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Statement of Gloria Allred

I am here today to explain the true facts as to what happened to Edwin Mieses last Sunday. Edwin Mieses is an innocent victim who was trying to help the driver of the SUV when he was run over.

Edwin Mieses is 32 years old. He is an accomplished and aspiring musician. He is a devoted father who takes care of his two children, ages 15 and 9. He has been living with the mother of his children for more than 16 years. They are a family and look after one another. She has been at his side at the hospital ever since the tragic events last Sunday.

He is not a member of any gang. He loves to ride motorbikes and came to New York City with his best friend to participate in a ride- nothing more. He did not know any of the other participants except for the friend that came with him.

Most importantly, Edwin is a human being and he has a heart. He had no malice or ill intentions towards Mr. Lien or his family whatsoever.

When he saw Mr. Lien's Range Rover stopped on the road. He pulled his bike over to the side, and walked over to where the accident had occurred to see what had happened and then tried to encourage people to move and keep riding.

He was attempting to diffuse the situation.

He told everyone to move on and go back to riding, and turned his back to the SUV to start walking back to his own bike. It was then, with his back to the SUV, and as he was in front of it, that he was run over and crushed. The SUV ran right over him. Other bikers, one of whom we have been told was a firefighter and another an EMT rendered aid and encouraged him to focus on his children and the people that he loved until the ambulance arrived. He thought he would die.

I am not here to justify the beating of Mr. Lien which followed. I deplore violence and nothing I say is intended to condone the beating of Mr. Lien. Edwin Mieses and his family deplore what happened to Mr. Lien. I deplore it. There is no place for such violence in our society, period.

However, let us not lose sight of the fact that Mr. Miese had done nothing to Mr. Lien. He wished them no harm. He was walking away from the SUV when he was run over. Are people so blinded by their fears and prejudices in this case that they cannot see that before anyone laid a hand on Mr. Lien, that Edwin Mieses was run over, and left severely injured? Where is the justice in that?

Mr. Miese now lies in a hospital with a broken spine in two places, multiple fractured ribs, a punctured lung, a torn aortic valve, and the doctors have indicated that they do not know whether or not he will ever walk again.

Mr. Mieses's life and the lives of his partner, children, parents, and everyone else who knows and loves him – were forever changed last Sunday. It is a miracle he survived. He faces a very uncertain future.

The video shows that the SUV was standing still. Edwin Mieses was in front of that SUV with his back turned not engaging in any behavior that was threatening or inappropriate. He was off of his bike. His sole intention was to diffuse a situation.

Then we see Mr. Lien's SUV roar off at top speed. Watch the video. Watch it again and again, as I have. Watch that huge vehicle blast off and watch it as it is lifted several feet off the ground as it rolls over Edwin Mieses.

Edwin Mieses did not do anything that justified Mr. Lien's decision to drive his Range Rover over him.

Whether one likes people who ride motorcycles is not the issue. The question is whether people can see past their prejudices and biases and see that Edwin Mieses is first and foremost a human being who was not doing anything wrong when he was run right over as though he was a rag doll.

The irony in this case is that Edwin Mieses was trying to help calm people down, and to help Mr. Lien and his family. For his efforts he wound up in a hospital bed with massive injuries. His life will never be the same. And to top it

off he has been pilloried in the press and in the public eye as though he deserved to be run over on the street.

It is time for the public to look past its prejudices and biases and see Mr. Mieses for who he is and to understand that there was more than one victim this past Sunday.

Before I address your questions, Edwin's partner of nearly 17 years, Dayana Mejia, and his father, Pastor Edwin Mieses Sr., would like to say a few words.

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Gloria Allred

Attorney at law

Representing Edwin Mieses, Dayana Mejia and Edwin Mieses Sr.