

STATEMENT OF TIM SHAMBROOK AND KATE SNOW, PARENTS OF LILY

On behalf of our little girl, Lily, no words can express our devastation on losing her last June. In her honor, we are forever committed to making Chicago a safer biking community so that her death wasn't in vain.

Just weeks after Lily's death, the City of Chicago announced an aggressive plan to construct concrete barriers along every bike lane by the end of 2023 similar to a curb so as to prevent drivers from even entering bicycle lanes, but that was too late for Lily.

A Chicago city ordinance that was passed just last month regarding signage when construction work is occurring in the neighborhoods and towing of vehicles in bike lanes may be a first step toward increased safety, but it simply doesn't go far enough and just papers over the real problems. I have spoken to city officials many times asking about tow truck response times to vehicles parked in bike lanes, camera enforcement of safe bike lanes or progress toward the 2023 city-wide curb program, and the answers from the city are deficient. Safety should be every elected official's top priority and our little Lily paid the ultimate price for others' misconduct and disregard for the safety of bicyclists.

We have hired Clifford Law Offices to investigate what occurred on June 9, 2022, when a Commonwealth Edison truck was parked blocking the bicycle lane painted on the street while other large vehicles were still allowed to also be in the same area with repairs going on in a residential neighborhood. I have witnessed this type of conduct continue after Lily's death right in our same neighborhood. People have to care. The city has to care. Corporations have to care. They all need to respect bicycle lanes and the bicyclists using them. Hopefully, this lawsuit will open the eyes of many because we would never want this tragedy to happen to any other family anywhere.