Hope Williams' Statement

My name is Hope Williams. I am a Black woman and a San Francisco resident. I have been a community organizer for over 3 years and have participated in many protests. Shortly after the violent police murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, I organized and participated in San Francisco protests against police violence. It was important for me to take to the streets and to get others to join us because I knew I could contribute to the movement to end police violence against Black communities.

I recently learned that the San Francisco Police Department illegally spied on activists during the George Floyd protests. It was a tactic to provoke fear and keep people from speaking out. We have the right to organize, speak out, and march without fear of police surveillance.

SFPD's spying on our protests was also a blatant disregard of the Surveillance Technology Ordinance here in San Francisco. I am a plaintiff in this lawsuit because I want to defend the rights of protestors and hold the police accountable for breaking the law.