

Chairman, Members of the Committee — thank you for the opportunity to speak today.

My name is Felix Garcia. I am a volunteer member of the Community Advisory Board connected to this case.

I want to be clear that today I am speaking in my personal capacity. My opinions are my own, and they do not represent the other members of the Board, who may have different views.

I decided to serve because I believe in building trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve — especially the Hispanic community.

Oversight in law enforcement is important. It helps protect civil rights, ensures accountability, and rebuilds trust when it has been broken. There is no doubt that, at one time, court supervision played an important role in Maricopa County.

But oversight should also be measured by results. After more than ten years under federal monitoring — at a cost of hundreds of millions of dollars to taxpayers — it is fair to ask an important question:

Is the current system still helping our community move forward?

Over the past year, I have worked directly in the community. I have organized events and spoken with hundreds of Latino residents, faith leaders, and families across the county.

What I hear again and again is that people want safety, respect, transparency, and collaboration.

I have personally seen more engagement between the Sheriff's Office and communities that once felt disconnected from law enforcement. That progress matters.

Trust is not built through reports alone. Trust is built through relationships, visibility, and consistent leadership.

Today, we are not the same Maricopa County we were ten years ago. Leadership has changed. Our communities have changed. Expectations have changed.

The question is not whether accountability matters — because it does. The question is whether the current model is the best way to support long-term trust and effective public safety.

Accountability should help institutions succeed — not keep them under permanent supervision. Our goal should be lasting trust, not endless oversight.

My hope is that this conversation focuses on the future — on transparency, measurable results, responsible use of taxpayer dollars, and strong partnerships with the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to be here today. I look forward to your questions.