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I want to state, as a citizen of New Hampshire, that I believe there is a role for police departments in our communities. Emphatically, I want a police department in my community.

However, over the decades the multiple roles of police departments have expanded beyond the scope of **public safety**. Just the concept of a **war on drugs** introduced a **militaristic** approach to police work which then meant that often, not always, but often, citizen actions were suspect immediately, and citizens had to obey police officers and endure deadly unnecessary unlawful **misconduct**.

Militaristic policing and non awakening to racial bias is a systemic problem for police departments around the country. No one is alone with racial bias. We are all racially biased **and** we are able to learn how that plays out in our work and community relationships.

People of color and most especially, Black people, have endured the awful consequences of racial injustice, not just with police but with all aspects of white systemic advantages over them, slave history to the present time.

I am counting on police departments to step up and be willing to look inward and act outward. I am doing the same, and I will be helping you with that process by responding and following the work of this Commission and future work, especially police misconduct and accountability

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