KPCC listener,

When civil unrest erupted in Los Angeles and across the country in recent days, our reporters, editors and photojournalists were there to witness history. The protests were sparked by the death of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police officers and reflect built-up pain over the deaths of countless other African Americans killed by police. From Santa Monica and Culver City to downtown L.A., thousands took to the street.

Our journalists have worked hard to understand and contextualize what’s going on and why — including the looting and vandalism taking place outside of peaceful protests. We’ve done that by interviewing protesters, business owners, and public officials to provide you with accurate, factual and timely information.

In an important first for public radio in L.A., we simulcast special coverage with fellow NPR affiliate KCRW this weekend to bring critical news to our region and hear from listeners about how they were feeling. Our reporters updated live from the field, despite extremely challenging conditions. On Sunday afternoon, KPCC/LAist reporter Adolfo Guzman-Lopez was shot in the throat with a rubber bullet by Long Beach police officers. Guzman-Lopez was among many journalists across the country who were injured by law enforcement officers.

Journalists have the power to shape narratives. At KPCC + LAist, we understand the responsibility that comes with covering the news. We will report on this moment keenly aware of the voices we are elevating and the history that has brought us here. We promise to listen to you and respect your experiences. If you’d like to share them with us, please share here.

Our pandemic coverage will also continue. You can find the latest here.

As always, we could not do this without your support.

Thank you for everything and stay safe,

Kristen Muller
Chief Content Officer, KPCC + LAist

P.S. If you believe local fact-checked reporting is vital, please power our journalists with a donation today. Your donation will go a long way to keep non-profit local journalism strong as we experience a huge budget shortfall and make hard decisions about furloughing employees and making large budget cuts.