

EVIDENCE EXHIBITS

Paper Trail · Some exhibits below are fabricated for this exercise. At least one is real.

EXHIBIT A

SOCIAL POST

@martinez4citycouncil · posted 5:50 PM · shared 3,300 times

"A new study PROVES better street lighting cuts violent crime. This is a no-brainer — if elected I'm funding a citywide lighting upgrade on day one. Safer streets start with better lighting"

EXHIBIT B

PRODUCT WEBPAGE

martinez4citycouncil.example/safer-streets

MARTINEZ FOR CITY COUNCIL The Plan Safer Streets Donate

The Research Is Clear: Lighting Cuts Crime.

✓ BACKED BY A PEER-REVIEWED STUDY

urbansafetyresearch.example/lighting-crime-study

"The policy every city should copy" — Neighborhood Watch Digest

EXHIBIT C

BLOG ARTICLE

neighborhoodwatchdigest.example · posted 9 days before the viral post

Headline: "Does Better Lighting Actually Cut Crime? A New Study Weighs In." Excerpt: "The Martinez campaign points to a study evaluating a public lighting program, describing it as proof that lighting upgrades reduce violent crime citywide." A link under "the study" leads to Exhibit D.

EXHIBIT D

PRESS RELEASE

martinez4citycouncil.example/press · issued 4 weeks before the blog article

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE — The Martinez campaign cites a peer-reviewed study evaluating a public lighting replacement program. "The data is in — lighting cuts crime," said the candidate. The release does not mention which specific types of crime the study found were reduced, and does not state whether violent crime specifically showed a significant change.

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EXHIBIT E

CITATION

Referenced in Exhibits C and D as “a study evaluating a public lighting program”

Cadena-Urzúa P, Guardiola J, Montes F.

The impact of public lighting improvement on crimes and incivilities reduction in Chile.

Frontiers in Sociology. 2025;10:1541359.

DOI: 10.3389/fsoc.2025.1541359 PMID: 40182238

A record with this title, journal, and DOI can be looked up directly. Check which specific crimes the study found were reduced, and what it found about violent crime specifically — then compare that to how Exhibits C and D describe it.