55. Gestures of assent

### SUDOKU PUZZLE

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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9	5							
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### SOLUTIONS

Sep. 15

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### JOKIN’ AROUND

“What concert costs just 45 cents?”

“50 Cent featuring Nickelback!”

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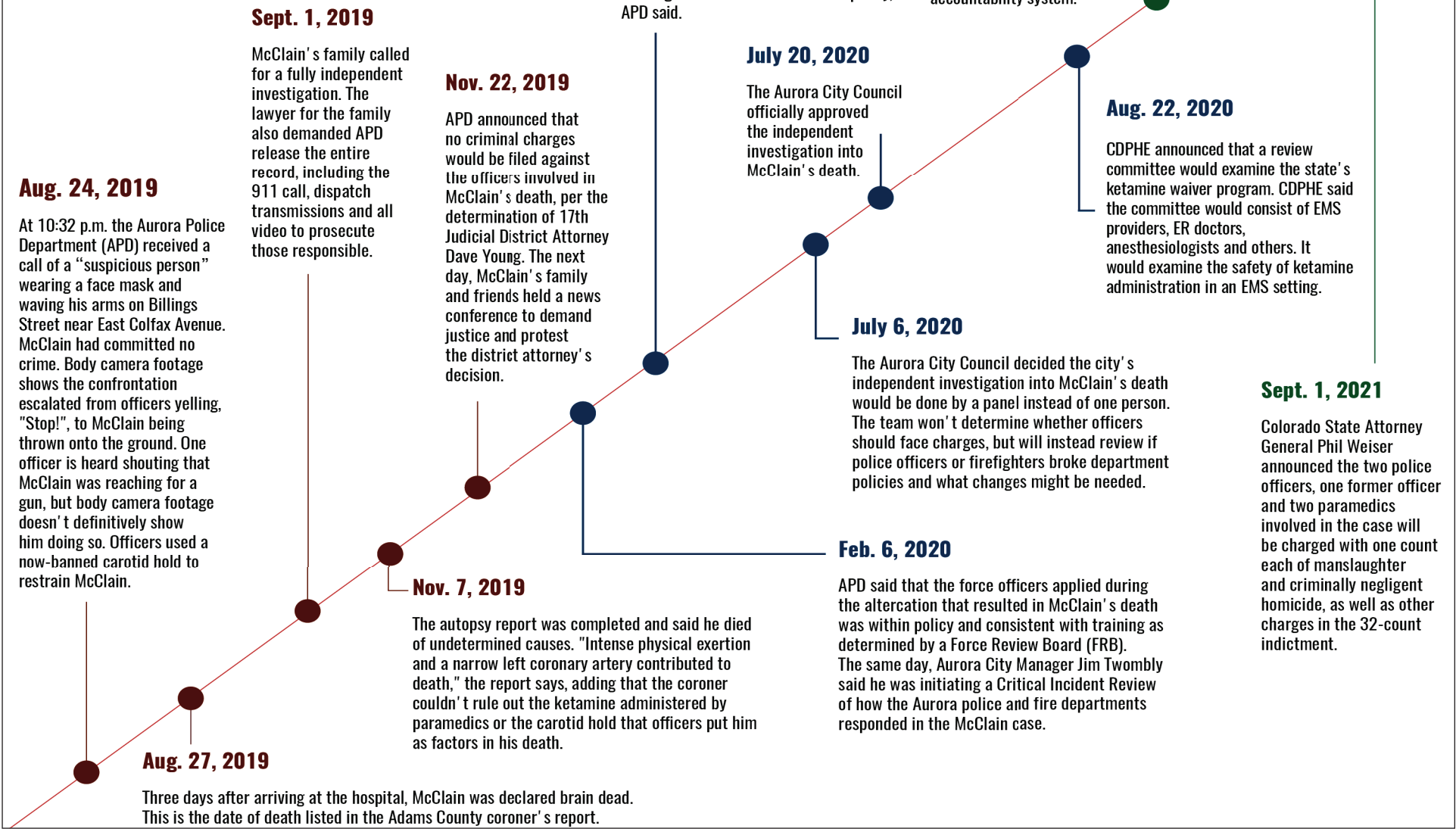
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# Elijah McClain case history



INFOGRAPHIC BY AARON CHEUNG AND BRYANNA BARTLETT; SOURCE: AUG.24, 2020 NBC 9NEWS ARTICLE

# US police brutality is plentiful, justice is rare



When an innocent man dies at the hands of authority, the only rational course of action is to formally try those at fault. Anything less is unjust. Period.

Justice is for families who deserve judicial actions that hold their loved ones' killers accountable and yet, it's what many fail to get in the U.S.

Police officers rarely get charged after they prejudicially kill in the line of duty.

Law enforcement officers kill about 1,000 people a year in this nation and only 121 officers have been arrested or charged with murder or manslaughter in the past 16 years, according to a data compilation by Philip Stinson, a criminal justice professor at Bowling Green State University (BGSU) in Ohio.

In “On-Duty Police Shootings: Officers Charged with Murder or Manslaughter 2005-2018,” Stinson shows only 44 police officers have been convicted, often of a lesser charge, out of 95 who've had cases trials end.

Stinson has spent more than 15 years researching police behaviors including police crime, corruption and misconduct, according to a June 2020 BGSU news article.

It has been two years since police officers in Aurora, Colorado killed 23-year-old Elijah McClain.

Colorado Attorney General Philip Weiser announced on Sept. 1 the five defendants in McClain's

case will face one count each of manslaughter and criminally negligent homicide, in addition to a 32-count indictment, according to a Sept. 1 NBC News article.

The defendants include: Aurora Police Department (APD) Officers Randy Roedema and Nathan Woodyard, former APD officer Jason Rosenblatt and Aurora Fire Rescue Paramedics Lt. Peter Cichuniec and Jeremy Cooper.

The indictment came after an eight-month grand jury investigation, according to the same NBC News article. Indictments will never be enough to reconcile wrongful deaths because those lives can never be brought back. Officers will continue to live, breathe and experience a life they robbed from someone else.

But, it's a minor step in the right direction. Rightful convictions and strong sentences are eminently overdue and every small victory counts.

McClain was a young man walking home from a convenience store when APD officers approached him in response to a call from an Aurora resident claiming a “sketchy,” unarmed individual was walking around in a ski mask.

According to the City of Aurora's investigation report, the officers had no justification for this casual encounter.

Yet, officers still forced McClain to the ground and handcuffed him.

The paramedics induced McClain with a strong ketamine anesthetic even though they never checked on his general health, according to the indictment report. He continued to groan and make guttural cries as the fatal drugs spread through his body.

The Drug Enforcement

Administration defines ketamine as a drug that distorts perceptions of sight and sound and makes the user feel out of control.

The emergency medical care system failed McClain. The law enforcement system failed.

McClain was hooked to life support and died six days later, according to the same report.

The autopsy report concluded the cause of death was “undeterminable” and could have been a result of natural causes.

How can a person feel safe when the authorities that exist to protect us not only have the power to take away our safety, lives and humanity, but regularly act on that power? He was innocent.

According to the same investigation report by the city of Aurora, body cameras recorded police officers mistreating McClain, using foul language and threatening him while he was already weak, unarmed and vulnerable.

About 98% of police involved in a police brutality case haven't been convicted in the last seven years, according to a mapping police violence webpage.

There's only been ten days where police officers haven't killed someone this year as of Sept. 7, according to the same webpage.

Read that line again.

According to a study done by Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, one in 1,000 Black men are expected to die from police violence in their lifetimes.

Black men have been primary targets in low-income neighborhoods. In contrast to predominantly white neighborhoods, Black residents are at greater risk of police discrimination and persecution, according to the same study.

People of color live in fear for their safety and have no reason to trust those in power when they've been hearing about cases including McClain's almost everyday for years.

The U.S. needs to wake up and take action toward this reality.

George Floyd's murder in May 2020 helped shift the pattern of racial justice in this country as his case brought close attention to the world's protests and demands.

The Black Lives Matter movement gained huge support and traction with Floyd's murder and has highlighted the myriad unresolved, similar cases.

On Aug. 28, 500 members of families, who've had loved ones die at the hands of police from across the U.S., marched near the Washington Monument in the District of Columbia to push for fatal police shooting cases to be reopened, according to an Aug. 30 WGBH Radio Station article.

Breonna Taylor, Stephon Clark, Rayshard Brooks and Daunte Wright are just some cases of police brutality that have mass U.S. supporters that continue to seek justice.

Taylor was awakened in the night and shot to death by the police in her own home on March 13, 2020 and since then, Louisville has

banned no-knock warrants, the police chief was fired and the on-scene officer was too, according to a Sept. 24, 2020 article.

Despite nationwide demands, no one was ever charged for her death.

Without these protests, it's unlikely the three officers and two paramedics in McClain's case would've been indicted.

This type of injustice doesn't occur in abstract, far away places. It happens regularly in our own community.

Demetrius Stanley was shot and killed by a plainclothes officer outside his own home in the San Jose Berryessa neighborhood on May 31, according to a June 2 NBC Bay Area article.

Armed Stanley approached an unmarked police vehicle sitting in front of his house and the officer inside shot him.

The officers were investigating Stanley for an armed robbery, but never identified themselves as police, according to the same NBC Bay Area article.

Stanley's friends and family said they believed he thought he was protecting his home from strangers, according to the same article.

It's been more than 100 days since the death of Stanley and the SJPD hasn't released the identities of the officers involved. This is only one recent incident in a long history of San Jose's police brutality.

Accountability has to be forced. We can't sit idly by and we can't pretend these cruel injustices aren't happening.

Bryanna Bartlett & Madison Fagundes contributed reporting.

Follow Sandra on Twitter @\_sandraiveth\_



**ABOUT**

The Spartan Daily prides itself on being the San Jose State community's top news source. New issues are published every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday throughout the academic year and online content updated daily.

The Spartan Daily is written and published by San Jose State students as an expression of their First Amendment rights.

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