

**From:** [Abra Bankendorf Vigna](#)  
**To:** [Police Chief Search](#)  
**Subject:** Select Ramon Batista for the next Chief of Police  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:17:40 AM

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Dear Commissioners,

I am writing as a member of the public to ask you to select Ramon Batista as the next MPD Police Chief. Mr. Batista has a strong record of fair and just police work and building effective relationships with the public. At the very least, I trust that Batista will at least try to work with the community, better than the other three of the finalists.

Please, heed the needs of the community and make the right choice: Ramon Batista.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Abra Vigna, PhD  
Madison Resident

**From:** [Samantha Crownover](#)  
**To:** [Police Chief Search](#)  
**Subject:** Please choose Batista  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:16:01 PM

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Dear Search Committee Members,

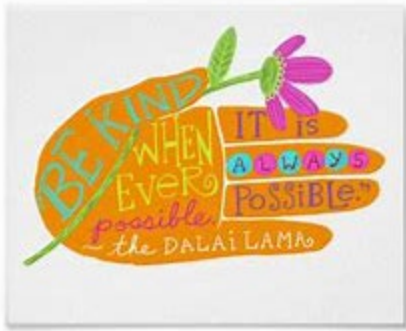
I support Ramon Batista for our next Chief of Police. He is likely the best candidate that will work with the ENTIRE community.

Thank you!

Sam

Samantha & Bruce Crownover  
2702 Kendall Ave.  
Madison, WI 53705

Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible. -Dalai Lama



**From:** [Paulsen, Marci](#)  
**To:** [Kapusta-Pofahl, Karen](#)  
**Cc:** [Quieto, Michael](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Ramon Batista  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:42:47 PM

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Mike – please fill this with all the PFC public comment. Thanks! Marci

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**From:** Kapusta-Pofahl, Karen

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:41 PM

**To:** Paulsen, Marci <>

**Subject:** FW: Ramon Batista

Hi Marci,

I got this email, not sure if they meant it to go to the PFC or the Alders or etc.

Karen

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**From:** j voss

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:39 PM

**To:** ; Kapusta-Pofahl, Karen <> **Subject:** Ramon Batista

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Good afternoon board members, my name is Jamie Voss and I live in Tucson, AZ, the city where Ramon Batista began his law enforcement career. I work in law enforcement and I have since 1996. I am reaching out to you to give some information about former Assistant Chief Batista to assist you in making a more informed decision about who will be running your police department.

While Ramon Batista was an assistant chief at the Tucson Police Department, he crashed his department police vehicle into the gate of his gated community. This collision occurred on Cinco de Mayo and he waited over two hours to report the collision to his supervisor by text message. He never notified the victim of this hit and run.

Sadly, this incident was covered up by chief-level commanders in the Tucson Police Department, the Marana Police Department, and the Pima County Attorneys Office. I decided to conduct several public records requests to show that the crime not only occurred, but that it was also covered up. I documented the hit and run in a website ([www.tucsonscorruptleadership.com](http://www.tucsonscorruptleadership.com)). Batista's incident is documented under "Dirty Chiefs/ Sanctioned Corruption." This incident cost Tucson taxpayers \$5,000.00 (not counting the damage to his police car). He should have been added to the Brady List. I urge you to review this investigation.

I have reached out to several people in Madison to include three reporters and the mayor. You have a chance to spare your city some embarrassment by passing on this guy. Your city deserves much better.

Thank you for your time.

**From:** [JACK K PHILLIPS](#)  
**To:** [Police Chief Search](#)  
**Subject:** Transcript of Spoken Comments 12/14  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 15, 2020 5:19:04 PM

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Hello,

Below are my written notes (nearly an exact transcript) for my comments to the commission on 12/14, to aid in a complete record of the process:

- The additional meeting on Friday for public comment is appreciated, but it's kind of too little too late, since we still haven't seen the full recordings of the interviews and haven't had the opportunity to ask questions directly.
- First of all, the announcement of the 4 finalists came mere days after the PCOB began its work in earnest. Knowing since the summer that this body was forming in response to issues with the legitimacy of policing as an institution, it seems suspicious that the PFC decided to move forward with a timeline that completely ignores the role the PCOB is meant to fill.
- Second, the finalists who made it through casts doubt on the process as well. Specifically, for reasons that I outlined in my previous statements to this commission, Davis is an entirely inappropriate candidate who should never have been considered due to his deputy chief post with one of the most racist police departments in the country, and due to his approval and defense of heinous acts against community members by officers under his authority.
- Of the candidates presented, Batista is undoubtedly the best. The so-called "checkered" past involves police unions, who universally wield shadow-political power to run the cities they are in like mob rackets, voting no confidence in him because he had the audacity to condemn the beating of community members, IN CUSTODY, by officers he commanded. This is, of course, the barest minimum of human decency, and shockingly low bar, yet here we are in 2020.
- Shon Barnes.... Has no wrongdoing in his past. This is true! He's also done little to show that he is willing to fight for human decency against his department and against police unions. He joined Chicago's COPA in August, and only finished school in 2018. I tried to find his PhD thesis, but it was the only of his class' theses which wasn't publicly available from his alma mater. This is incidental to the process, but it means he's an unknown, and frankly, it seems he's being offered as a sort of "compromise" between the barest minimum of human decency and a former member of a literal right wing death squad.
- Early this summer, UW restarted their system president search process when it became clear it was tainted and undemocratic. It would not be inappropriate to learn from the lessons of the past half year and restart with PCOB's input. Since this process put forth more than a single finalist, however, there is the option to pick the candidate who has, in the past, done the bare minimum to maintain accountability to the community.
- If the commission decides instead to pick a man who's trying to leave his oversight job before he even begins, or heaven forbid, to hire a chief with blood on his hands, then it's simply the case that that chief will only have the barest illusion of legitimacy. It would be an indictment of the system, an illustration that the authority of the police truly, only arises from the barrel of a gun, and I'm severely concerned about the extent of the destruction of corporate property downtown next time

one of the many police agencies in the area kills someone on a no-knock raid, or chases someone through the woods with dogs in the night to murder them. We saw what happened last summer, do you want a repeat of it when you've stripped MPD of its legitimacy?

Thank you to the clerk's office workers for keeping this process orderly!

-Jack

Mx. Jack K. Phillips

They/Them

Graduate Student, Biomedical Engineering

University of Wisconsin-Madison

**From:** [andrea](#)  
**To:** [Police Chief Search](#)  
**Subject:** Batista for our chief of police  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 16, 2020 8:18:57 AM

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I watched all 4 interviews and Batista was my number one pick. Shon Barnes is 2nd. No to Christopher Davis. Portland police are extremely violent towards their citizens and do not want anyone from Portland in Madison. I think Batista is a great fit for our city. Thank you!

**From:** [Baxter Richardson](#)  
**To:** [Police Chief Search](#)  
**Subject:** New police chief  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 16, 2020 9:23:04 AM

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Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello,

I am emailing you in support of Ramon Batista. He seems very qualified and in these times that demand an approach very different from the convenient, but inadequate, business as usual approach, he would be the right candidate. I remember the dramatic change that took place when Chief Cooper was hired. Let's aim to repeat that experience.

Baxter Richardson  
2614 Gregory St.  
Madison

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Stacey Williams](#)  
**To:** [Police Chief Search](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 16, 2020 5:06:45 PM

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Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello all -

Since I will not be available to speak during Friday's PFC meeting, I would like to submit my public comment in writing and ask you to please choose Ramon Batista for MPD chief.

I'm sure you are already well aware of Chief Batista's credentials as a law enforcement leader. I hope you are also aware of how much of a gift he could be to the city of Madison. His stated values and goals, his career history, and his compassionate, brave approach to the challenges of modern policing are what an exemplary progressive city needs - and if we want to keep thinking of ourselves as that kind of city now and in the future, we're going to need his help.

I, like many others who have no doubt been writing in, started paying a lot more attention to this process over the summer. During that time, even though things were tough and scary and I had no idea where it would all lead, I held out hope that the choice of a new police chief might at least be a chance for a positive step toward healing. I never once envisioned a candidate I would actually be excited about - and yet here we are! And it seems like a lot of smart, compassionate people are equally excited. I hope you'll bear that in mind when making the final decision. This kind of enthusiastic community support is an essential ingredient in rebuilding public trust and making policing safe, viable, and sustainable.

Thank you, and happy holidays,

Stacey Williams  
2441 Hoard St  
Madison, WI 53704





Date: 16Dec2020

## CITY OF MADISON

### Registration Statement - Police and Fire Commission

COMMITTEE

Please Print

Agenda No. Police Chief Selection

#### PLEASE PRINT NAME CLEARLY

Name Deborah A Elsas

Address 207 S Whitney Way

Madison, WI 53705

Please check one:

AND

Please check one:

Support ☒ X

Oppose

Neither Support Nor Oppose

Wish to Speak

Do not wish to speak ☒ X

Available to Answer Questions

At this meeting are you representing an organization or a person other than yourself: Yes No ☒ X  
(If you answered "no," **STOP**; you need not complete the rest of this form. If you answered "yes," provide the name of who you represent and go on to the next question.)

Name, address and telephone number of each person or organization you are representing:

I support the candidacy of Officer Batista and object to the candidacy of Officer Davis. We need someone who understands and respects the rights of citizens to protest and Davis clearly does not. We need someone who can stand up to the police union and Officer Batista will.

Are you being paid for your representation? Yes No ☒ X

Are you appearing as part of your other paid duties for this person or organization? Yes No ☒ X  
(If you answered "no," **STOP**; you need not complete the rest of this form. If you answered "yes," go on to the next question.)

Speaking Limits: Public Hearing (Common Council).....5 minutes  
Information Hearing .....3 minutes  
Other Items .....3 minutes

(SEE BACK)

**(SEE BACK)**

## REGISTRATION STATEMENT - PAGE 2

Are you an elected official or employee who is appearing solely on behalf of your office or for your municipality or other governmental body? Yes No X

*(If you answered "yes" to the question, **STOP**. You need not complete the rest of this form, except that you must sign this form. If you answered "no" to the question, go on to the next question.)*

If you are being paid for your representation, or if your appearance is part of other paid duties, please be advised that:

1. Before you engage in lobbying as a lobbyist, you or your principal must file an authorization with the City Clerk.
2. Your principal is not permitted to authorize you to lobby unless you are registered with the City Clerk.
3. Your principal must file expense statements with the City Clerk for the remainder of the calendar year regardless of the amount spent on lobbying.

*(Please go to the City Clerk's website [www.cityofmadison.com/clerk/index.html](http://www.cityofmadison.com/clerk/index.html) or go to the Clerk's Office at Room 103 of the City-County Building, Madison, for more information.)*

Date 16Dec2020

Signature Deborah A Elsas

Print Name Deborah A Elsas

**From:** [Esty Dinur](#)  
**To:** [Police Chief Search](#)  
**Subject:** Police chief search  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 16, 2020 5:57:12 PM

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Dear members of the PFC,

I have done my research on the Madison police chief finalists and my unequivocal choice is Ramon Batista. He is the only one among the finalists who believes in policing for the people rather than against them. He has denounced killer and abusive cops. There's a good chance that he will follow in the footsteps of Chief Couper, who brought peace to the PD and thus to the community. That's what we need.

You are tasked with using my tax money wisely and I expect you to do so. Please listen to the people of our city and hire Mr. Batista.

I thank you for doing the right thing.

Best

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Esty Dinur

**From:** [Amber Dwyer](#)  
**To:** [Police Chief Search](#)  
**Subject:** Support Hire of Ramon Batiste as Madison Police Chief  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 16, 2020 6:30:45 PM

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Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hi, I'm Amber Dwyer, 1446 Bellflower Ln., Madison, 53719 and today is 12/16/2020. I'm writing to express my support of hiring candidate Ramon Batiste as Madison Police Chief. I am not able to attend/speak at the upcoming meeting and I am writing on behalf of myself as a citizen of Madison, WI.

Thank you,  
Amber Dwyer

**From:** [Bonnie Ackerman](#)  
**To:** [Police Chief Search](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Shon Barnes  
**Date:** Thursday, December 17, 2020 3:40:33 PM

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Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Members of the Police and Fire Commission

Thank you for all the time and expert evaluations you have made narrowing the field to 4 finalists for Madison Police Chief. A job made more difficult this year because of Covid and a very loud demanding group who's only mission is to disrupt any civilized city meeting. Fortunately, you are able to act independently of the City Council. My best wishes to you..

After listening to the question and answer interviews of the four candidates, I would like you to favor Shon Barnes for the position. I was impressed with his education and experience.

Thank you for considering my request.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bonnie Ackerman  
Tamarac Trails Resident  
Madison Wi

**From:** [David Post](#)  
**To:** [Police Chief Search](#)  
**Subject:** High Recommendation for Shon Barnes for Police Chief  
**Date:** Thursday, December 17, 2020 5:28:49 PM

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Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Greetings,

As a member of the Salisbury City Council, and Mayor Pro Tem when Shon Barnes was selected to be our Deputy Police Chief, I want to offer my very highest recommendation.

When I first ran for City Council, one of the issues I advocated and proposed was community policing. It was almost as if Deputy Chief Barnes showed up to fulfill my hopes. He got police officers out of their cars and into the neighborhoods. He created a model called “a policeman for every neighborhood and a neighborhood for every policeman.” Last year, I helped raise the funds necessary — and it took me only 15 minutes largely because our community's trust and respect have improved so much — to buy a fleet of bicycles to help the police officers be closer to the citizens they serve.

As a result of Deputy Barnes' ideas, knowledge, efforts, and leadership, Salisbury has experienced a decrease in crime during a time of social unrest in a small city which has experienced a high poverty rate and increased racial tensions. For example, a Confederate monument in the middle of town was causing a great deal of unrest. After a struggle, we achieved an agreement to move it against the will of much of the public. When it happened, Deputy Chief Barnes was there lending his strong voice and a sense of calm and peacefulness.

Deputy Chief Barnes was admired, respected, and liked (and that's a biggie) in and by all corners of our very diverse community. Along with too many others, I was convinced that a larger city would need him. Madison is a wonderful city. My sister lived there for five or six years. I have extended family — her in-laws — who live there. Madison can find no one more qualified or more committed to community development, fairness, equity, and strength than Shon Barnes.

As a former college professor who has written hundreds of recommendations over my career, I've rarely, if ever, recommended anyone higher for any position in government or the private sector. I hope he's a good fit for Madison and that Madison hires him.

Selecting a Police Chief for a city is one of the most difficult tasks a local government faces. Hopefully, my thoughts are helpful.

With sincere regards to a wonderful city,

David Post  
Council Member  
City of Salisbury