Tara Evans's Statement

I became involved in this case because I am an activist who cares and communicates regularly about racial inequity in Marin County. I want to model to my children the importance of speaking up when you know injustice is happening.

Growing up here in the 1980s, I remember we had a large community of immigrants move to San Rafael who faced racist comments and segregation. I always knew in my heart that it wasn't ok to treat people differently because of where they came from.

Through this lawsuit, we are exposing the surveillance system of automatic license plate readers that Sheriff Doyle has placed in our community. One day we didn't have it, and the next day everyone was under this surveillance. We are car-dependent in this county. I have no choice but to drive, so I have no way to avoid being surveilled. We can't be indifferent to the sheriff's actions any longer, and must recognize that harm to one member of the community is harm to all.

This lawsuit is the first of its kind. It sends a strong message that all people have the right to live with dignity regardless of their immigration status, and that people have the right to move freely without having their personal details shared with the federal government or saved in a database without their knowledge or permission. It also says that we expect public officials, like the police and Sheriff, to follow the law of the people. That's a democracy, that's what we vote for in California.