Hello! My name is Isaac Danuloff and I live in Burlington, VT. I'm emailing my written testimony for the Public Hearing on Community Safety Concerns held on March 31st, 2026. I thank you holding this hearing, and my statement is as follows:

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I made it out OK. I cannot say the same for several of my friends, with whom I shared dinner after the events on Dorset Street on the night of of March 11th, 2026. We decided to convene for a much needed meal after the traumatic events of that day to debrief, work emotions through our systems collectively, and tend to wounds. I saw the immediate impacts of the pepper spray while still at Dorset Street as I handed out gallons of water to folks flushing out red, incapacitated eyes. By dinner, I witnessed how the impacts manifested hours after contact, my friends having left their contaminated clothing outdoors and still tending to red, agitated eyes.

While protecting my neighbors on Dorset Street, I saw Vermont State Police and local Burlington and South Burlington Police stand facing me, with their backs to I.C.E., protecting them.

When this happens again, we will show up to protect our neighbors. Even my friends who were injured by police will return, because we know our role has pervertedly come to be to protect each other from the violence of the state - once just federal authorities like I.C.E., but now clearly VT authorities as well.

If nothing changes, if public investigations are not carried out scrutinously and justly, if laws are not changed, then police action will not change. I cannot change the orders police follow. That means that you - our legislators - face a choice. Will you, like VSP and local police, stand with your back facing - PROTECTING - the perpetrators of violence? Or will you take action, turn around, and protect the victims, your peaceful constituents.

Your inaction against future Vermont State Violence *will* become violence against us. Please act.

Support H.849 & S.209.

-Isaac Danuloff