

From: [anamalinow](#)
To: [Michael Lyon](#)
Cc: matthew@eff.org; [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [ligia Montano](#)
Subject: Re: [End Privatization Medicare] Re: Demand SF Supes reverse decision on allowing SF Police killer robots
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 10:21:23 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Thank you, Michael.

Matthew, please let me know if there is a more formal procedure we should go through to confirm our opposition to the “killer robots “ in the SF police force.

Thanks, Ana

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 6, 2022, at 10:15 AM, Michael Lyon <mlyon01@comcast.net> wrote:

Dear Matthew of EFF and San Francisco Supervisors,

Please know that the Movement to End Privatization of Medicare has voted in opposition to robots that kill and other aspects of the EFF letter to San Francisco officials. We hope the Supervisors will take advantage of today's opportunity to reverse their disastrous and dangerous decision to approve.

Sent from my not-very-smartphone, please excuse misspellings and auto-inserted absurdities.

----- Original message-----

From: Ana Malinow
Date: Tue, Dec 6, 2022 8:58 AM
To: Ligia Montano;mlyon01;
Cc: Movement to End Privatization of Medicare;
Subject:[End Privatization Medicare] Re: Demand SF Supes reverse decision on allowing SF Police killer robots

Ligia and Michael,

The Movement to End Privatization of Medicare voted 7 to 3 in favor of signing the letter opposing "killer robots" for the SF police. I have to mention that most people did not vote, but it could be that non-SF residents didn't vote. Could one of you let me know if there is a special procedure to sign and send the letter? I know it's due today before 2 pm.

Thanks,
Ana

On Sun, Dec 4, 2022 at 10:31 AM Ligia Montano <ligia@sdaction.org> wrote:

----- Original message -----

From: Michael Lyon <mlyon01mlyon01@gmail.com>
Subject: Demand SF Supes reverse decision on allowing SF Police killer robots
Date: Sunday, December 04, 2022 9:40 AM

SF Gray Panthers Prowls & Growls

Monday, Dec 5, 9:30 AM, City Hall Steps, Rally Against SF Police Killer Robots. Sponsors: Sups Preston, Ronan, Walton, ACLU, the Electronic Frontier Foundation, SEIU 1021 and SF Black Wall Street. See the [poster](#) for event. See SF Chron [article](#). Also see the proposed EFF [letter](#) to City Officials. If your organization wants to join us in signing on, please contact matthew@eff.org by 12/5, 2 PM. Add your name to the Public Citizen [petition](#) against killer robots for SF Police.

Tuesday, Dec 6, 2 PM, SF Supervisors Meeting, Demand reversal their decision of killer robots for SF Police. Item is #9 on Supe's [agenda](#). Public comment call-in: [+1-415-655-0001](tel:+14156550001), ID [2493 0285 046](tel:24930285046), #,#, press *3 to speak.

Ligia Montano
Healthcare Organizing Director
Senior and Disability Action
P.O. Box 423388, San Francisco, CA 94142
Cell: [\(415\) 912-8643](tel:4159128643) | Office: [\(415\) 546-1333](tel:4155461333) ext 303

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ACO/REACH COORDINATION (folder):

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1qFsiBIq12tAtbliZWPaJp5WLG15hAMif?usp=share_link
SEE ALL EMAILS HERE: <https://groups.google.com/g/movement-to-end-privatization-of-medicare>
MEMBERS: Allen Cooper, Ana Malinow, Ann Reynolds, Art Persyko, Barbara Commins, Barbara Pearson, Corinne Frugoni, David Leibowitz, David Leon, Ellen Yoshi, Harry Baker, Henry Abrons, Henry Broeska, James Mahon, Jodi Reid, Jonee Grassi, Karen Fishkin, Kathleen Healey, Ligia Montano, Marielle Reataza, Marian Shostrom, Marilyn Albert, Marta Rodríguez Escribà, Mary McDevitt, Michael Lyon, Nancy Greep, Patty Harvey, Terry Cunningham, Robert Lehman, Ruth Carter, Sumitra Joy, Ted Cody, Tsukuru Fors, Yusra Hussain

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Movement to End Privatization of Medicare" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to movement-to-end-privatization-of-medicare+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.

To view this discussion on the web visit <https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/movement-to-end-privatization-of-medicare/CAMef-ttFW7uMqHS8dWDb1y4ULcPYpePy5bSyjWobLqkHxoA3vO%40mail.gmail.com>.

From: [Michael Lyon](#)
To: matthew@eff.org; [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: mlyon01@comcast.net; [ligia Montano](#); [anamalinow](#)
Subject: Fwd: [End Privatization Medicare] Re: Demand SF Supes reverse decision on allowing SF Police killer robots
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 10:16:19 AM
Importance: High

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Cc: Movement to End Privatization of Medicare;
Subject:[End Privatization Medicare] Re: Demand SF Supes reverse decision on allowing SF Police killer robots

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SEE ALL EMAILS HERE: <https://groups.google.com/g/movement-to-end-privatization-of-medicare>

MEMBERS: Allen Cooper, Ana Malinow, Ann Reynolds, Art Persyko, Barbara Commins, Barbara Pearson, Corinne Frugoni, David Leibowitz, David Leon, Ellen Yoshi, Harry Baker, Henry Abrons, Henry Broeska, James Mahon, Jodi Reid, Jonee Grassi, Karen Fishkin, Kathleen Healey, Ligia Montano, Marielle Reataza, Marian Shostrom, Marilyn Albert, Marta Rodríguez Escribà, Mary McDevitt, Michael Lyon, Nancy Greep, Patty Harvey, Terry Cunningham, Robert Lehman, Ruth Carter, Sumitra Joy, Ted Cody, Tsukuru Fors, Yusra Hussain

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From: [Robert Anton O'Brien](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: NO military weapons to the SFPD
Date: Thursday, December 8, 2022 5:57:16 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

SAN FRANCISCO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

This is to ask that you vote to return the matter of SF Police Department use of military weapons to the Rules Committee so that *full hearings* from the public may take place.

Robert O'Brien, San Francisco Resident
311 11th Ave Apt 15
San Francisco, CA 94118

From: [Planet Glassberg](#)
To: [Breed, Mayor London \(MYR\)](#); [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Police Technology
Date: Wednesday, December 7, 2022 12:04:16 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Mayor Breed and Board of Supervisors,

Police Technology constantly experiences mission creep-- meaning equipment reserved only for specific or extreme circumstances ends up being used in increasingly everyday or casual ways. This is why President Obama in 2015 rolled back the Department of Defense's 1033 program which had handed out military equipment to local police departments (Remotec, Inc., is a Subsidiary of Northrop Grumman). He said at the time Police must "embrace a guardian--rather than a warrior--mind-set to build trust and legitimacy both within agencies and with the public."

There are many alternatives available to police, even in extreme circumstances.

Police equipment has a documented history of misuse and mission creep. While the proposed policy would authorize police to use armed robots as deadly force only when the risk of death is imminent, this legal standard has often been under-enforced by courts and criticized by activists. For the sake of your constituents' rights and safety and for everyone, completely discard this proposal. Instead, the monies for robots can go towards peoples' needs throughout our city. For example, health care, housing, and more.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,
Planet Glassberg

From: [Paul Barrier](#)
To: [Breed, Mayor London \(MYR\)](#)
Cc: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Police Technology.....Use....
Date: Wednesday, December 7, 2022 10:11:39 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

See Through Wall Technology.!!!!

With see through Wall technology police can locate the bad guy/girl where ever they are and then deploy officers.

You don't need robots that kill people.

You need See Through Wall Technology...!!!

Homes, School Buildings, Office Buildings, Highrise Buildings, see through wall technology *can see through Cement Walls...!*

Military has it.

So there's companies that are making it.

The City just has to purchase it and learn how to use it.

Should you use my recommendation idea, please pay me Twenty Five Thousand Dollars for the Recommendation of the purchase and use of this non lethal police assistant technology. News media reports police are looking to improve their technical tools to assist in their job and were considering robots that could kill people. In the United States people are considered innocent of a crime until proven guilty in court of law.

Paul Barrier, 1001 8th Street, Ste.1 Novato California 94945. Make Check Payable to Paul Barrier.

From: [james k purcell](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Media
Date: Wednesday, December 7, 2022 6:45:25 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good morning

I was listening to KQED this morning getting my coffee. I heard that do to some national media and general response to allowing Robot Cops kill citizens reflected poorly. So three supervisors grew a public consciousness that it was a poor choice politically and reversed their vote.

I wondered at hearing this if they saw their future careers being stained with such a heartless vote. I noticed three still, felt the contracts with Police, their union and manufacturers of robot cops mattered. I speculate they have some benefit from those entities if they stay the course. Plus as many snuff videos as they can watch.

I still lost my desire to stay in San Francisco for much longer after seeing this being presented as a solution for law enforcement here in SF. It is a shame and looks terrible, which I see the board saw, do to outside San Francisco political and media opinions, they changed their vote. Looking like grabbing at strings to keep some public facing integrity.

Good luck, cause this one. It makes SF look pretty bad and the reversal makes it look foolish, impulsive and still blood thirsty. Which reflects on me a citizen of San Francisco. A look for all my short comings, still is not ok. So I have my list of representatives who voted for killer robots and will stay away from their districts and vote in any way against them when opportunity presents.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [sylvia](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Thank you for reconsidering
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 10:27:08 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Thanks to those members of the board who have reconsidered their position on lethal robots. Please continue to do the right thing in the final decision by refusing to authorize use of this technology.

Best
Sylvia

From: [Michael Kemper](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Killer Robots on the Streets of San Francisco
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 5:46:56 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Board of Supervisors:

Below are remarks I have sent to my Supervisor, Aaron Peskin.

I must say that I am dismayed that the SFPD proposal to use robots armed with explosives to kill miscreants has not been killed outright but rather “temporarily suspended” and sent back to the rules committee for “changes.” What might these changes be? That police officers powers of discretion might be honed and perfected? That infallibility be one of the determining factors in graduating a cadet from the academy? That AI imbued robots will be infallible or endowed with human discretion? No, I fear the “changes” will be changes in wording that make the fact of a killer robot on the streets of San Francisco more palatable to the uniformed or care-less citizen.

Supervisors, It is a HUGE mistake if this thing, a miniature suicide tank is allowed on the streets of San Francisco whose sole purpose is to kill. We are not yet living in a dystopian world, let us not accelerate whatever momentum such a dire end has already achieved.

Michael Kemper
1388 California Street
San Francisco, CA

From: [Chris K.](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Robot Deadly Force Board Vote
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 3:46:40 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good afternoon,

I just left the meeting concerning this topic and stayed for the community recognition.

I was very pleased seeing the Supervisors work through some rule issues and eventually vote on removing language, amending and then sending back to the Committee.

I had a prepared speech not knowing at the time that community comments were not going to be allowed. I will share that at this point. I'm pleased with the outcome of today's votes.

"Good morning,

I'm Chris Ward Kline, the CEO of the non-profit PAVEN (Prejudice And Violence Ends Now). Thank you for the opportunity to speak in front of the Board of Supervisors.

Although I support allowing robots in disabling bombs on potential bomb threats, I think we need to have a longer discussion on using for deadly force.

Only one confirmed deadly force death by a robot, in July of 2016 in Dallas, TX.

In today's world, almost daily, there is a report of a hack domestically and internationally. In the city/county of San Francisco. Public Safety uses APPS like One System to communicate and use interoperable communications. Any person or agency with a higher geofence or credentials could, without further discussed safeguards, hack into police body cameras, programmers and robots to influence both police and civilians decisions that could make, both the police and civilians be victims and suspects of violence.

Some of this info was obtained through the Bay Area Urban Areas Security Initiative. Thank you for your time and consideration on this topic."

Nice job Board of Supervisors.

Respectfully,

Chris Ward Kline

From: [Julie Fisher](#)
To: julie searching@yahoo.com
Subject: Fwd: File Number: 220641: Oppose -- Please vote AGAINST killer robots
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 1:56:00 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Clerk,

Please share with BOS.

Thank you.

Dear Supervisors,

You can do this.

You can change your minds.

I understand that we live in an increasingly armed and dangerous world and that police officers feel unsafe. But we should not be militarizing our local police departments.

The answer is increased restrictions on access to deadly weapons by the general public.

I know that this is a national issue.

And that your actions today will affect other communities.

Sincerely, Julie

From: [C. Buzza](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote No on Use of Deadly Force via Remote Controlled Robot
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 1:47:50 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Please vote no on the use of deadly force via remote controlled robot today. This threatens the safety of the residents and visitors of San Francisco, and risks being used inequitably against black and LatinX residents who have historically been much more likely than white residents to be killed during encounters with police.

Advocating for a "no" vote from all supervisors today, including Supervisor Mandelman.

Sincerely,
Colin Buzza
245 Eureka Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

From: [Barbara Commins](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Weaponized robots...
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 12:43:12 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board members,

I am a San Francisco resident and had not heard about this issue until 3 days ago. I attended the rally yesterday and plan to be at the full BOS meeting today.

Four points:

The Public has not been duly informed and needs to be before passing. Media... SF Examiner et al newspapers, public TV (Ch 9- 26) and plenty of debate and public comment.

Involvement of SFPD in this campaign. A poll of the public's trust in the Police should be conducted and ways to improve their standing implemented!

All eyes are on San Francisco and even though Oakland chose NOT to allow this, we would be giving the nod to the rest of the country!

Think about its effect on tourism. Even one incident where robots were used would make me not want to come here!

Sincerely,

Barbara Commins

835 Urbano Dr

San Francisco, CA

415-341-3096

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From: [andrea.coombes](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Please vote NO on authorizing use of deadly force by police robots
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 12:42:09 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors,

Please please please do the right thing and vote NO on authorizing the use of deadly force by police reports. There is no way in hell that we need MORE deadly force on our City's streets. Please vote NO.

And a huge THANK YOU to my own District Supervisor Shamann Walton for voting no in the first vote. We don't need these robots on our streets. Supervisor Walton is the one to follow on this. He is right.

**-Andrea Coombes
District 10 resident for 13 years
SF resident for 35 years**

From: [James Murray](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: robots
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 12:28:45 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I understand that you're considering using robots to help police attack people. Is this true?
Are you out of your mind?

Please get a reality check and return to Earth.

James V. Murray
San Jose, Calif.

From: [Kathy Howard](#)
To: [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MandelmanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Preston, Dean \(BOS\)](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [DorseyStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Breed, Mayor London \(MYR\)](#)
Subject: 220641 OPPOSE - "As fatal police shootings increase, more go unreported" -- Washington Post, today
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 11:26:40 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors,

I have already submitted a letter in opposition to this ordinance and expressed my concern that by approving this ordinance, San Francisco is setting a terrible example for the entire U.S.

An article in today's *Washington Post* is highly relevant to the issue of giving police departments more ways to shoot people with impunity.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/investigations/interactive/2022/fatal-police-shootings-unreported/>

"As fatal police shootings increase, more go unreported"

"Flawed FBI data has left thousands of deaths uncounted and complicates efforts to hold troubled police departments accountable"

" . . . Even though federal records indicate that fatal shootings by police have been declining nationwide since 2015, [The Washington Post's Fatal Force database](#) shows the opposite is true: Officers have shot and killed more people every year, reaching a record high in 2021 with 1,047 deaths. The FBI database contains only about one third of the 7,000 fatal police shootings during this time — down from half when The Post first started tracking. . . ."

" . . . In California, for example, only half of departments' fatal police shootings appear in the FBI data. . . ."

" . . . The Post found that 500 fatal shootings in California — nearly half of the state's total since 2015 — were missing from the FBI database."

" . . . The racial disparity in fatal police shootings in California is far larger than the nationwide disparity, The Post has found. Black people in the state are killed by police at nearly four times the rate of White people."

Again, San Francisco should be a leader in sponsoring efforts to find non-lethal ways to render gunmen harmless, not ways to kill more people.

Katherine Howard
District 4

From: [Planet Glassberg](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Breed, Mayor London \(MYR\)](#)
Subject: NO LETHAL ROBOTS - Require Public Approval
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 11:18:37 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Mayor Breed and Supervisors,

I want to Direct my Message Specifically To Supervisors Chan, Stefani, Dorsey and Melgar.

VOTE NO FOR LETHAL ROBOTS This Afternoon! No Lethal Robots, not Here or Anywhere.

I Urge ALL Supervisors and the Mayor To Investigate the Polioce Departments' relationships and coordination with Police Foundations, their Boards and Donors and ALL Uses of Donated Funds/Equipment.

Next, Mandate Disclosure to Ensure that ALL Police Foundations and similar entities are subject to FOIA and Any Other State Sunshine Laws, as well as conflict of interest policies.

Lastly, Require Public Approval where Private Funding is Provided -cities Should Require Public Approval of Expenditures To Ensure That Funding is NOT Spent on Controversial Technology.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Please VOTE NO!

Respectfully,
Planet Glassberg

From: [Clemmy Brown](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: From a constituent - please do not allow armed robots
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 10:27:44 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Mr. Mandelman,

I'm a constituent of yours and I look forward to getting to know you. I live on Mount Sutro, I was born and raised here and recently moved back into the house I grew up in with my partner and my Dad. I'm a therapist and an expecting queer mother.

I'm writing you because I'm worried about the police having this new power with armed robots. I was struck by what Matthew Guargilia at EFF said about the history of police saying they will only use their new technology in the most limited ways, like with tear gas, and in that case ten years later it's getting used regularly against citizens/protestors ([link to him talking here](#)). I was also really worried to hear that this policy didn't go through the normal process of receiving public comment. It seems like caution with this is so important, and if it hasn't been through the full process I think it really needs to be brought back to the decision process. I hope you will change your vote.

Thank you very much for your work,

Clemmy Brown
415-939-7539

From: [Bella Hopewell](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Thursday, December 8, 2022 8:15:40 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Bella Hopewell
b3lla.h2003@gmail.com
916 Holly Road
Belmont, California 94002

From: [Hannah Martin](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Thursday, December 8, 2022 6:34:38 AM

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Supervisor ,

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I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Hannah Martin
hannahmarimartin@gmail.com
23228 Park Place Dr.
Southfield, Michigan 48033

From: [Rachel Howsmon](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Thursday, December 8, 2022 5:19:31 AM

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Supervisor ,

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Rachel Howsmon
howsmorrachel@gmail.com
1344 Larkin St
San Francisco, California 94109

From: [Tom Kibby](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Thursday, December 8, 2022 3:19:29 AM

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Tom Kibby
tomkibby@yahoo.co.uk
57 Parkhurst Road
Bexley, England DA5 1BA

From: [Elizabeth Pyo](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Wednesday, December 7, 2022 9:06:10 AM

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Supervisor ,

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As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Elizabeth Pyo
lizbethmaebeth@gmail.com
2390 Lucretia Ave
San Jose, California 95122

From: [Carly Noller](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 8:46:47 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Carly Noller
ccnoller@icloud.com
200 Van Ness Ave
San Francisco , California 94102

From: [Madeleine Weko](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 7:12:24 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Police robots? This is apocalyptic. They will use them when they think someone might die or... if they think they need to? We should not be allowing more death with impunity.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this dangerous policy.

Madeleine Weko
madeleneweko@gmail.com
4524 Linmore Ave.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19143

From: [Melissa Molina](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 5:11:09 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Melissa Molina
issaeryn16@gmail.com
Morris
New York, New York 10018

From: [Joanna Gurin](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 2:38:02 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Joanna Gurin
joanna.gurin@gmail.com
461 Classon Ave Apt 3 NY
Brooklyn, New York 11238

From: [Jose Vargas](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 12:34:42 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Jose Vargas
jose.d.vargas0910@gmail.com
642 Hyde Street APT 6
San Francisco, California 94109

From: [Adela Z](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 10:58:09 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Adela Z
adelazu716@gmail.com
50 Oak Street
San Francisco , California 94102

From: [Sarah Hooton](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 10:27:21 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Sarah Hooton
sarahhooton@gmail.com
200 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, California 94102

From: [hannah.gordon](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 10:12:37 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

hannah.gordon
hgordon77@icloud.com
114 Crofton Drive
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15238

From: ghelove@aol.com
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: KGO-TV.Programming@abc.com; BreakingNews@kron4.com; latimesassignmenteditors@lts.com; thetalk@nytimes.com
Subject: FBI: San Francisco will allow police to deploy robots that kill (Associated Press)
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 9:30:01 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

San Francisco will allow police to San Francisco will allow police to deploy robots that kill



HAR
November 29, 2022, 9:04 PM



OK, just dwell on it awhile

Below is a clip of what I said in 2016

*(I would further augment my initial comments on "summary on-the-spot executions": If we can send in robots with bombs and bullets, I would think we could just as easily, since we are dealing with a robot here, just arm it with tranquilizing or equally incapacitating agents. I am sure w/ the tech already in our province, we could also ascertain if the suspect is truly disarmed and disabled. Or is that just too much fuss **over a human?**)*

Watch out folks, you may be out AI-ing ... AI.

ghelove 12/2/2022

PS. The tyrannical police forces, despots and dictators of the world thank you, America



-----Original Message-----

From: ghelove@aol.com

To: _____

Sent: Fri, Jul 8, 2016 3:15 pm

Subject: Robot bomber, **A dangerous precedent**

I have to be very careful in saying this but, it must be asked. Did we not just send a robot armed with a bomb, to purposely, without any pretense or reservations, to blow up an American citizen on American soil? And no one appears to be questioning the act. I must ask how is this any different from a drone strike on American soil sans the aerial component. Don't let tragedy and sympathy, no matter how warranted, trump civil liberties. Remember we embarked once down that road during 911

https://url.avanan.click/v2/___https://www.cnn.com/2016/07/12/us/dallas-police-robot-c4-explosives/index.html___YXAzOnNmZHQyOmE6bzo4NDM5MmQ2YTc1ZWZkMTU4MzkzMThiMTQ1MjMjYmVhZT02OjMwNTU6YzUyYjJmN2NkNDc3ZWMyYWZlOTI2NWFMNTI2N2EzOWwNzU4YzYzMTNmQ0YlUxZWQ0MTZkZTQ5NTcxNTNmN2NkNj00IO

How robot, explosives took out Dallas sniper in unprecedented way

By [Sara Sidner](#) and [Mallory Simon](#), CNN

Updated 8:50 AM EDT, Tue July 12, 2016

CNN's Sara Sidner shows you what a pound of C-4 on a robot arm does in light of the Dallas Police tactic against a sniper.



From: [Arthur Wechsler](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: SFPD Robots
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 1:36:40 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi, I am writing as a concerned citizen of San Francisco. I do not believe that having robots that can conduct lethal force is safe or fair in this city that is supposed to be at the forefront of progressive policy. Enough is enough, we have seen enough killing from police already and to think that we need more is a scary and outrageous disregard for the lives of your fellow San Franciscans.

- Arthur

From: [Regina Islas](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Robots for SFPD
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 8:55:21 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

NO. NO. NO.

Whether you are offended by the term 'killer robots' is of no matter. That is exactly what they are designed to do and why. The error in thinking about this apparatus is unacceptable, and you must rescind this error in judgement. It is dangerous for all-what happens when a robot device malfunctions-at the very least-?

This does not reflect the life-affirming values of our city in any rational regard whatsoever.

Correct this wrong vote. Immediately. Too many lives are at stake and this is not the precedent we want to set.

Onward together,

Regina S Islas
[she/her]
regina.islas@gmail.com
650.484.7706

It was the very confusion of my life that gave me a sense of my own existence
Ai WeiWei

Though we did not know it wandering was our real work anyway
Rebecca Solnit

From: [lynn adams](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Militarization of police
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 9:31:27 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I'm not in San Francisco, but I do NOT want to see this idiocy spread to other cities. From the number of innocent people I've tracked that have been killed by police, and the investigations that have found racism etc in police departments, this is a bad idea. Are these things going to be able to tell the difference between an adult and a child??? More funding needs to go towards mental health programs and programs that address poverty rather than further militarizing our police departments!

L. Adams

From: [Sherrill Futrell](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: YOUR ROBOTS THAT KILL PEOPLE
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 7:52:29 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

My family believeS that we never need again to come shopping or go to shows or museums or restaurants in your benighted city. You embarrass yourselves. When you get rid of your military robots let us know. Or when you resign.

Good-bye,
SHERRILL FUTRELL
DAVIS, CA
(530)756-6426

From: [Sue Vaughan](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#); [Preston, Dean \(BOS\)](#); [DorseyStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Breed, Mayor London \(MYR\)](#)
Subject: File Number: 220641: Oppose -- Please vote AGAINST killer robots
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 5:08:20 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors,

You can do this. You can change your minds. You will not be the first. Way back in the day, now Governor Gavin Newsom voted to support a legislative item at the San Francisco Board of Supervisors regarding sidewalk safety -- and then reversed his vote the following week. I can't remember whether this was in regards to increasing the fines for parking on sidewalks or banning Segues from sidewalks. It was one of those items. In my opinion, he was wrong to switch his vote then. You would be right to change your votes now. Please do so.

I understand that we live in an increasingly armed and dangerous world and that police officers feel unsafe. But we should not be militarizing our local police departments.

The answer is increased restrictions on access to deadly weapons by the general public.

I know that this is a national issue. But that is the only answer.

Please reverse your votes.

Thank you.

Sue Vaughan
<https://burning-planet.org/>

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." -- Margaret Meade

From: [sten andersen](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Discusting
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 4:14:04 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

What wrong with you all robots too kill people like you all shut be sendt on a shooting range and used as target practice discusting humans

Sendt fra min iPad

From: [nora.coyle](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Robots
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 2:24:56 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Please stop the idea of using robots that kill. That sounds like a completely untenable idea.

Nora Coyle
Anaheim, CA

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Sharon Daniel](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: say no to robots that kill
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 1:47:09 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To: SF Board of Supervisors

I write to express my strongest disapproval of the military equipment use policy that the board approved on first reading Tuesday. Do not approve this dangerous policy. If you do your constituents will remember and replace you in the next election.

Sharon Daniel
1635 18th Street
San Francisco, CA 94107

From: [Jhene Canody](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Robots that Kill?
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 1:44:40 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors,

One of the things I have long loved about SF (I have lived here since 1990) is the reasonable and rational mind-set of the board of supervisors. I was utterly dismayed and alarmed to read that a majority of you have okayed the use of robots that use bombs to kill people. Could this actually be true??? I understand that the robots could be used for other things, like investigating suspicious packages, but authorizing the use of robots that could potentially kill people is WRONG and immoral. A gentle reminder that *you* work for *us*, not the other way around. If the majority of SF residents you are hearing from are saying no to this dystopian nightmare, then the people you work for have spoken. What is left to debate? A "no" is the only reasonable vote on Tuesday.

To the two of you who voted "no" to begin with, I commend you on your heart, wisdom and courage.

Sincerely,

Jhene Canody

From: [Roman Rimer](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Disappointed and disgusted
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 1:39:05 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I'm extremely disturbed by the board members who even considered allowing the SFPD to have robots that kill. As someone who has grown up in the Bay Area and lived in San Francisco for ten years (currently in District 6), votes like this make me embarrassed to live here. The SFPD has a long history of assaulting and killing unarmed people, as well as stealing from my unhoused neighbors. Why on earth should they get access to machines that have a history of causing great harm? Tech experts are opposed to this as are every single person I've talked to about this. There are many things that can make living in San Francisco safer for everybody and allowing a police force with a history of violence to gain even more tools to cause harm does the OPPOSITE. Shame on you.

--

Roman Rimer
He/Him/His
roman.rimer@gmail.com

From: [LINDA HARDY](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Killer robots
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 12:50:54 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Don't allow killer robots

Sent from my iPhone

From: doctorSpook.GeoMagnetic.tv
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: do not authorize robots that can kill, or any military weapons in the hands of civilian govt. agencies
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 12:08:12 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

My name is Nathan Vogel, SF property owner and business owner.

Please do not authorize robots that can kill, or any military weapons in the hands of civilian govt. agencies.

DO NOT arm robots with weapons.

NO!

Thanks for listening to my official comment.

Sincerely,

Nathan Vogel

Nathan Vogel / Doctor Spook
~"<Follow your Bliss>"~

From: [Madison Gentry](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Robots that can kill people
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 12:05:36 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello,

I am reaching out to voice urgent concern about your approval for police use of military-grade robots that are designed with the ability to kill people in our community.

This decision is baffling and deeply alarming. There is great potential risk of misuse/abuse of this technology, and zero justification for its necessity.

The people of San Francisco will not be safer because of this program. We will instead be forced to live in fear of catastrophic violence from the police, of being in the wrong place at the wrong time. Fighting the unknowable possibility of violence with bigger, more powerful violence will only guarantee greater destruction.

I urge you to amend this decision as soon as possible, to reverse the massive potential for undue harm that will surely result from it.

Sincerely,
Madison Gentry
Bay Area Resident

From: [Martin Maher](#)
To: [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: SFPD Robots? Please vote NO!!
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 11:06:47 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor Walton:

When I saw a headline that this first-reading vote had been taken, I thought to myself “Surely, this is an Onion article.” It saddens me to learn that it is not.

These robots would represent an inherent escalation by the very police sworn to protect life, and their deployment and use would be explicitly counter to the Mission Statement of the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD). The following is taken directly from the SFPD department website -

Statement of Purpose

We, the members of the San Francisco Police Department, are committed to excellence in law enforcement and are dedicated to the people, traditions and diversity of our City. In order to protect life and property, prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime, we will provide service with understanding, response with compassion, performance with integrity and law enforcement with vision.

Why are those charged with protecting the entire community-at-large interested in bringing more weapons of war into their efforts? How is deploying a robot capable of lethal force a “response with compassion”? I do not believe that I am engaging in hyperbole with these questions. The primary difference between the proposed remote-controlled robots and the war-fighting drones being utilized in Ukraine is that one walks or rolls, and the other flies. Post-deployment of these robots, both San Francisco and Ukraine will be war zones, albeit of slightly different scopes.

Russia refers to their actions in Ukraine as a 'special operation' just as SFPD will likely refer to the utilization of their drones as 'special operations.' The people of Ukraine, as well as most of the rest of the civilized world call it a war. I have every confidence that San Franciscans will come to realize that use of these robots will be in small 'wars', deployed against any element of the population deemed undesirable or suspicious, or where preserving the life of a police officer is determined to be more important than protecting and defending citizens.

Society and community should be about humanity and common purpose. Society and community should be about the value of all persons; young or old; well off or financially struggling; dark, medium or light skin tone; native-born or newly-immigrated. It is already far too easy to sit behind a keyboard and insult, defame and abuse other human beings, in ways that most people would not were they face-to-face. I imagine that these robots will engender an all too comfortable ease with which their operators kill, and the intention of the operator won't matter . . . the inhumanity will have already caused irreparable harm, not only to the

individuals and groups involved, but to the community and society as well.

Many acknowledge that being a police officer is not easy, which is why only the best among us should be in that role. Again, I quote from the SFPD website "San Francisco has an international reputation for its commitment to human values: compassion, fairness, diversity, human rights, and justice. These values must be at the forefront of the SFPD as it fulfills its public safety mission."

Please, do not give SFPD permission to kill people with robots. There are many alternatives available to police, even in extreme circumstances. Police equipment has a documented history of misuse and mission creep. While the proposed policy purports to authorize police to use armed robots as deadly force only when the risk of death is imminent, this legal standard has often been under-enforced by courts and criticized by activists. For the sake of your constituents' rights and safety, please vote NO.

Regards,

Martin Maher
25sparta@penguindreams.us
25 Sparta St, San Francisco

From: [David Smernoff](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Bomb carrying robots?!
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 11:03:13 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board Members -

As a former SF resident and current San Mateo County resident who frequently visits the City, I am shocked that you would approve the use of robots carrying bombs that can be used to kill people. Seriously?

For a police department with a long history of racist policing, and an as yet, uncompleted list of improvements to remedy that problem, I can't imagine why you think you need to add to your military arsenal to police people in San Francisco.

Surely you realize that these robots that kill will be mostly targeted at the BIPOC community, the homeless, the mentality unstable, and likely some collateral damage for innocent bystanders.

Should you authorize this horribly bad idea, I will boycott the City and take my entertainment and dining experiences elsewhere, and encourage others to do the same.

Why would I come to a dystopian city of the future?

Wake up, vote no.

David Smernoff

David Smernoff
112 Foxwood Road
Portola Valley, CA 94028-8113
h: 650-851-9202
c: 650-722-2063
f: 650-851-9293
david@grassrootsecology.org

From: [Karoline Hatch-Berens](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: SFPD Robot Use by of Force Policy is ridiculous
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 9:19:49 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good Morning Supervisors!

I can't believe most of you approved a policy to allow the SFPD to use robots with fatal weapons, however narrow the allowance is, and however few people need to approve it. I urge you to rethink the priorities of our fair city and go back to policing basics, like building trust and community policing. Public trust in our police seems to be at a low, according to lots of newspaper articles about the police watching crimes take place and doing nothing, so maybe we should start with something less dystopian than anything that can be called "robots that kill."

—karoline hatch
94117

Sent from my iPhone

From: [regina.sneed](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: AB 481. Use of Robots
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 8:48:11 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors:

I have provided comments and testified at the Rules Committee on the police policy for military equipment since June 2022. Much progress was made on bringing it into compliance with the law but there is still room for improvement.

Media attention has focused on this one small part of the policy which merits attention. It was not really addressed in the Rules Committee. The public has not had a chance to understand what this policy is and to express their informed opinion on the issue.

Please send this policy back to the Rules Committee to have a full discussion on this issue and allow the public to express their concern about the increased use militarized interventions by our police.

I am opposed to authorizing use of robots under this policy. San Francisco is a city of peace. Let's keep it so.

Regina Sneed
District Two resident

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sharon Paltin](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: No to robots that kill
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 8:47:58 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors,

As a fellow Northern Californian, I am writing to ask you to rethink approval of robots that kill for SFPD.

You are well aware that this is a horrifying slippery slope, and I ask that the SFPD strive to overcome the urge to militarize our civilian policing.

I have no objection to bomb diffusion by robot, but using the robots for deadly force would lead to deadly errors, injustices, and lawsuits.

Thank you for your kind attention,

Sharon Paltin, M.D.

From: [jessea greenman](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Unimaginable scenario: use of SFPD robot with a bomb
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 8:30:57 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Greetings, Supervisors.

Please think extremely carefully about what possible scenarios could ever justify the use in San Francisco of robots with bombs. This one: a terrorist with a nuclear weapon? The US military would take care of that. A mass murderer holed up with hostages and a bomb of his own? Really, how would a bomb help there? By killing the hostages and blowing the scene up before the mass murderer does?

There is no scenario at all that would make the use by the SFPD of a robot with a bomb logical. None.

From: [David Zakim](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: police to use armed robots in SF
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 8:15:33 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Ladies and gentlemen of the board,

I am alarmed to see that the above, frightening idea was not rejected out of hand.

I live in Marin. But the Board represents me to the extent that my wife and I visit the city for shopping, dining, and entertainment.

I am writing to let you know that we will cease doing so should the police be enabled to use armed robots.

Sincerely,

David Zakim

From: [Elaine Katzenberger](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Robots being used to kill people
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 8:03:58 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I am writing to state my firm opposition to any policy that allows the Police Department (or any government agency) to use robotic means to do harm to human beings. This is not the direction our city, nor humanity itself should be heading!

With sincere appreciation for your service, and trusting in your good judgment,

Elaine Katzenberger
749 Niagara Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94112

From: [Gee, Natalie \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: Good evening, Robots to police, in an already dysfunctional system, without adequate controls and precautions to Ensure balanced justice is a dangerous and deeply concerning idea. Please stop this from becoming a reality. Thank you for your atten
Date: Friday, December 2, 2022 3:44:52 PM

Additional communications for File No. 220641.

Thank you!

Natalie Gee 朱凱勤, Chief of Staff
Supervisor Shamann Walton, District 10
President, Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl, San Francisco | Room 282
Direct: 415.554.7672 | **Office:** 415.554.7670

From: E <emanuela_goldenberg@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2022 3:41 PM
To: Walton, Shamann (BOS) <shamann.walton@sfgov.org>
Subject: Good evening, Robots to police, in an already dysfunctional system, without adequate controls and precautions to Ensure balanced justice is a dangerous and deeply concerning idea. Please stop this from becoming a reality. Thank you for your attent...

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good evening,

Robots to police, in an already dysfunctional system, without adequate controls and precautions to Ensure balanced justice is a dangerous and deeply concerning idea. Please stop this from becoming a reality.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

With gratitude,

Emanuela

(347) 268-9947

~ Passionate about Contributing to a Healthy Humanity & the Necessary Climate Advocacy ~

From: [Gee, Natalie \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: Police Robots & Deadly Force
Date: Friday, December 2, 2022 3:18:03 PM

Additional communications for File No. 220641.

Thank you!

Natalie Gee 朱凱勤, Chief of Staff
Supervisor Shamann Walton, District 10
President, Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl, San Francisco | Room 282
Direct: 415.554.7672 | Office: 415.554.7670

-----Original Message-----

From: Page Edwards <pageedw@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2022 2:56 PM
To: Walton, Shamann (BOS) <shamann.walton@sfgov.org>
Subject: Police Robots & Deadly Force

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good Afternoon Representative Walton,

I wanted to contact you to let you know that I am **deeply** concerned about the proposal to allow the SFPD to deploy robots to employ lethal force. The guidelines are extremely broad and vague. The temptation to send in robots rather than put human officers at risk is understandable. However, this would set a terrible precedent. This is a tool that even with the best intentions will be inevitably misused. People **will** die unnecessarily. Innocence **will** be lost. The already fragile trust that the public has for the SFPD **will** be further fractured. This is a **TERRIBLE** idea, and I strongly urge you to vote against it.

Respectfully,

Page Edwards
SF District 10 resident & voter

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: Thank you for TRYING to make SFPD less dangerous for me.
Date: Friday, December 2, 2022 3:17:19 PM

Additional communications for File No. 220641.

Thank you!

Natalie Gee 朱凱勤, Chief of Staff
Supervisor Shamann Walton, District 10
President, Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl, San Francisco | Room 282
Direct: 415.554.7672 | **Office:** 415.554.7670

From: Charles S. Lewis III <cslew3@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2022 3:00 PM
To: Preston, Dean (BOS) <dean.preston@sfgov.org>; Walton, Shamann (BOS) <shamann.walton@sfgov.org>; Ronen, Hillary <hillary.ronen@sfgov.org>
Subject: Thank you for TRYING to make SFPD less dangerous for me.

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisors,

As both a Black man and a born-and-raised San Franciscan - one whose life has known no shortage of [racial profiling by SFPD](#) - I wanted to thank you for not approving the use of deadly robots at the behest of a militarized police force. I'm sorry that your colleagues didn't show the same sensitivity, but I'm grateful that you three made it one per cent less likely that I'll be shot down by cops on the streets of my hometown.

Hopefully, your colleagues will reconsider. Approving the robots damages the already-fragile public trust in both law enforcement and the SFPD in particular.

Again, I thank you.

Charles Lewis III.

PS: the pandemic is **not** over. If you truly care about public safety, you'll restore all the safety measures, free testing sites, and mandates for masking and proof-of-vaccination. Those measures saved lives, which is what we need instead of the hundreds of people dying every day without the measures.

From: [Frances Taylor](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: SF now national emblem of shame
Date: Friday, December 2, 2022 2:12:33 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

The Washington Post nails it.

The eight supervisors who voted to unleash lethal robots on us are giving the green light to the rest of the country to promote preying on people from a distance.

Fran Taylor

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/12/02/san-francisco-police-killer-robots/>

From: [L. Holsworth](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Robots as Lethal weapons
Date: Friday, December 2, 2022 1:55:06 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

There is no way else to approach this matter of Lethal Robots as helpers to SFPD: its a disaster waiting to happen.

Please consider to vote this plan down and OUT.

No need for reply. Whatsoever.

Sincerely, L.Holsworth

From: [Joanne Stanley](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Coming soon to your local police department: killer robots - The Washington Post
Date: Friday, December 2, 2022 9:29:51 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors,

Please read this piece by former federal prosecutor Paul Waldman, who argues that policies like those you just adopted promote a "warrior mindset" among police. "The easier you make it for cops to kill, the more apt they might be to do so," he concluded.

Somehow our beautiful city is setting a trend that could spread nationwide, increasing the likelihood that mistakes or abuses could lead to death rather than protection for citizens. I have read the cases made for this policy by former police spokesman Supervisor Matt Dorsey and others, but I am not persuaded that the benefit outweighs the risk here. I say this as someone who fought drug sales in my own neighborhood years ago at some risk to myself, joining forces with local police and other city departments to shut down not one but two illegal operations.

Militarization of our police is the exact wrong direction, because what makes us safer is known to be building community involvement and trust. If a particularly extreme situation should arise, specially trained and dedicated officers such as SWAT team members are available, or even the military itself.

Please reverse this ill-considered, embarrassing, and dangerous vote. More conservative winds may be blowing in San Francisco right now, but this mistake could have permanent and fatal results that we will have to live with forever. Minority members and poor people generally are the most likely to suffer, as we all know and have known for a long time.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jo Stanley
San Franciscan

https://url.avanan.click/v2/_https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/12/02/san-francisco-police-killer-robots/_YXAzOmNmZHQyOmE6bzoyOTYyZGMxOWMlNzhjNjdiOTFOTc4OTVhbjAxOGM0OTo2OjAxN2Y6ODM3ODE0YmMyMjhhYjYwJiM2RiOGMwMGE2MDkyYTZhYjg5YjEzNTdhZDM5NTQ2OTQ5ZGFkNzZmMDE2MmU2MzMyYTpwOIQ

From: [Gee, Natalie \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: Robots with lethal arms
Date: Friday, December 2, 2022 12:41:42 AM

FYI

From: Iris Biblowitz <irisbiblowitz@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 01, 2022 5:44 PM
To: Walton, Shamann (BOS) <shamann.walton@sfgov.org>; RonenOffice (BOS) <ronenoffice@sfgov.org>; Preston, Dean (BOS) <dean.preston@sfgov.org>; Gordon Mar <info@gordonmar.com>; Chan, Connie (BOS) <connie.chan@sfgov.org>; Melgar, Myrna (BOS) <myrna.melgar@sfgov.org>; Safai, Ahsha (BOS) <ahsha.safai@sfgov.org>; Mandelman, Rafael (BOS) <rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org>; Peskin, Aaron (BOS) <aaron.peskin@sfgov.org>; Dorsey, Matt (BOS) <matt.dorsey@sfgov.org>; Stefani, Catherine (BOS) <catherine.stefani@sfgov.org>
Subject: Robots with lethal arms

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors - I'm trembling with fear and rage at the 8 - 3 decision to allow SFPD to deploy robots with lethal arms to potentially kill people. I don't think I'm alone in being shocked and upset, but perhaps my personal reaction has to do with being a nurse, a senior, living in the Mission for close to 50 years, and witnessing up close multiple incidences of SFPD's abuse of power (mostly on BIPOC youth). I've also gotten to know some of the families of victims of police violence and how they've been struggling with severe trauma without any hope of justice.

I want to express my thanks to Supervisors Walton, Ronen, and Preston for understanding the great risks of this new policy. To the eight of you who voted for this policy, I have no idea what your personal experiences have been, and am disheartened and confused about how you could make this extreme decision.

Sincerely,
Iris Biblowitz, RN

From: [Melissa McMillan](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Horrified re: Robots that Kill
Date: Thursday, December 1, 2022 1:49:25 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

SF Board decision makers,

I am both astounded and horrified that I have to write an email to my city's leadership asking you to please cease and desist all plans to allow SFPD to murder our citizens using robots.

There is nothing wrong with automating the more tedious elements of police work, but it's pretty universally agreed that the police are already murdering "suspects" with total impunity in San Francisco and beyond - and this capability is only going to result in an increase in unnecessary deaths.

The news of this is being shared far and wide, making San Francisco look like a post-apocalyptic hellscape where everyone's worst fears about the surveillance state have already been realized.

Wishing you all a short tenure, and hoping that you can remove the SFPD boot from your tongues and come to your senses.

Disrespectfully,

Melissa McMillan
415-917-7336
Melissa.Rose.McMillan@Gmail.com

From: [Patricia Avery](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: *OPPOSE Item 9- Ord. # 220641 – re Police acquisition/use of armed robots
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 3:30:11 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To the Board of Supervisors:

I am appalled and gravely concerned by the Board of Supervisors' vote last week to allow the SFPD to deploy robots that can kill people in "extraordinary circumstances".

Gun violence is real and mass shootings concern everyone. However, police abuse against people is a grave concern as well and we run a real risk of misuse by police deploying a robot against citizens. Gun violence needs to be addressed with the will to enact real legislation, not military weapons.

Sincerely,

Patricia Avery

From: [Lisa B Rofel](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: *OPPOSE Item 9- Ord. # 220641 – re Police acquisition/use of armed robots
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 10:48:00 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear SF Board of Supervisors, I was shocked and appalled that you voted to approve the use of robots by the police force, with the potential to actually kill people, whether they are innocent or guilty. What has our city of San Francisco come to? Humans are fallable, as is true for police, and the use of robots increased the potential for more killings rather than seeking a humane way to solve the problems police currently address.

Yours,
Lisa Rofel

--

Lisa Rofel
Professor Emeritus and Research Professor, Department of Anthropology
Co-Director, Center for Emerging Worlds
University of California, Santa Cruz
National Board Member, Jewish Voice for Peace

From: [Bruce Ballin](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: *OPPOSE Item 9– Ord. # 220641 – re Police acquisition/use of armed robots
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 9:04:23 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear San Francisco Supervisors,

I am writing to Oppose Item 9– Ord. # 220641 – re Police acquisition/use of armed robots that I understand is scheduled for a vote this coming Tuesday, December 6, 2022.

I feel this has nothing to do with good policing. We certainly need an assault weapons ban in the United States. The failure to protect children in Uvalde, TX was a result of poor police work and leadership. Robots that kill in such a situation would have harmed even more children and teachers.

I am a native San Franciscan. And as a son of Holocaust Survivors this also suggests the beginnings of that horrible time. Are we at a point just before or just after Hitler took power in January 1933?

I urge you to vote no on Item 9– Ord. # 220641 this coming Tuesday, vote no on robots that kill.

Bruce Ballin
1468 16th Ave
San Francisco, CA 94122

From: [Penny Rosenwasser](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: *OPPOSE Item 9- Ord. # 220641 – re Police acquisition/use of armed robots
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 8:34:40 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

NO to using robots that kill! Please!
thank you,
Penny Rosenwasser, Ph.D.

From: [Brittany Covert](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: ROBOTS THAT KILL
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 6:35:28 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To whom this concerns,

I am deeply concerned with the fact David Chiu, the SF City Attorney, authored AB 481 to require governmental transparency about the use and acquisition of militarized equipment by civilian police agencies. I know SF owns 17 robots, which were purchased for bomb and suspicious package disposal. This policy would set out the rules of the road for the 17 robots. No legislative body in the Bay Area has yet explicitly permitted the use of robots outfitted with weapons (bombs or guns) against civilian populations. I never want to see this authorized.

I thought we learned more after the uprising of the Black Lives Matter movement and the death of George Floyd. I thought we as San Franciscans were better than letting police use robots to kill people.

This madness has to stop.

It must stop.

Keep our people safe, stop killing black people and other people of color.

*Thank you for your consideration
Brittany Covert, CPA
95 Duboce Ave, SF, CA 94103*

--

Best Regards,
Brittany Covert, CPA
415-515-4056
covert.brittany@gmail.com

From: [julianna dickey](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Robots that Kill
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 4:53:18 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am hoping and praying that in the vote on Tuesday this plan to arm robots with bombs will not pass. This is a plan that has too many dreadful consequences to even imagine!

Thank you for reconsidering this.

Juli Dickey

From: [Michelle](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Robots that kill
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 11:34:35 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To the SF BOS,

As a lifelong Bay Area resident and a medical provider who trained and lived in San Francisco for many years, I join many others in urging you to prohibit the SFPD from using bomb disposal robots to kill. Our cities and towns must not be terrorized by weapons of war. I'm sure you are all also aware that this issue is making our region a focus of national and international attention, and not in a good way. Please do the right thing and prohibit this misuse of power.

Michelle Orengo-McFarlane MD

From: contemplative1@gmail.com on behalf of [Damon Powell](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Robots that kill
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 10:58:14 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I can not believe that any members of the Board would seriously consider allowing robots that kill to be released on the San Francisco citizenry under any circumstances!!

You must reconsider your vote and turn away from this unprecedented course of action that will have far-reaching consequences that you more than likely prove to be disastrous for San Francisco's citizens and the entire State of California.

Sincerely,

Damon Powell, Ph.D.

Artist/Mystic/Entrepreneur

510.551.9909

damon.powell.phd@gmail.com

www.damonpowell.com

Instagram, Pinterest & Twitter = @dpartandtheo

Author: [When We Pray: 8 Meditations on the Aesthetics of Prayer & the Spiritual life](#)

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From: [Sharon Lieberman](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Robots that kill
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 8:07:22 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Policemen make fatal mistakes of judgment even though they are present at a situation. Robots have no brain and no judgment. They will be much more prone to kill, since that is their purpose.

Please, please, please do NOT allow the use of robots that kill.

Sharon Lieberman
Annapolis, California 95412

From: [betty winholtz](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: robots that kill
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 8:04:36 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors:

I can't believe I have to write this letter. San Francisco is not a war zone. We are still a civilian County. Yes, there is violence that happens, but war-like decisions should be made by civilians (with expert advice) per incident--not a blank check without civilian oversight.

No legislative body in the Bay Area has yet explicitly permitted the use of robots outfitted with weapons (bombs or guns) against civilian populations. This is third world country stuff.

SF's 17 robots were purchased for bomb and suspicious package disposal. Do not turn them against humans.

VOTE NO.

Sincerely,
Betty Winholtz

From: [Gold, Warren](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Gold, Warren \(UCSF\)](#)
Subject: robots that kill
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 6:37:34 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I strongly oppose adopting a policy of using military weapons in dealing with civilian problems in our cities in California.

Warren Gold MD

From: [Shreya Ramesh](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Please vote against robots that kill
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 8:15:33 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello,

My name is Shreya Ramesh and I'm a resident of San Francisco. I urge you to vote against allowing robots that exert lethal force.

I understand that this is meant to stop events like school shootings. However I don't believe killing without at least due process (let alone at all, given that California is about to eliminate death row) is in line with our city's values. As a software engineer, I know that training data for technology like this is heavily biased and will result in many errors. As a citizen of San Francisco I believe this will make our city less safe.

I strongly request you to ensure that these military weapons are not allowed for use in San Francisco.

Thank you,
Shreya Ramesh

From: [Jayme Madison](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Robot guns
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 7:45:12 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi there,

I am emailing you because I am concerned about your vote to move forward with arming sfpd with more military equipment. Specifically killing robots. Have you never seen a science fiction movie? And besides that in what situation could that possibly be necessary in San Francisco? More violence is not the solution to problems. I really hope you reconsider and think about what kind of a world you really want to create.

Thanks for your time,
Jayme

From: [Rebekah Sophia](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: 11/29 BOS Meeting - Item 28
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 7:17:45 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board Members,

I am writing to express my extreme concern over the proposed rules for the use of certain police equipment that was discussed at last week's meeting (Item 28, "Administrative Code - Funding, Acquisition, and Use of Certain Police Department Equipment").

I am appalled by the proposed Use of Force policy for certain robots in SFPD's possession, which would allow SFPD to use robots to use force and deadly force against civilians. I am even more appalled given that Supervisor Peskin originally rightly restricted this policy, as can be seen in Supervisor Peskin's original edits, which would prohibit SFPD from using robots to administer force. Supervisor Peskin's edits are appropriate and the better course of action.

SFPD should not be allowed to use robots to administer force against civilians, especially lethal force. Allowing robots to use force and kill people remotely is a dehumanizing, militaristic rule that has no place in a community and certainly has nothing to do with keeping us safe. SFPD already has a history of using excessive force against civilians with dire consequences. They should not be further empowered to do this via robots.

I am writing to ask you to revise Section 5 "Authorized Use" of its Law Enforcement Equipment Policy—and revert to the original language Supervisor Aaron Peskin proposed—as follows:

"The robots listed in this section shall not be utilized outside of training and simulations, criminal apprehensions, critical incidents, exigent circumstances, executing a warrant or during suspicious device assessments. ~~Robots will only be used as a deadly force option when risk of loss of life to members of the public or officers is imminent and outweighs any other force option available to SFPD.~~ Robots shall not be used as a Use of Force against any person."

Sincerely,

Rebekah Percy
Pronouns: Ella/She/Her

From: [B Dass](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Robots that kill: Bad idea
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 7:17:45 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors

Approving robots that kill is a bad idea.

Thank you.

Jorge De Cecco
Ukiah, CA

From: [Kitt Saginor](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Robots and deadly force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 10:32:58 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Esteemed Members of the Board of Supervisors,

Tomorrow the policy governing the funding, acquisition, and use of certain law enforcement equipment will be back on your agenda for a final vote. Please reconsider your split decision to approve using a robot to kill people. You may be thinking that your decision is only for San Francisco, and that, having written safeguards against misuse of this weapon into the policy, it will only have good consequences. Please think again. San Francisco is a trendsetter with a national reputation. Your vote for a policy to arm robots to kill people will provide the winning argument for arming robots in police departments all over California and the U.S. Will police in other cities, or even in San Francisco, only ever use the weapon in the very restricted circumstances named in your draft policy? Please don't disregard the very real effects of systemic racism and implicit bias on the actions of police officers.

Please don't enable the mission drift that is transforming municipal police into military forces. We already have a well trained, well equipped, military force available for dire emergencies in the [National Guard](#).

Thank you for your work,

Kitt Saginor
415-860-4173
ksaginor@gmail.com
Berkeley, CA

From: [Bonnie Lindauer](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Armed Robots -- ABSOLUTELY NOT
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 10:01:19 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

As a citizen of San Francisco and an active member of my synagogue and a non-profit organization, SF Black & Jewish Unity Coalition, I am strongly opposed to the SF Police Force using armed robots. Many of us are already questioning the performance of our police force, so why would the SF Police want to now reduce the job that police men and women should be doing? Also, like driverless cars, there is way too much room for error.

If the SF Police Force wants to experiment in some very limited way, they need to announce their plans broadly and have public forums to explain the pros and cons and such.

Many of us are very disappointed with the police force's response to property theft. And yet, I often see 4 to 6 police cars at an incident scene. I always wonder, why so many police men and women are needed. Why aren't they out doing other important things?

I urge you to vote against the use of armed robots in police work.

Thank you,

Bonnie Lindauer
1408 Birchwood Ct.
San Francisco 94134

From: [Erin Petty](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:53:01 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I'm terrified at the prospect of San Francisco setting a precedent for using robots to exert lethal force on citizens. We already have citizens being killed by police for nothing more than running or looking scary. How much more will that increase when the humans responsible for shooting are hiding behind a robot? And how will they be held accountable for misuse? This is a road our country should not go down. Please vote NO.

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Erin Petty
erinlpetty@gmail.com
1215 Fisk Rd SE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506

From: [Sara W](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: NO KILLER ROBOTS IN SAN FRANCISCO
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:49:34 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

San Francisco Board of Supervisors,

I am a current San Francisco resident and hearing about the recent approval of SFPD using military equipment including robots equipped with bombs is not only violent and excessive but will only put everyone in the city in danger. This is not a viable solution to preventing or stopping crime and I strongly disprove of giving this kind of power to the police and especially to any kind of artificial intelligence. Please consider voting no on this policy on Tuesday, 12/6 to keep our city safer. This is not what SF residents want and it is not what we need to be investing in especially when so many die every year at the hands of the police already. There are so many other ways to help make our city safer including putting more funds into solving the houseless crisis as much of crime that occurs is a result of many lacking access to resources like basic food, shelter, and healthcare. We can do so much better. Please vote no this Tuesday on this violent and excessive policy.

Thank you for any efforts you make.

Sincerely,
Sara Wizig

From: dplatner@gmail.com
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Do not use lethal force via a robot
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 9:36:46 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Please do not allow the

San Francisco Police Department to use lethal force via a robot EVER.
Thanks.

dianneplatner
42 leese street
studio six
san francisco
california 94110
415.269.6462

dplatner@gmail.com
on the web: dplatner.com
instagram: dp.paints

From: [Adda Fleiner](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Robots and Lethal Force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 11:19:51 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Please DO NOT ALLOW the San Francisco Police Department to use lethal force via a robot. Please REVERSE YOUR VOTE tomorrow if you voted for it.

Thank you.

Adda Fleiner
146 Park Street
San Francisco, CA 94110
(415)826-4720
dada37@earthlink.net

From: [Edward Whitmore](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Robots and lethal force
Date: Friday, December 2, 2022 4:07:38 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Please do not allow the San Francisco Police Department to use lethal force via a robot EVER.
Thanks.

Edward Whitmore
171 Park St
San Francisco, CA 94110
Cell: 415.254.3357
Email: ekw171@comcast.net

From: [Ronald Malveaux](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Weaponized Robots
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 1:39:12 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Esteemed Members of the Board of Supervisors

As a citizen of the city of San Francisco, I'm asking you to vote against the measure that would allow robotic weapons to be used against citizens. These are weapons that depersonalize confrontation in a way similar to weapons of war making it more likely that they will be used against the public. We should not use weapons that tend to escalate conflict or short circuit the rights of suspects. This measure ceded too much power into the hands of police especially at a time when bias and inequity in policing are still very much an issue. Please work to find an approach more in line with the progressive legacy of our city, one that refuses to abide the creeping militarization of community policing in the name of "law and order". - Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Deborah Krant](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: *OPPOSE Item 9- Ord. # 220641 – re Police acquisition/use of armed robots
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 12:43:47 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I am strongly opposed to the SFPD acquiring and using armed robots. A terrible slippery slope we ought not go down. NO NO NO, tell the entire board I am a registered voter who wants them to reverse their decision.

Deborah Krant
178 Gates Street
San Francisco, CA 94110

From: [Mike Laglia](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: No lethal robots
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 11:56:57 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi,

I'm a former 15-year resident of SF who now resides in the East Bay - with hopes to resettle in SF soon.

Just wanted to write to voice my opposition to the idea of armed lethal robots. This is an idea with dubious merit, possibly egregious human cost, and definite political consequences.

Just no.

Thanks
Mike Laglia

From: [anastasia Yovanopoulos](#)
To: [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#); [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Preston, Dean \(BOS\)](#); [Dorsey, Matt \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Reject robotic use of force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 11:25:52 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Members of SF Board of Supervisors,

Reject robotic use of force

Please reject a "use of force policy" that would grant two top law enforcement officials at SFPD the power to use their discretion to use robots to eradicate San Francisco citizens.

The policy is reprehensible. It would cause needless harm.

Sincerely,
Anastasia Yovanopoulos
District #8 resident

From: [Sharon Wilensky](#)
To: [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: OPPOSE Item 9– Ord. # 220641 – re Police acquisition/use of armed robots
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 1:59:13 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisor Melgar,

I was really shocked that the Board of Supervisors approved the use of armed robots for the police department.

San Francisco is not a war zone. We don't need this type of military equipment. There is a great possibility for misuse. The circumstances in which it would be needed are very rare. It is well known that when threatened, people very quickly resort to the ultimate means available. The police will be just itching to find a situation in which they can use their new weapon. And this often works against people of color.

Please change your vote and vote no on this item.

I am your constituent in the Inner Sunset, in District 7, formerly in District 5.

Sincerely

Sharon Wilensky
1355 12th Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94122

sharonwilensky@sonic.net

415-753-1161

cc: Board of Supervisors

From: [David Avery](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: OPPOSE Item 9– Ord. # 220641 – re Police acquisition/use of armed robots
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 9:28:03 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I strongly urge you to reverse your vote concerning armed robots on Tuesday. Allowing the police department to militarize robots based on "what if" scenarios has no place in San Francisco and should never have been approved.

Thank you.

David Avery

da@davidavery.net

www.davidavery.net

From: [Susan Stern](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: OPPOSE Item 9– Ord. # 220641 – re Police acquisition/use of armed robots
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 12:56:01 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

I am a longtime San Francisco resident, small business owner and mother. Please reconsider and vote against allowing robots to use deadly force.

It has been said that those of you who voted for this new policy did so to prevent our worst fear: A school shooting.

But there are better ways to keep our schools safe, including: Locked doors with video cameras and intercoms; security guards and metal detectors. That's not to mention better gun safety laws.

What could go wrong with robots capable of deadly force? The scenarios for what might happen through human or mechanical error are chilling.

When I first read that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors was considering this action, I thought it was a work of satire or science fiction or a political joke of FOX News. Alas, no.

I am ashamed of those of you who voted for this. Such a lack of imagination and leadership.

Sincerely,

Susan Stern
3275 Harrison St.
San Francisco, CA 94110

From: [Tatianna Rivera](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: NO on use of killer robots
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:04:25 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

We call on elected leaders of SF to vote NO on the use of killer robots by SFPD to ensure the safety of ALL communities in San Francisco.

This will not keep us safe!

From: [Neha B](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: No kill robots
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 8:41:26 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Please vote no on kill robots! This is so disturbing that it's even an option. I want to feel safe in my city and this feels far from safe. Please vote no!

Thank you,
Neha Bhaia

From: [Kana Kobayashi](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on Deadly Force Robots
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 8:37:46 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I can't believe this is an email I have to write to protect my community. The SF board of supervisors needs to be held accountable for voting to allow robots to have the ability to kill. The city of SF needs to be investing in the people here and addressing the core societal issues that lead to dangerous situations. We have enough cops that kill, we don't need more avenues to take lives. Whose interest are you protecting here by voting yes?

Do better.

--

Kana Kobayashi (any pronouns)
+1 (510) 439-8038 (c)

From: [DEETJE BOLER](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [deetje B](#); [DPH-btraynor](#); [Robert Anton O'Brien](#); [regina sneed](#)
Subject: Military Weapons: Return to Rules Committee
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 8:14:44 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

This is to ask that you vote to return the matter of SF Police Department use of military weapons to the Rules Committee so that *full hearings* from the public may take place. Oakland, by the way, voted not to allow the use of armed robots in their community, which I think was a most desirable position.

Among other issues, it also concerns me that under the terms now allowed millions of dollars without supervision by the Board is permitted to the police. Whatever happened to the idea of defunding the police -- at least reducing the funding? Let the Police Department donate that money to more useful purposes in the community -- such as training in nonviolent practices to counter the present atmosphere in the Department.

I would also like to look into the question of why communities throughout the State have been subject to receipt of surplus military weapons. It makes me feel that the over-spending of our taxes on the weapons manufacturers is being turned against our own citizens, and that does not sit at all well with me. So, the less they are used the better until that problem may be corrected.

Thank you for your attention.

Respectfully,

(Ms.) Deetje Boler
Member, WILPF-SF

From: [Renee Frodente](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: NO Armed Police Robots
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 7:55:37 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

While I understand the desire to protect our officers, the use of armed robots has the potential for such dangerous outcomes for California's citizens. I'm writing to voice my opposition and urge you to vote no. Born and raised in the Bay Area, I never imagined we'd be faced with the potential for such a thing. While I'm no longer a California resident, I'd be unwilling to visit San Francisco knowing they were in use.

Thank you for your consideration.

Renee Frodente

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From: [Sushil Rao](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: VOTE NO on ROBOTS WITH DEADLY FORCE
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 7:12:42 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

The title says it all.

Vote no. Don't be this stupid.

From: [Tamim Ansary](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote no on giving police armed robots
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 7:08:15 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I urge you to vote against this proposal to give police armed robots. No matter what extreme measures are cited for justification, once you open this door, you won't be able to control how they are used. So please: just say no.

Sincerely,

Mir Tamim Ansary
178 Gates Street
San Francisco, CA 94110

From: ss@ssteuer.com
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Please Prohibit Robots that Kill!
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 6:38:01 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors,

The 17 robots that San Francisco owns were purchased to protect our citizens and peace officers by providing a human-safe way to dispose of bombs and suspicious packages.
To SAVE LIVES.

It is horrifying and dangerous to allow and condone the use of these robots to harm, and to apply lethal force against our citizens.

It is unacceptable for SF to not only consider adopting these policies,, but to actually be the first legislative body in the Bay Area to explicitly permitted the use of robots outfitted with weapons (bombs or guns) against civilian populations.

It doesn't take a lot of imagination to see how this could easily go horribly wrong.
PLEASE adopt sane public policy and prohibit the use of life-saving robots as mechanized machines aiming to kill our fellow San Franciscans.

Sincerely,
Sharon Steuer
Bernal
District 9

From: [Denise CaJacob](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Please vote against use of deadly force by robots
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 6:30:14 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

No good can come of approving this. Please vote against approving the use of deadly force. I've worked in robotics, I know how easily they DO NOT DO exactly what they are supposed to and the thought of encountering a police robot on the street is terrifying enough.

From: [Jacqueline Ruben](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Killer Robots - Please Vote No
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 5:25:51 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Please vote against letting SF Police Department use deadly force robots. Our communities are endangered with this option, especially communities of color.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Ruben
District 1

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Kathy Howard](#)
To: [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MandelmanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Preston, Dean \(BOS\)](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [DorseyStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Breed, Mayor London \(MYR\)](#)
Subject: 220641: OPPOSE - robots allowed to use lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 5:10:52 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors,

Please OPPOSE the legislation allowing robots to kill people. I am ashamed that San Francisco would be one of the first cities to allow this.

According to the ordinance, the police would have the ability to deploy robots to use lethal force in extraordinary circumstances, “when risk of loss of life to members of the public or officers is imminent and officers cannot subdue the threat after using alternative force options or de-escalation tactics.”

Where is the past experience and data that support the police will follow this policy, once they can use these robots to fire at will and avoid any danger to themselves?

We read about many situations all over the U.S. in which the police go in with guns blazing. Instead of guns, how often do the police use tear gas, nets, or other non-lethal methods to render someone harmless? Instead of guns, how often do they wait out a situation for the (alleged) shooter to get tired? Instead of firing multiple, lethal rounds, how often do they aim instead for an arm or a leg?

Will the police be held accountable for ALL mistakes made using a robot? If an innocent person is killed, will the police blame the robot camera or some other part of the technology? How will there be accountability?

The worst part of this ordinance is that it comes from San Francisco – we are supposed to be progressive not only in our politics but also in how we treat situations like this. Why can't San Francisco come up with non-lethal ways to disarm possible shooters? If San Francisco sponsored a competition for our local Tech companies to come up with non-lethal approaches to this problem - that would be worthy of our City.

Unfortunately, the message of this legislation to the world is, “Hey, all San Francisco can come up with is an easier way to shoot someone.”

We can do better than this.

Katherine Howard

District 4

From: [Wealth and Disparities in the Black Community](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment - SFPD Lethal Robots
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 3:26:28 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors:

On November 29th, 2022, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors (BOS) voted 8 to 3 in FAVOR of killer robots (robots armed with deadly weapons) to be utilized by the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD). This is a horror and an outrage.

We applaud BOS President Shamann Walton, Supervisor Ronen, and Supervisor Preston for voting against this horrific proposal. In the past, we have been told repeatedly by supervisors that they follow President Walton's vote on issues of police injustice. Why, then, have eight supervisors decided that this – the vote on killer robots in the hands of police – is the time to vote against President Walton?

The eight who have betrayed their oath to serve San Franciscans – especially Black San Franciscans – by voting that San Franciscans should be subjected to deadly weaponry, including killer robots in the hands of SFPD, are Supervisors Mandelman, Stefani, Melgar, Safai, Chan, Mar, Dorsey, and Peskin.

The possession and use of military weapons and equipment by state and local law enforcement is a legacy of America's failed wars on drugs and terror. [Congress first enabled the practice in order to co-opt police departments into the racist War on Drugs](#) ^[1], then [expanded it under the guise of "counter-terrorism" after 9/11](#) ^[2]. Racism and Islamophobia motivated those who encouraged the militarization of police, and now the devastating effects continue to be most profound in Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities.

When police departments train as, or are armed like soldiers, officers start to see themselves as warriors and the people they are supposed to be serving and protecting are seen as potential threats, not as citizens and human beings.

According to a 2017 study by [The Project On Government Oversight \(POGO\)](#) ^[3], law enforcement agencies that use military equipment, employ officers that are more likely to display violent behavior and are more likely to kill the civilians they are supposed to protect and serve. Trust between officers and the communities they serve is lost when people see the police as an occupying force and fear being victims of police more than they fear being victims of crime.

SFPD has long been under state and national scrutiny for its racism, particularly since the Federal Department of Justice (DOJ) completed its 2016 (COPS) report in response to a series of egregious murders by police officers. From that time until now, SFPD's anti-Black

racism has remained unchanged when it comes to arrests, traffic stops (caused by racial profiling), use of force, and more. A Black San Franciscan has long been over 10 times as likely as a white San Franciscan to experience use of force from SFPD according to SFPD's own data annual averages.

The BOS members know this. Wealth and Disparities in the Black Community (WDBC) has communicated with the BOS for years, via hearings, in person meetings, phone calls, letters, and emails – communications in which they have acknowledged the horrific anti-Black racial disparities in SFPD's own reported results. The fact that **the BOS** knows this, and that they still voted to allow SFPD to continue to possess and use these lethal tools, means that they **do not care about Black San Franciscans nor do they feel a responsibility to serve their Black constituents in even the most basic of ways**. The BOS has done nothing to address the anti-Black racial disparities in San Francisco policing - yet is eager to authorize more killing tools with which SFPD may exert disparate force on Black people.

The purpose of AB 481 was ostensibly to protect Black and Brown communities by giving them, and their civic leaders, greater control over the possession and use of military-grade equipment and weapons by police departments. However, the implementation of AB 481 has backfired badly in that it gives city leaders, including the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, the mistaken impression that a militarized police department is normal and inevitable. Rather than taking a stand against military weapons and equipment being used against their constituents, the BOS has become complicit in it.

By the passing of the policy last Tuesday, the BOS has moved to authorize SFPD to acquire and use military-grade items, and to continue to use ones that they already possess. But the BOS did not have to agree to it. It wasn't a step the BOS was compelled to take. According to the language of AB 481, if a governing body chooses NOT to approve the continuing use of military equipment, the law enforcement agency shall be compelled to cease its use of the military equipment and dispose of it. The BOS should have rejected the proposed policy entirely and responded with an ordinance that directs SFPD to immediately dispose of any military-grade weapons and equipment that it already has. AB 481 gave the BOS that choice and that power, but the BOS chose SFPD's alarmist scenarios over reality, and over the safety of the people of San Francisco.

At the very least, the Board should have severely limited the scope of what equipment and weapons SFPD would be allowed to possess and use. Even Oakland drew the line at killer robots.

During the November 29, 2022 BOS meeting wherein this vote occurred, attendees of the meeting were told that the BOS would not hear public input, saying that the public had ample opportunity to do so when the matter was being discussed in committee. However only professional watchdogs like the ACLU were aware of what was happening, and they are not a stand-in or substitute for community engagement. Wealth and Disparities in the Black Community has been working on the issue of racist policing and police violence for six years, but we only became aware of the vote a few days prior to the meeting. If we who have been working on this issue daily for years were blindsided by this – we know for certain that the general public, and those Black San Franciscans who will be most impacted, were kept completely in the dark. There appears to have been a concerted effort by the BOS to push this through quietly, bypassing the San Francisco Police Commission

as well as the general public. Why is the BOS so eager to approve killer robots that may be used against its own constituents?

Supervisor Peskin praised the “transparency” of the process during the hearing, meanwhile the public was prevented from commenting at all, in effect completely excluding them from the process. Supervisor Peskin has a long and ongoing problematic record. **Says Wealth and Disparities in the Black Community Founder, Phelicia Jones, “Supervisor Peskin needs to be recalled.”**

Wealth and Disparities in the Black Community attends every Police Commission meeting. We have to wonder why this issue was never discussed there. If the Police Commission hadn’t heard about it – shame on them – it was in the press prior to the November 29th BOS meeting. It’s likely the Commission **had** heard about it – yet did not criticize the move. Either way, the Commission is complicit, and the Commission and the BOS have done a terrible disservice to San Franciscans, especially Black San Franciscans, on whom SFPD uses force at exponentially higher rates.

San Francisco has been highlighted in numerous national news reports already, since the November 29th vote. Once again, San Francisco policing is a national mockery. News reports cited the use of a killer robot in 2016 in Dallas. The robot had a bomb which was used to annihilate a Black suspect.^[4] Indeed, given police departments’ records in general – and SFPD’s specifically – we can expect the use of these lethal military grade weapons to be used on Black people exclusively. White suspects even in mass shooting incidents are typically taken alive and unharmed, to be tried fairly in a court of law. This is a fundamental right not afforded to Black San Franciscans or Black Americans.

Can you **please respond to this email by Tuesday, December 6, 2022**, the day of the next BOS vote on this matter? In your reply, please speak specifically to how SFPD being under DOJ (first federal, and now at the state level) scrutiny since 2016, and how the ongoing (and not improving) anti-Black racial disparities data (as reported quarterly by SFPD every quarter since 2016) weighed into your vote on this matter.

Thank you,
Core Team

Wealth and Disparities in the Black Community

[Support our work -->> Donate and Share](#)

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cc: Hon. Mayor London Breed
cc: San Francisco Board of Supervisors
cc: San Francisco Police Commission
cc: Department of Police Accountability President Paul Henderson
cc: California Attorney General Rob Bonta
cc: Chief Deputy Attorney General Venus Johnson, California Department of Justice
cc: Special Assistant Attorney General Damon Brown, California Department of Justice

^[1] <https://www.aclu.org/news/civil-liberties/its-past-time-to-end-the-federal-militarization-of-police>

[2] <https://www.wbur.org/hereandnow/2021/09/09/post-9-11-policing>

[3] <https://www.pogo.org/analysis/2020/06/poisoning-our-police-how-the-militarization-mindset-threatens-constitutional-rights-and-public-safety>

[4] <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-texas-crime/no-charges-for-dallas-officers-who-killed-sniper-with-robot-bomb-idUSKBN1FK35W>

From: [Edwin Arango](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: No Robots in San Francisco
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 2:39:37 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

SF Board of Supervisors,

As A Community Planner for Roadmap to Peace, I vehemently oppose law enforcement utilizing robots against civilians. San Francisco should look to continue spearheading progressive, community-informed policies instead of draconian policies that do more to separate communities and police.

We believe that Community Connection is crucial to the safety and overall well-being of our San Francisco residents; this is why I urge you all to rectify your previous vote and knock this policy down.

Instead of turning to this, SFPD should seek to invest in peace building initiatives and community building. Trust goes both ways and utilizing robots to harm humans will only fragment our community.

NO TO ROBOTS THAT KILL!

Respectfully,

--



Edwin A. Arango | (E/him/his)
Community Planner, Roadmap To Peace
Instituto Familiar de la Raza
c: 213-258-0777
a: [2929 19th Street St. SF, CA, 94110](#)
w: [roadmaptopeacesf.org](#)
e: edwin.arango@ifrsf.org



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From: [Vicki Bruckner](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Please don't authorize anyone's use of robots that can kill!
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 2:20:20 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors,
As a 44-year San Francisco resident, I am deeply, deeply worried that, as the legislators who govern the day-to-day policies and operations of the City and County of San Francisco, you upheld, in your first vote, the use of automatons that carry bombs on our city streets. How unthinkable horrible this would be! This would indeed constitute a descent into the worst possible tech dystopia ever imagined in any work of science fiction--except, it would be real.

These robots should not be used by anyone except members of bomb-disposing squads! Please don't put such a horrible weapon into the hands of police officers or their supervisors, or anyone in charge of upholding public safety or public health on our city streets. There have already been too many "honest mistakes" where officers have injured or killed innocent members of the public, by accident or otherwise. With robots like these at hand, such honest mistakes can become unimaginably horrendous tragedies.

Please, please vote the use of these robots down immediately! Otherwise, how can the members of this Board of Supervisors ever consider themselves a progressive force for social good? Please insert these comments into the public record for the Board of Supervisors meeting on December 6, 2022.

Sincerely,
Victoria Bruckner
580 Capp Street, Apt.#706
San Francisco, CA 94110
(415) 757-0559
victoriabruckner988@gmail.com

From: [Yadi](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment - San Francisco BOS Meeting 12/06/2022
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 2:17:32 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

NO ROBOTS THAT KILL!

SF is not a war zone.

Killer robots have no place here.

SF BOS is not in compliance with **AB 481**.

Yadi

San Francisco Board of Supervisors Meeting

December 6, 2022

Agenda item 9. 220641 Administrative Code - Funding, Acquisition, and Use of Certain Police Department Equipment

From: [JD Smith](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: No killer robots
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:11:36 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I can't believe the Board of Supervisors wants to approve this.
What a waste of money!
As if SFPD aren't killing enough people on the street, you want to INCREASE MORE DEATHS!
You should be sued.

From: [Sean San Jova](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: NO KILLER ROBOTS
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 3:16:19 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

In a surreal meeting last Tuesday, you, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors approved on first reading a military equipment use policy that explicitly allows the use of robots outfitted with bombs to blow people up. The policy allows 3 high-level command officers to employ robot bombs based on their "evaluation" that other things wouldn't work. The Robocop policy passed on an 8-3 vote. You ACTUALLY APPROVED KILLER ROBOTS!?!

This isn't the world we want to live in. The "evaluations" of a police department [which received 272 recommendations to improve its racist policing practices](#) just six years ago, aren't adequate. The supervisors admit that virtually everyone who has written to them says no to the killer robots.

The second vote is on Tuesday afternoon. It needs to come out differently.
PLEASE NO KILLER ROBOTS

-ssj

From: [Diana Scott](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: OPPOSE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE CHANGE RE ARMING POLICE ROBOTS.
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:41:29 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Walton and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

Having written to and heard back from my Supervisor, Gordon Mar, before last Tuesday's BOS meeting (a copy was sent to you via Clerk of the Board), I stood on the steps of City Hall this morning (12/5) with a sign reading "Armed Robots Aren't the Answer."

From everything I've heard and read, the arguments for changing the administrative code to permit police to weaponize robots in "unimaginable" situations, in Supervisor Peskin's words, are unconvincing. As an article in Popular Science by military technology journalist, Kelsey D. Atherton* (Dec.2) concludes::

"The possibility that these robots could instead be used to kill, as one was in 2016, makes it harder for the robots to be used for non-violent resolution of crises with armed people. In the Supervisors' hearing, references were made to both the 2017 Mandalay Bay shooting in Las Vegas and the 2022 school shooting in Uvalde, though each is a problem at best tangentially related to armed robots.

"In Las Vegas, the shooter was immediately encountered by an armed guard, and when police arrived they were able to breach rooms with explosives they carried. In Uvalde, the use of explosives delivered by robot would only have endangered children, who were already waiting for the excruciatingly and fatally long police response to the shooter.

"By allowing police to turn a specialized robot into a weapon, San Francisco is solving for a problem that does not meaningfully exist, and is making a genuinely non-lethal tool into a threat. It also sets a precedent for the arming of other machines, like inexpensive quadcopter drones, increasing the distance between police and suspects without leading to arrests or defused situations."

I end this letter began as I began it: Armed Robots Aren't the Answer.
Better options have been developed for increasing community and police security.
Funding more weapons is a lose-lose solution to a problem that can't even be described.

Additionally, require transparency in police use of 375 assault weapons, and timely reporting on weapons acquisition.

Please vote against authorizing police use of robotic weapons.

Sincerely,

Diana Scott, Ocean Beach

From: [Jaya Manske](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Please vote no
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 10:16:04 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Please vote “No” on authorizing use of deadly force by police robots.

Thank you for your consideration.

Warmly,

Jaya

--

Jaya Manske
Coaching Compassion
Mindfulness and Well Being Coach
CoachingCompassion@gmail.com
(505) 228-8730

From: [Shayna Fertig](#)
To: [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Please vote no
Date: Thursday, December 23, 2021 5:39:24 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Clerk of the Board Angela Calvillo,

I am a resident of District 8, and I am joining GLIDE, ACLU of Northern California, Harvey Milk Democratic Club, Alice B Toklas Democratic Club, the Latinx Democratic Club, the No New SF Jail Coalition, DSA SF, and dozens of other organizations in urging you to vote no on the Mayor's "Proclamation of Local Emergency – Drug Overdoses in the Tenderloin" (File No. 211320) this Thursday.

The Emergency Ordinance is a massive power grab that allows the Mayor to unilaterally increase funding for tried and failed policing, bringing back the drug war and turning back the clock on the progress we have made with efforts arising from Black Lives Matter. We should focus our resources on sustainable, evidence-based solutions that keep people healthy and out of the legal system by providing meaningful services to those suffering from substance abuse challenges, including housing, treatment, job training, and employment.

Please oppose the Mayor's Proclamation of a Local Emergency in the Tenderloin. Thank you!

Shayna Fertig
District 8

Shayna Fertig
srfertig@gmail.com

San Francisco, California 94110

From: sotrashy@tutaimail.com
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: No Robots
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 10:37:13 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Do not vote for bomb wielding robots. No black mirror in our city please, what are you thinking.

--

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From: [Kalya Paradis](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Killer robots for sfpd
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 11:12:10 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear board of supervisors,

I'm writing to urge you, please do the decent thing and vote no on the policy of killer robots for sfpd. There are countless incidents of misuse of military weapons like this where people died at the hands of police in SF and other cities, and this should matter a lot more to you than ridiculous suicide bomber hypotheticals. Anyone who approves of this can not keep pretending they are progressive or even remotely on the side of justice and real safety for the people of SF. Please re-consider your right wing trajectory, there is still a chance to change your minds and make the right choice.

Thanks,
Kalya

From: [Caroline Wolber](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary](#)
Subject: Tomorrow's vote
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 11:46:53 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello,

I'm writing to request that the board of supervisors vote **AGAINST** allowing SFPD robots to be authorized for lethal force. This is an unsafe policy with high potential for abuse, particularly against minority communities.

Supervisor Ronen, as a constituent I am thankful for your no vote last week and hope you vote the same way tomorrow

Sincerely,
Caroline Wolber
1499 Guerrero St #4
248.390.5649

From: [Wj Von Stein](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: voting on police robots in sf
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 12:14:06 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Vote NO on authorizing use of deadly force by police robots. You will save countless lives by doing so.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Betty Traynor](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote No on Militarizing the SFPD
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 12:40:07 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello S.F. Board of Supervisors,

Thank you to Supervisors Preston, Ronen and Walton for voting No last Tuesday on permitting the SFPD to use weaponized robots and other military equipment.

I urge all the remaining Supervisors after a week of thought and listening to the S.F. community to reverse your decision of last week and vote **No** on the ordinance to approve the use of weaponized robots and return it to the Rules Committee for further investigation and thought on the whole plan to permit the use of military equipment by the SFPD. The City of S.F. is not at war and we need to stop this use of such weapons by the SFPD and Sheriff's Department now.

Thank you very much,

Betty Traynor
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) - San Francisco
Branch
Senior and Disability Action (SDA), Older Women's League (OWL)

From: [Liv Wisely](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: PLEASE! Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 1:07:12 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Liv Wisely
misslivwisely@gmail.com
126 Chester Ave.
San Francisco, California 94132

From: zatribur@tutanota.com
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Please STOP deadly force SFPD robots
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 8:13:03 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear SF Board of Supervisors,

I am a resident of San Francisco since 2005. I am a law-abiding citizen and employee of SFUSD. My family and I will not feel safe in the streets of my beloved city knowing that SFPD is authorized to use robots to engage with civilians using deadly force.

Please do NOT approve this policy!

Regards,

Zoe Tribur
221 Hanover Street, SF 94112

--

Sent with Tutanota, enjoy secure & ad-free emails.

From: [stevie raya](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Please VOTE NO on SFPD Killer Robots!
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 9:03:01 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear SF Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my immense concern over the policy that allows SFPD to use a robot that is capable of lethal force. The people of San Francisco DO NOT WANT THIS. You heard our voices at the last meeting and we were waived off as "fear mongering". What privilege to be able to wave away the concern of being mistreated by the police. Our focus should be on proactive measures to ensure community safety, not a green light for remote killing.

Sincerely,
Stevie Raya

From: [Elizabeth](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Killer robots - NO !!!
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 9:32:01 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisors: As a voter in San Francisco, I urge you to vote NO on the use of killer robots by the police! This is NOT A PRIORITY expense for the City or for the Police!!!! As a voter, this is a ridiculous use of funds!

Thank you.

Elizabeth Stahl
San Francisco

From: [Harry S. Parisier](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOGS\)](#) [Mayor Thomas \(BOGS\)](#) [Cham, Dennis \(BOGS\)](#)
Subject: Write against the returns that kill legislation today!
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 9:32:43 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisor:

Please vote against the robots that kill legislation today.

Please change your vote if you voted "for" it, and join Dean Preston, Shaman Walton and Hilary Roman in voting the right way!

This is totally wrong and brings shame on all of us!

Harry S. Parisier

<https://af.avanara.click/v2/> https://twitter.com/ACLU_NorCal/status/159737867503054336 [YYA-QnNnZHQzOmE6ro3M4YWEINGNMjQNDz5OGFZmYzOTBZWBMWESOTzSOJUMTgYQ0IMJMSMTAaSWIaMTVnNmMzZWZRMjY3MWBMDkNzUSMzZNdGQDZjNmUOTFBMTUaNmExOTEOTBMtelNzppQKY](#)

From: [Tyler Nielsen](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Police robots
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 10:46:29 PM

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I think this is ridiculous and should be shot down immediately before these weapons are used on civilians, police are becoming more and more careless across America and San Francisco is no exception. Not to mention when they want to add AI to them in ten years and then we got Robocops all around, America already does not hold police accountable and it is well known. Vote No on allowing Robot cops!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Paula Shafransky](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Police Robots
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 9:41:57 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I strongly oppose the use of robots on the San Francisco police force.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: [Sara Brown](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 9:23:29 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Sara Brown
bsara0896@gmail.com
1595 18th Avenue
San Francisco, California 94122

From: [Alex Lalama](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 8:12:56 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Alex Lalama
alexandralalama@yahoo.com
1071 Kansas st
San Francisco, California 94107

From: [Tyler Livingston](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 8:09:41 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Tyler Livingston
tylerr1664@gmail.com
1231 40th Street
Emeryville, California 94608

From: [Hobbes](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 7:25:17 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Further, RESIDENTS SHOULD BE MADE PUBLICLY AWARE OF POLICY VOTES SUCH AS THIS WELL BEFORE ITS FINAL VOTE!

Hobbes
mxhobbes@gmail.com
320 Guerrero St
San Francisco, California 94103

From: [Teddy Hess](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 5:38:48 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

This letter was pre-written. I agree with everything it says however. I don't think I could word it better. I repete There is no need for military tech for a police officer. Guns, tasers, and other weapons already take enough lives. If the police are unsympathetic imagine the damage a robot would do. I don't want anymore lives to be lost. Black people deserve not to live in fear.

Sincerely,
Teddy Hess

Teddy Hess
Bhpdogs@gmail.com
1205 west wood drive
Charleston , West Virginia 25303

From: [Nathan Smith](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 2:49:08 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Nathan Smith
imnatesmith@gmail.com
71 Salisbury Ave.
Old Fort, North Carolina 28762

From: [Natalie Yap](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 12:56:29 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Natalie Yap
natalie.yap.sfenvironment@gmail.com
950 Eucalyptus Drive
San Francisco , California 94132

From: [Stacee Firestone](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 12:32:09 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Stacee Firestone
staceefirestone@gmail.com
200 van ness ave
San Fransisco , California 94102

From: [Allegra Kelly](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 11:35:54 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Allegra Kelly
allegradeva@gmail.com
800 Duboce Ave
San Francisco , California 94117

From: [Jillian Cerda Ramos](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 11:21:17 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Jillian Cerda Ramos
jillianmramos@gmail.com
1507 Jetty Drive
Richmond, California 94804

From: [Alessandra Ramos](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 11:08:13 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Alessandra Ramos
candyapple.ramos@gmail.com
200 Van Ness Ave
San Francisco, California 94102

From: [Emily Gable](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 10:30:33 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focused on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Sincerely,

Emily Gable

Emily Gable
emily.y.gable@gmail.com
1472 48th Ave., 6
San Francisco, California 94122

From: [Hannah Wendorf](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 10:18:29 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

The proposal to add robots capable of lethal force to the SFPD is an incredibly dangerous one. Robots cannot de-escalate situations. Robots cannot save a life, or restrain a person who is becoming violent. They have one purpose: to kill. This is inhumane and unjust.

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focused on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Hannah Wendorf
hannahwendorf@gmail.com
24 Franklin St, Apartment 705
San Francisco, California 94102

From: [Cassidy Leeds](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 10:08:49 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

To quote Supervisor Preston: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to lead to immense harm, and even death for Black people, which tragically, we have already witnessed happening across the whole country.

It is time that we move towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. It is crucial that we focus on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot that is able to use deadly force.

I am greatly worried for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and I urge you to vote against this completely racist and violent policy.

Cassidy Leeds
leedscassidy@gmail.com
5723 Ridgebrook Drive
Agoura Hills, California 91301

From: [Simin Li](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:46:44 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is Simin Li, District 8 resident, and a software engineer at a Robotics company who has worked on robotics research for over 4 years. I am writing to urge you to vote NO on robots capable of lethal force. Over and over, from Compstat to Automated Hiring systems, it has been shown that robots, including the algorithms/technology used to stabilize and locate targets, are grossly biased and often have a much lower degree of accuracy than promised by companies. The inherently biased robots, plus the existing issues within police departments, and the ills of society from racist policies not so far in our past, will no doubt cause disproportionate harm to black and brown communities.

No matter how much you think you are saving costs in the police department by deploying these weapons, you will lose innocent lives by allowing this.

Please vote no. Do not let these robotics companies fool you. They just want to get more money from the military industrial complex. This will only cause pain, chaos, and destruction.

Sincerely,
Simin Li, 94103

Simin Li
simin.li@protonmail.com
320 Guerrero St
San Francisco , California 94103

From: [Kathleen Mercado](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:06:17 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Kathleen Mercado
kmercado@outlook.com
41266 Roberts Ave
APT 84, California 94538

From: [Ruby-Sarah Wilkinson](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:02:13 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Ruby-Sarah Wilkinson
r.sarah.wilkinson@gmail.com
1 Picardo Rnch
Pacifica, California 94044

From: [Felicia Chang](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 8:32:48 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Felicia Chang
ffeliciachang@gmail.com
834 Castro St Apt 1
San Francisco, California 94114

From: [Val De Los Santos](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 8:29:08 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and URGE you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Val De Los Santos
holaimval@gmail.com
410 Capitol Village Circle
San Jose , California 95136

From: [Lauren Friedman](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 7:47:18 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focused on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...and absolutely not a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Lauren Friedman
friedman.282@gmail.com
1840 Clay St
San Francisco , California 94109

From: [Lynette Gonzalez](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 7:17:38 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Lynette Gonzalez
lyn.gonzalez7@gmail.com
457 Worth St., Apt, suite, floor, etc.
Oakland, California 94603

From: [Tamara Corinaldi](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 7:14:41 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Tamara Corinaldi
tarzumanova@yahoo.com
2571 27th ave
San Francisco , California 94116

From: [Rachel Krieger - Garone](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 6:41:52 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Rachel Krieger - Garone
rachel.krieger27@gmail.com
219 Beach 99th St
Rockaway Park, New York 11694

From: [Sarah Blier](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 5:56:35 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Sarah Blier
sarahbirdanimal@gmail.com
6750 lovell dr
cookeville , Tennessee 38506

From: [Tony R. McClendon](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 5:28:46 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Tony R. McClendon
ltmcclendon@gmail.com
1093 Calle Carrillo
San Dimas, 91773

From: [Tina Abedi](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 5:23:48 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Tina Abedi
tina.abedi9@gmail.com
119 northcreek circle
Walnut Creek , California 94598

From: [Celia Tandon](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 5:03:46 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Celia Tandon
celiatandon@gmail.com
1005 Campus Drive
Stanford, Pennsylvania 94375

From: [Elizabeth Pickering](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 4:49:52 PM

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Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

As a lifelong Bay Area community member and a Licensed Clinical Social Worker I must close with stating this is appalling, atrocious, and unacceptable. Vote NO.

Elizabeth Pickering
efpickering@yahoo.com
6643 montecito Blvd
Santa Rosa , California 95409

From: [Noe Stewart](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 4:44:42 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am a born and raised resident of San Francisco and I am urging you to vote no on the bill to allow SFPD robots to kill under extreme circumstances.

Although I understand the impetus behind the bill is to allow for SFPD to have access to lethal force which does not endanger the officer, the decision to kill should never be left up to someone operating a robot behind a screen. Furthermore, SFPD already suffers from a dramatic lack of accountability in the realm of police killings, and allowing a department with multiple active investigations into police conduct to operate killer drones seems to me to be an extremely bad idea. There are clear examples of officers reacting too dramatically at the moment, and this problem becomes more lethal with the option of a robotic kill.

Not only is automated killing unethical, but it also presents a remarkable danger of disproportionately targeting people of color. The ability to kill should not be in the hands of a robot or a remote robot operator.

While this bill claims it would keep officers and the city safer, I truly believe that if it passes, we as citizens will be in far more danger.

I am urging you to listen to your conscience and not allow this bill to pass. This issue is very important to many residents of your district, please listen to us and vote against it.

Thank you for your time,
Noelani Stewart

Noe Stewart
noelaniystewart@gmail.com
Stanford Heights Ave
San Francisco, California 94127

From: [Bryn Raschke](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 4:41:56 PM

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Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Bryn Raschke
brynraschke@gmail.com
4950 Ladera Sarina
Del Mar, California 92014

From: [Greg Hill](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 4:39:59 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, and other humans which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot machine capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the human people of San Francisco and USA if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist, anti-human and dangerous policy.

Greg Hill
graire@gmail.com
500 1st
Seattle , Washington 98109

From: [Rosalind Mullen](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 11:34:49 AM

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Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Rosalind Mullen
rozzymullen@gmail.com
2119 Waipuilani Ct
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782

From: [Emily Hadorn](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 11:24:54 AM

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Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Emily Hadorn
emilyhadorn@gmail.com
310 East Atlantic Avenue
Villas, New Jersey 08251

From: [Chuck Hamilton](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 11:17:40 AM

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Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Chuck Hamilton
natty4bumpo@gmail.com
25 S. Germantown Rd., Apt. 243
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37411-4293

From: [Vincent Giacalone](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 10:49:38 AM

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Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Vincent Giacalone
vjgiacalone@gmail.com
12 Dawn Dr
Emerson, New Jersey 07630-2115

From: [Jessica Marron](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 10:46:57 AM

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Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Regards,

A concerned constituent

Jessica Marron
1dpartofmyheart@gmail.com
4425 Cambria St
Fremont, California 94538

From: [Harrison Stallworth](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 10:45:11 AM

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Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Harrison Stallworth
aaycrook@gmail.com
2300 Rock Spring drive
Las Vegas, Nevada 89128

From: [Ashley Denton](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 10:34:35 AM

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Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Ashley Denton
ashleyjade95@icloud.com
201 Capitol Point Ct Apt 34
Vandalia, Illinois 62471

From: [Z Moore](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 10:28:01 AM

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Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Edited to add: why are we arming robots?? It is bad enough that our officers are able to kill with impunity. We should not be putting a soulless machine that does not have the ability for nuance roam the streets. This will cause citizens to live in more fear because how do we know that this machine will truly only shoot in dire circumstances? How can we know that it won't malfunction or just simply go on a rampage? I do not believe our police force is capable of handling its real human personnel much less an automated robot. Please vote against this inevitable future threat to our freedoms!

Z Moore
kmoore365@yahoo.com
225 West Harden Street, Apt 209
Graham, North Carolina 27253

From: [Mallory Morales](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 10:12:25 AM

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Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Mallory Morales
mallomorales@gmail.com
664 Vernon Street
Oakland, California 94610

From: [Ayden Uribe](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 10:09:06 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Ayden Uribe

aydenuribe03@gmail.com

6708 W 13400 S Herriman, UT 84096 United States, 6708 W 13400 S

Herriman , Utah 84096

From: [Fares Qumsiyeh](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 10:02:01 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Fares Qumsiyeh
faresq612@gmail.com
345 6th St, Unit 704
San Francisco, California 94103

From: [Raina Morris](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:58:13 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Raina Morris
morriraina1@gmail.com
1217 N Virgil Ave, Unit 5
Los Angeles, California 90029

From: [Georgia Bellas](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:52:46 AM

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Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Georgia Bellas
gcbellas@gmail.com
1240 William St.
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

From: [Catherine Fiorello](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:48:37 AM

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Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

This type of excessive police force has the potential to seriously harm AND take the lives of countless Black people, which we already see happening across the entire country.

We should be moving towards community-safety rooted in care, mental health, housing, and so much more. We should be focussed on ensuring we have the right professionals attending to situations -- NOT someone with a gun...let alone a robot capable of using lethal force.

I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Catherine Fiorello
cafiorello@gmail.com
20 Hewett Rd.
Wyncote, Pennsylvania 19095

From: [Curtis Ippolito](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:47:53 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As a California resident, and with friends and loved ones who live in San Francisco, I urge you to vote no on allowing SFPD to use robots in the proposed manner.

As Supervisor Preston put it: "There is serious potential for misuse and abuse of this military-grade technology, and zero showing of necessity."

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Curtis Ippolito
curtis9980@hotmail.com
8046 Tommy Dr
San Diego, California 92119

From: [Elizabeth Bezesky](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:47:33 AM

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Supervisor ,

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Elizabeth Bezesky
ebezesky@yahoo.com
667, W Hamburg St
Pinckney, Michigan 48169

From: [Vauhxx Booker](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:45:41 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

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Vauhxx Booker
vauhxx@gmail.com
2325, N. Alabama St.
Indianapolis, Indiana 46205

From: [Juliet Lee](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:31:26 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

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I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Juliet Lee
nonayul@yahoo.com
2220 Sacramento St.
Berkeley, California 94702

From: [Rachel Dukes](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Vote NO on San Francisco police robots and lethal force
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:27:20 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisor ,

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I am concerned for the people of San Francisco if this passes, and urge you to vote against this blatantly racist and dangerous policy.

Rachel Dukes
dukes.rachel@gmail.com
5439 Russell Ave. #12
Los Angeles, California 90027

From: [Barbara Commins](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Police robots issue
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 9:28:03 PM
Attachments: [Federal Militarization of Law Enforcement Must End News & Commentary America.pdf](#)

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To members of the SF Board of Supervisors:

Please read this attached article before this Tuesday BOS meeting. I'm certain you will find just cause to delay another vote until you have more time to study this issue.

Thank you,

Barbara Commins
San Francisco
Ingleside Terraces

Sent from my iPhone

--

ral Militarization of Law Enforcement Must

Charlotte Lawrence, Special Assistant for Digital, Tech, and Analytics, ACLU
Cyrus J. O'Brien, PhD, ACLU Research Fellow and Mellon/ACLS Public Fellow

May 12, 2021

The federal government arms local police forces in the United States with weapons of war. A program called “1033,” for the section of the [act that created it](#), allows the Department of Defense to give state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies military hardware. Since its inception in 1996, nearly 10,000 jurisdictions have received more than [\\$7 billion](#) of equipment. This includes combat vehicles, rifles, military helmets, and [misleadingly named](#) “non-” or less-lethal weapons, some of which have featured in police raids and police violence against [protesters](#), including [recent protests](#) for [racial justice](#).

The ACLU helped place police militarization in the broader landscape of

police violence with our 2014 groundbreaking report, “[War Comes Home](#).” That report – released just months before police killed Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri – highlighted the ways that militarized police act aggressively and violently, target Black and Brown communities, and kill Americans at an alarming tempo. Our report proposed ways to address the militarization of police and recommended that the federal government limit the type of military equipment granted to law enforcement agencies, make data about the program publicly available, and significantly increase oversight over the 1033 program.

As police mounted heavily armed and sometimes violent responses to protestors in Ferguson and elsewhere, [President Obama signed](#) an executive order ([E.O. 13688](#)) in 2015 that implemented some of the ACLU’s central reforms – establishing oversight procedures for some classes of controlled equipment, banning a few categories of weapons entirely, and mandating that data about the program be made public. Donald Trump ran for office promising to [rescind](#) Obama’s 1033 restrictions. In 2017, shortly after [encouraging police brutality](#) in a speech to police officers on Long Island, Trump [made good on his promise](#) and rescinded the executive order.

President Joe Biden and Congress now face a decision about what to do with the 1033 program: should they re-reform it, or put a stop to transfers of military equipment to local police departments?

Our analysis of the 1033 program and the effects of the Obama reforms leads us to the conclusion that the 1033 program should be abolished. The quantity of military transfers to local police departments has decreased over time following the slowing demobilization from war, but the

Obama-era reforms have done little to keep dangerous military equipment off of America's streets. And contrary to the claims of its supporters, 1033 does nothing to make communities or officers safer.

Doing away with 1033 requires an act of Congress. Until Congress can pass the necessary legislation, President Biden should place a moratorium on transfers of military equipment under the auspices of 1033.

At War at Home and Abroad

The origins of 1033 lie in America's "[forever wars](#)" on drugs, crime, and terror. In 1989, Congress gave the Pentagon temporary authority to give equipment that was no longer being used by the military to local police and sheriff's departments. Armored vehicles, planes, rifles, scopes, grenades, bayonets – nearly everything was on the table, so long as the military "[deemed \[it\] suitable ... in counter-drug activities.](#)"

In 1996, Congress made the Pentagon's temporary authority to give weapons of war to local law enforcement agencies permanent and expanded its purview to "counterterrorism" as well, creating 1033 as we know it. The wars on drugs, crime, and terror are responsible for some of the most egregious violations of civil liberties, civil rights, and human rights of the past quarter century: [mass incarceration](#), [police killings](#), the forty-fifth president's "[Muslim ban](#)," in the U.S., as well as [systematic torture](#), [drone strikes](#), [extraordinary renditions](#), and [extralegal killings](#) abroad. Local police forces armed with weapons of war – and still targeting Black and Brown Americans – is yet another inheritance.



Phillip Jones/National Guard Photo: Decommissioned military equipment is strategically dropped off the coast of South Carolina, where it will become one of many artificial reefs made of retired weapons of war. The world's [largest artificial reefs](#) are built of [retired U.S. military equipment](#).

Giving military equipment to local police departments was a significant break from established practice. For most of U.S. history, the policymakers who managed demobilization from war prioritized [economic considerations](#). Their main task was to repurpose the tools of war and redirect the labor of returning troops to serve productive industry.

With the important caveats that policymakers [intentionally excluded Black, Brown, and LGBTQ](#) Americans from the economic [gains](#) of demobilization and [treated women as second-class citizens](#), these efforts were profoundly

[aerospace](#), [fishing](#), [shipping](#), and many others – with the factories, planes, and technologies that helped the U.S. win the Second World War. Equipment that served no useful economic purpose was typically stored or destroyed, often by transforming it into artificial reefs that rehabilitated local marine ecologies.

A Free-for-All: The 1033 Program Before 2015 Reforms

Massive demobilizations abroad in the late aughts and early 2010s brought 1033 transfers to new levels. Of the more than [\\$7 billion](#) worth of equipment that has been transferred to state and local law enforcement through 1033, more than half has been transferred in the last decade. Since 2011, transfers from the U.S. military to local law enforcement have averaged \$390 million a year, and have been distributed to more than 6,500 local or state agencies in all 50 states and several U.S. territories.

Putting full battalions of equipment under the program's purview challenged a system that lacked oversight and accountability. Though there were some hoops to jump through – governors in each state appointed coordinators to facilitate requests for equipment – the 1033 program in the early 2010s is [best described](#) as a free-for-all. Law enforcement agencies applied to receive military equipment and the Department of Defense distributed everything from coffee makers to rifles, combat vehicles, batons, and bayonets on a first-come-first-served basis.

Children pose with a mine-resistant ambush protected vehicle in Southlake, Texas.

Southlake, Texas Department of Public Safety Photo: Children pose with a mine-resistant ambush protected vehicle in Southlake, Texas acquired through 1033. After this photo was taken, Southlake officers restrained children as part of [“handcuffing lessons.”](#)

Though unprecedented [government investment in police and sheriff departments](#) had already facilitated [aggressive](#) and [violent tactics](#), the influx of military gear from 1033 made a bad situation worse. Police used classes of weaponry distributed through the 1033 program in the [2011 crackdown](#) against Occupy Wall Street protestors and in [countless SWAT raids](#) that left dozens of Americans dead. Law enforcement used an MRAP obtained through 1033 against [people protesting the Dakota Access Pipeline](#), where they also used tear gas, a water cannon, rubber bullets, pepper spray, and concussion

grenades.

From 2011 to 2014 alone, the military distributed more than 29,000 military-grade rifles to 18,000 law enforcement agencies. Police militarization penetrated a number of aspects of American life – even law enforcement attached to K-12 public schools participated in 1033. The violent repression of the Ferguson protests in 2014 emphasized the severity of a long, troubling pattern of militarization. Something had to change.

Transfers Before and After 2015 Reforms (E.O. 13688)

1033 transfers.

*The total dollar value of new 1033 transfers per quarter **(left)** and the total number of individual items transferred through 1033 per quarter **(right)**.*

**An important methodological note is that data collection before 2014 was imperfect and pre-2014 figures should be understood as underestimates of equipment transfers. For a description of our data sources and methodology, see “How We Analyzed 1033” below*

The 2015 Executive Order 13688 [forbade](#) the Department of Defense from transferring to law enforcement agencies some highly militarized equipment – for example, tracked and armored personnel carriers, grenade launchers, and bayonets – recalled some equipment that was already in circulation, and implemented new forms of oversight for the transfer of other items. The order

also required that law enforcement agencies submit paperwork attesting to their need for the equipment, satisfaction of training requirements, approval from relevant civilian governing bodies, and compliance with civil rights law in order to receive military equipment. Finally, the order increased oversight of military transfers by establishing a supervisory body and requiring that data about transfers be tracked and made publicly available.

Close examination of E.O. 13688 reveals that its provisions were too narrow in scope to prevent the transfer of more than 100,000 items of controlled military equipment totalling more than \$576,000,000 between the date the reforms were fully implemented on Oct. 1, 2015 and their repeal in August 2017. Very little equipment was actually banned by the E.O., and even the equipment that the E.O. specifically restricted does not appear to have decreased substantially, in large part because law enforcement agencies easily circumvented new oversight protocols.

BANNED ITEMS


The categories of banned equipment were narrowly tailored to comprise a small fraction of controlled equipment – less than half a percent of all controlled equipment in circulation a month before the ban went into effect. As a result, many dangerous items escaped the ban.

For example, the executive order banned and recalled vehicles that were tracked, armored, *and* manned, but left untouched vehicles that did not have all three qualities: tracked unmanned vehicles, armored trucks and tractors, some mine resistant vehicles, and a number of other combat, assault, or tactical vehicles. Out of at least 1,300 militarized vehicles in circulation at the time of Obama's executive order, only 126 vehicles were recalled. These were quickly replaced, as almost 400 new military vehicles were transferred to

local police during the period of the executive order.

The executive order also forbade the military from transferring some equipment that does not seem to have been part of the 1033 program in the first place. Firearms over .50 caliber and weaponized aircraft, for instance, were included in the list of 1033 equipment banned by Obama's order, but no such equipment was in circulation at the time or has been transferred since.

Especially concerning is the fact that some banned equipment was not recalled or continued to be transferred to law enforcement organizations during the period that the executive order was in effect. Hundreds of camouflage uniforms escaped recall and 382 bayonets were transferred during the ban. The number of items banned by E.O. 13688 was tiny; the number of banned items that were appropriately recalled is even smaller. By quantity of individual items, the total number of recalled items represented less than a tenth of one percent of all 1033 equipment in circulation at the time.



City of Yukon, Okla. Photo: Police snipers at a 2018 training inside Oklahoma State University's Boone Pickens Stadium. Rifles, scopes, and helmets are transferred to local police departments through the Pentagon's 1033 program. Obama's executive order did not halt the flow of these items to state and local law enforcement.

RESTRICTIONS AND OVERSIGHT

In addition to banning a small number of items, E.O. 13688 also implemented restrictions on the transfer of others, requiring that law enforcement agencies demonstrate need, comply with civil rights law, and train officers appropriately. In most cases, these requirements simply amounted to paperwork to be filled out.

The Law Enforcement Supply Office, which runs the 1033 program, publishes [quarterly updates](#) of pending or cancelled transfers (in addition to the

aforementioned inventory updates), which includes the justification for requested items. A review of those data reveal that law enforcement agencies tend to repeat the same vague justifications of “need.” For militarized vehicles, for instance, common justifications include “TO BE USED FOR ACTIVE SHOOTERS,” “FOR HIGH RISK OPERATIONS,” “HIGH RISK WARRANTS,” and “COUNTER DRUG.” There is little reckoning with whether these events are likely, and armored vehicles have often been transferred to tiny, rural towns. During the period of the reforms, sheriffs serving counties with populations of less than 5,000 people received night vision gear, sniper tools, an [LRAD](#), and numerous military trucks. And 31 MRAPs or other highly militarized vehicles have been distributed to sheriffs serving counties of less than 10,000.

“Even the most highly publicized moments of police brutality seem to have had no effect on a law enforcement agency’s receipt of military equipment.”

Like the requirement to demonstrate need, the civil rights provision of the executive order amounted to a requirement that law enforcement agencies attest to their own compliance with civil rights law; whether any agencies were ever denied transfers because of civil rights abuses is unclear. In fact, even the most highly publicized moments of police brutality seem to have had no effect on a law enforcement agency’s receipt of military equipment. For example, Baton Rouge police received a helicopter mere months after the 2016 police killing of Alton Sterling, and NYPD received two mine-resistant vehicles just a couple of years after the 2014 police killings of Akai Gurley and

Eric Garner.

Transferred Equipment Prior, During, and After the 2015 Executive Order

If the changes implemented by the executive order constituted meaningful improvements to the safety and accountability of the program, then one might expect to see a corresponding reduction in transfers within the newly restricted categories of equipment. One would also expect that agencies not compliant with civil rights law would be removed from the program and that agencies that have no real need of militarized equipment would no longer receive it.

Transferred equipment.



These charts show the number of rifles (**top left**), controlled vehicles (**top right**), and aircraft transferred through 1033 (**bottom**) per quarter.

The period during which E.O. 13688 was in effect is shaded. The number of military rifles sent to state and local law enforcement agencies plummeted to near zero before the reforms took effect and have remained near

zero since 2017. The reforms did little to curb the dissemination of controlled vehicles and aircraft.

Yet when examining transfers over the three time periods, we do not see this expected pattern. Instead of a clear reduction, transfer patterns of restricted equipment under the Obama-era E.O. were mixed at best.

Transfers in three of the biggest categories of restricted equipment — military-grade firearms; combat, armored, and tactical vehicles, and aircraft — are displayed above. Rifle transfers dropped to negligible levels once the E.O. was enacted in 2015, but continued at near-zero since the E.O. was lifted in 2017. Militarized vehicle transfers spiked during the E.O. reforms period relative to the year before and the year after. And aircraft transfers experienced a temporary dip, but exhibited no clear pattern of significant decrease during the reforms period compared to the years before and after. Like banned equipment, the equipment restricted by the E.O. also represents a small portion of all 1033 equipment.

By the end of the E.O. 13688 period, just two months before the repeal in August 2017, state and local law enforcement agencies possessed 78,100 assault rifles and 1,400 militarized vehicles transferred through 1033. The situation after two years of “reform” is comparable to today’s landscape, more than three years after the reforms were repealed.

Today, state and local law enforcement possess more than 60,000 military grade rifles, 1,500 combat-ready trucks and tanks, 500 unmanned ground vehicles (functionally landed drones), and dozens of military aircraft, machine gun parts, bayonets, and even an inert rocket launcher. Law enforcement attached to K-12 schools, colleges, and universities have received millions of dollars of heavily militarized equipment.

Eighty institutions of higher education currently possess seven less-lethal firing devices, six mine-resistant vehicles, an armored truck, another combat vehicle, 159 shotguns and pistols, and 622 assault rifles. Nine K-12 schools' police officers have 96 assault rifles, and one K-12 school – Spring Branch ISD – received a mine resistant vehicle in 2019.

Overall, the executive order, which provoked harsh [criticism](#) from 1033's supporters in [law enforcement](#) and [government](#), did very little to stop military equipment from being available for use on civilians in the course of everyday policing.

No Evidence That 1033 Makes Communities or Officers Safer

In addition to our examination of the potential impact of the Obama reforms on the actual equipment provided to law enforcement agencies, we also reviewed the existing empirical research on the stated value of providing such equipment through the 1033 program. Defenses of 1033 typically put forth the arguments that the program makes [officers safer](#) and [saves taxpayer dollars](#).

Former Attorney General Jeff Sessions, for instance, [defended the program by saying](#), “Studies have shown this equipment reduces crime rates, reduces the number of assaults against police officers, and reduces the number of complaints against police officers.”

The actual data, however, tell quite a different story, and the studies Sessions touted have since been debunked. In 2020, political science Professor Anna Gunderson and a team of scholars [revisited](#) the methodology and evidence

behind those studies and detailed a number of fundamental methodological flaws, including that most such studies were inadequately granular to connect 1033 equipment to affected communities.

Gunderson’s team found that both studies cited by Sessions conducted their analyses entirely at the county level, comparing crime rates and assaults against officers to the aggregate amount of 1033 equipment transferred to that county. Because counties are often very large, including a number of distinct law enforcement agencies with distinct jurisdictions, an increase in 1033 equipment in one part of the county might happen to correspond with a decrease in crime in another, even though no causal effect is likely. Conducting an analysis themselves using agency-level data correctly, the team found no effect between 1033 transfers and decreased crime.

Another [peer-reviewed study](#) corroborated this finding, determining that receiving militarized vehicles had no impact on either crime rates or officer casualties. This study was particularly powerful because it took advantage of the natural experiment created in 2015 when certain types of equipment were recalled by the E.O. but others were left in circulation. Kenneth Lowande, the study’s author, found no “downside risks” of federal reforms to demilitarize police.

Another rationale of the 1033 program is that by donating no-longer-used equipment, law enforcement agencies do not need to expend their own funds and thus the program saves taxpayer money. To determine whether 1033 transfers offset these costs, we examined about 20 “most extreme” cases where we’d most expect to see a cost-saving effect of 1033 transfers – cases where police or sheriff’s departments received a large value of transfers (over \$800,000) over a short, concentrated time period (one year).

Manually constructing a dataset of these law enforcement budgets from 2011-2020, we found no evidence that 1033 transfers decrease police budgets. In only one case did an influx of 1033 equipment correspond to an equivalent decrease in police spending in the following year. In all other cases, either there was no reduction in spending at all or the size of the 1033 transfers dwarfed a nominal downward adjustment.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Our examination indicates that the “around-the-edges” reforms of the Obama era were not enough to substantially curb the flow of military equipment to local law enforcement agencies. The real harms of the relatively unregulated transfer of military equipment to police forces [continue to fall](#) disproportionately on people of color.

While it is difficult to trace individual pieces of 1033 equipment to deployment by law enforcement, we can identify moments where 1033 is implicated in troubling police violence. Take the protests of June 2020, which began in response to the police murder of George Floyd, and sought to address systemic racism and violence in policing. During those protests in Austin, Texas, police [critically injured](#) a 20-year-old Black man protesting using “less-lethal” weapons. At the time, they had in their possession five “less-lethal” firing devices transferred through 1033.

Executive Order 13688 failed to curb these racist abuses. The amount of dangerous equipment in circulation remains high. Furthermore, this influx of equipment does not improve public safety. The 1033 program is beyond reform and must end for good.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **President Biden should place a moratorium on 1033 transfers and recall or destroy controlled equipment that has already been distributed:** Until Congress can abolish 1033, President Biden must put a halt on all new transfers of military equipment to law enforcement agencies. Controlled equipment – which includes military vehicles, rifles, and other weapons of war – should be returned to the Department of Defense or destroyed by law enforcement agencies. Records and data of destruction and recall should be made publicly available on [LESO's website](#).
- **Officially abolish 1033:** When Congress revisits the National Defense Authorization Act, it should abolish the 1033 program.
- **Amend [Title 10 U.S. Code, Chapter 153](#) to create new protocols for the decommissioning of military equipment:** Congress should establish new protocols for the decommissioning of military equipment that forbid the transfer of weapons of war. The distribution of all items should prioritize economic growth and community health and safety – particularly in Black, Brown and Indigenous communities that have historically been under-invested in and excluded from government grants – and environmental restoration.
- **End the militarization of police:** Police must be demilitarized, which requires a reduction in access to and use of militarized weapons designed for the battlefield of war, including assault rifles, grenade launchers, incendiary devices, and armored vehicles.
- **End the preferential treatment enjoyed by law enforcement:** Decommissioned equipment from the federal government should be distributed to the agencies and corporations that can leverage it most effectively for economic growth, community health and safety, or

environmental restoration. Agencies such as schools, public health systems, and transportation departments, which have been divested from for decades, should be prioritized when disseminating federal government property and law enforcement should not be eligible for receiving this equipment.

- **Divest from police and sheriff’s departments:** The 1033 program is only one avenue through which the federal government funnels resources into state and local police departments across the country. State, local, and federal law enforcement agencies also receive billions of dollars in funding from the [Departments of Justice](#) and Homeland Security. All programs on the federal level that provide resources and/or funding to police departments should end immediately and the resources and funding should be redirected to alternative programs that support community safety and health.

How We Analyzed 1033

To analyze transfers before, during, and after the Obama-era reforms to the 1033 program, the ACLU used publicly available data documenting the quantity and monetary value of militarized items distributed from the federal government to local law enforcement under 1033 from 2011-2020. The Law Enforcement Supply Office (LESO), which administers the 1033 program, has [published](#) quarterly updates of 1033 equipment held by law enforcement agencies since November of 2014. Each of these [quarterly updates](#) has been collected by The Marshall Project.

In tracking these equipment transfers, LESO distinguished between “controlled” and “uncontrolled” equipment. Controlled equipment requires “demilitarization”: disposal procedures designed to ensure dangerous

equipment isn't allowed to freely circulate in the public. While LESO tracks controlled 1033 transfers for their lifetime, uncontrolled equipment is only tracked for a year after transfer, after which point it drops out of the data.

Between one inventory update to the next, new equipment transfers are made, uncontrolled equipment transferred more than a year prior drops out of the data, and controlled equipment disappears from the data when it is returned to LESO or destroyed. In addition to the controlled/uncontrolled distinction drawn by the DoD, we draw a distinction between "militarized" equipment and equipment that is not necessarily militarized. We considered militarized equipment to include: weapons, ammunition, vehicles intended for combat, aircraft, gear intended for combat conditions, and component parts or supporting equipment for any of the above. All militarized equipment is also controlled.

The data allows us to build a comprehensive picture of all new transfers since 2014, but we only have a record of pre-2014 transfers that were both "controlled" and still in circulation at the time of the first agency-level inventory update on Nov. 21, 2014. This also means that our account of transfers becomes less complete the farther back from 2014 one goes. Nevertheless, we find quantifying new quarterly transfers to be the most straightforward way to understand the effect of policy change on the 1033 program.

For much of our analyses, we report the number of items transferred rather than the total monetary value of transfers, as a small number of high-value items can bias totals significantly. At the same time, it is worth noting that equipment transfers vary wildly in terms of both item value and item unit, meaning that quantity counts are also an imperfect measure of the level of militarization created by the program. For this reason, many of our analyses

report totals across specific types of comparable equipment, where possible.

Because the Trump Administration rescinded E.O. 13688 in 2017, we compared transfers within three periods of time: 1) from 2011 to the implementation of Obama's E.O. 13688 in 2015; 2) the 2015-2017 period during which E.O. 13688 was in effect; and 3) from 2017-2020, after the Trump Administration rescinded the executive order. We choose 2011 as a starting point because it is [acknowledged](#) as a bright-line after which transfers increase dramatically, likely a result of troop withdrawals in Afghanistan and Iraq increasing military surpluses. It is important to keep in mind, however, that the data is only complete starting in 2014, and figures prior should be understood as underestimates.

Our full data cleaning, processing, and analysis methodology is available on our [public github](#).

Acknowledgments

This article benefited greatly from contributions from Aamra S. Ahmad, Senior Policy Counsel; Sophie Beiers, Data Journalist; Kanya A. Bennett, Former Senior Legislative Counsel; Brandon Cox, Communications Strategist; Jamil Dakwar, Human Rights Program Director; Paige Fernandez, Policing Policy Advisor; Raymond Gilliar, Associate Director, Knowledge and Learning; Emily Greytak, Research Director; Aaron Horowitz, Deputy Chief Analytics Officer / Chief Data Scientist; Carson Hyde, Digital Producer; Brooke Watson Madubonwu, Director, Legal Analytics & Quantitative Research; Rebecca McCray, Senior Editor; Cynthia W. Roseberry, Deputy Director, Policy; and Carl Takei, Senior Staff Attorney, Trone Center for Justice and Equality.

From: [Mullane](#)
To: [Preston, Dean \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Dorsey, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Waltonstaff \(BOS\)](#); [PrestonStaff \(BOS\)](#); [RonenStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Marstaff \(BOS\)](#); [PeskinStaff \(BOS\)](#); [StefaniStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MandelmanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [SafaiStaff \(BOS\)](#); [DorseyStaff \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Please Vote No
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 5:10:41 PM
Attachments: [Vote No on Robots.pdf](#)

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisors,

Please see an additional plea, attached, regarding your vote on the lethal use of force by robots in San Francisco. Many thanks for your careful consideration to this grave matter.

Kindly,
Mullane Ahern
she / her / ella
415.582.3200

On Nov 29, 2022, at 9:29 AM, Mullane <mullane.ahern@gmail.com> wrote:

Esteemed Supervisors,

As a resident, a civil rights advocate, and a policy nerd — I humbly submit this letter imploring you to exercise your moral authority and vote against weaponization of robots by the San Francisco Police Department. Your consideration is most valued and appreciated.

Kindly,
Mullane Ahern
she / her / ella
415.582.3200

(District 5 Resident)
<Moral Authority to Vote No.pdf>

 Mullane Ahern (she / her / ella)

 [call me!](#)  [email me](#)  district 5 resident 

December 4, 2022

Esteemed Members of the Board,

My name is Mullane Ahern. I am a dedicated public servant and resident of District 5. When I moved to San Francisco from Washington, DC, many years ago, I was thrilled to have finally have a vote that would “count.” Direct democracy excited me. For better or worse, it still does.

The most profound words and powerful moments I have witnessed in City Hall have been listening to people in our community discuss City civil rights policy. Often, these discussions concerned police policy. Policy is about people – and must be informed by expertise of a range of perspectives. Such was the case when we gathered input on use of force issues and arming with police; the human rights impact of the War on Drugs; and, use of criminal background checks. Community groups, police officers, and many subject matter experts came to the table with vital perspectives and data. Supervisors, please reconsider how this grave decision to expressly authorizing lethal force by police robots is approached. Interests cannot be reduced to “pro-” or “anti-police,” nor is it accurate to decry public opposition as hyperbolic.

Concerns about civil rights, about the technology itself, and about expanding the arsenal of police weaponry are founded in fact and data. [Police have killed more people in 2022](#) than ever documented in previous years according to [mappingpoliceviolence.org](#). Lethal robot technology will not aid in any of the scenarios discussed last week and will only make us less safe. Please vote this matter down. If it must be revisited, San Francisco deserves a rigorous policy analysis and inclusive discussion before such a decision is made, and it should go to the will of the voters. Our voices count. Your careful consideration is most appreciated.

Sincerely Yours,

Mullane Ahern