

**From:** [Rishav Rout](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Chen, Chyanne \(BOS\)](#); [Dorsey, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Engardio, Joel \(BOS\)](#); [Fielder, Jackie \(BOS\)](#); [Mahmood, Bilal \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Sauter, Danny \(BOS\)](#); [Sherrill, Stephen \(BOS\)](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [SherrillStaff](#); [SauterStaff](#); [DorseyStaff \(BOS\)](#); [EngardioStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MandelmanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [FielderStaff](#); [ChenStaff](#); [MahmoodStaff](#)  
**Subject:** Prevent Unnecessary Gun Violence  
**Date:** Monday, February 10, 2025 3:43:18 PM

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Dear Members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors,

I am writing regarding [Item 24](#) on your Board agenda on Tuesday, the Sheriff Department's Military Equipment Use Report.

Firstly, I ask that you direct the Sheriff's department dispose of the following items in its inventory:

- the MP-5 submachine guns in its inventory, as listed in "Military Equipment Annual Report 2024 and Inventory" Section F, Page 12
- The automatic Glock 18 pistols in its inventory, listed in Section G Page 13 of the same document.

These weapons are not authorized for deployment, currently. There is no training program in place for these weapons, so their deployment in the near future is also not possible. These automatic fire weapons are not appropriate for the tasks of the SF Sheriff's Department, and should be removed from inventory.

Second, the Sheriff's Office is seeking approval to acquire 12 new Pepperball launchers and 1,200 munitions, weapons the Department has not previously owned (pp. 26-27 of Military Equipment Annual Report). These weapons launch chemical agents, which can be in the jail or on patrol, both as an anti-personnel weapon and to break glass. The policy for using this weapon includes the state law restrictions on using 'less lethal' weapons for crowd control, but it does NOT include prohibitions and other guidelines included in the manufacturers manual.

The launcher that SFSO proposed to acquire fires up to 160 rounds from a single magazine, on an AR-15-type platform.

These manufacturer guidelines in [the product manual](#) for the Pepperball VKS PRO launcher and munitions include:

- Never point or discharge your launcher at anything you do not intend to shoot
- ***Increasing the velocity of this product increases the risk of death or injury.*** (italics/bold added)
- Never discharge your launcher at the personal property of others.
- KEEP ALL PEPPERBALL PROJECTILES AND LAUNCHERS OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN.

However, the proposed uses for this weapon do not include these restrictions. Authorized uses

in the proposed policy include making arrests (“criminal apprehensions”), an extremely wide range of situations, as well as operations at homes where a person is "resisting arrest." The latter could include people in mental health crises who do not represent a threat to others. The Sheriff's Office already has 50,000 “less lethal” munitions, according to the report (p. 22).

I urge you to oppose the purchase and deployment of potentially lethal chemical weapons systems for the Sheriff's department; this system's usage restrictions are insufficient as they do not restrict usage in situations where children are present (as specified in the user manual), nor do they restrict the maximum velocity at which potentially lethal glass breaking projectiles can be used on human targets.

Thanks,  
Rishav Rout

**From:** [Edna Kozikaro](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Chen, Chyanne \(BOS\)](#); [Dorsey, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Engardio, Joel \(BOS\)](#); [Fielder, Jackie \(BOS\)](#); [Mahmood, Bilal \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Sauter, Danny \(BOS\)](#); [Sherrill, Stephen \(BOS\)](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [SherrillStaff](#); [SauterStaff](#); [DorseyStaff \(BOS\)](#); [EngardioStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MandelmanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [FielderStaff](#); [ChenStaff](#); [MahmoodStaff](#)  
**Subject:** Please vote NO on Item 24  
**Date:** Monday, February 10, 2025 1:13:32 PM

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Dear Members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors,

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- KEEP ALL PEPPERBALL PROJECTILES AND LAUNCHERS OUT OF THE

## SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN.

However, the proposed uses for this weapon do not include these restrictions. Authorized uses in the proposed policy include making arrests ("criminal apprehensions"), an extremely wide range of situations, as well as operations at homes where a person is "resisting arrest." The latter could include people in mental health crises who do not represent a threat to others. The Sheriff's Office already has 50,000 "less lethal" munitions, according to the report (p. 22).

I urge you to oppose the purchase and deployment of potentially lethal chemical weapons systems for the Sheriff's department; this system's usage restrictions are insufficient as they do not restrict usage in situations where children are present (as specified in the user manual), nor do they restrict the maximum velocity at which potentially lethal glass breaking projectiles can be used on human targets.

Sincerely,

Edna Kozikaro, D6

**From:** [Lea McGeever](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [MandelmanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [Waltonstaff \(BOS\)](#); [Dorsey, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [DorseyStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Engardio, Joel \(BOS\)](#); [EngardioStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Mahmood, Bilal \(BOS\)](#); [MahmoodStaff; Chen, Chyanne \(BOS\)](#); [ChenStaff; Fielder, Jackie \(BOS\)](#); [FielderStaff; SauterStaff; Sauter, Danny \(BOS\)](#); [daniel.sauter@sfgov.org](#); [SherrillStaff; Sherrill, Stephen \(BOS\)](#); [tips@sfgstandard.com](#); [aldo.toledo@sfgchronicle.com](#); [Marke Bieschke](#); [Joe Rivano Barros](#)  
**Subject:** Vote no or return to Rules Committee for 250017 [Military Equipment Use Policy and Additional Equipment Approval - 2024 Annual Report]  
**Date:** Saturday, February 8, 2025 6:36:01 AM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)

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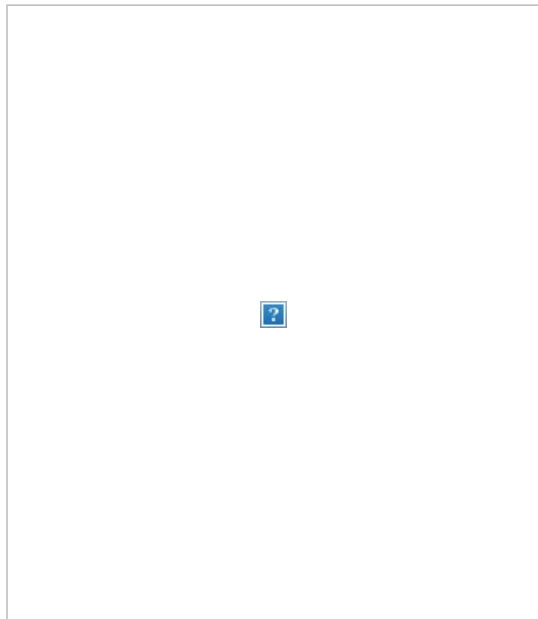
This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

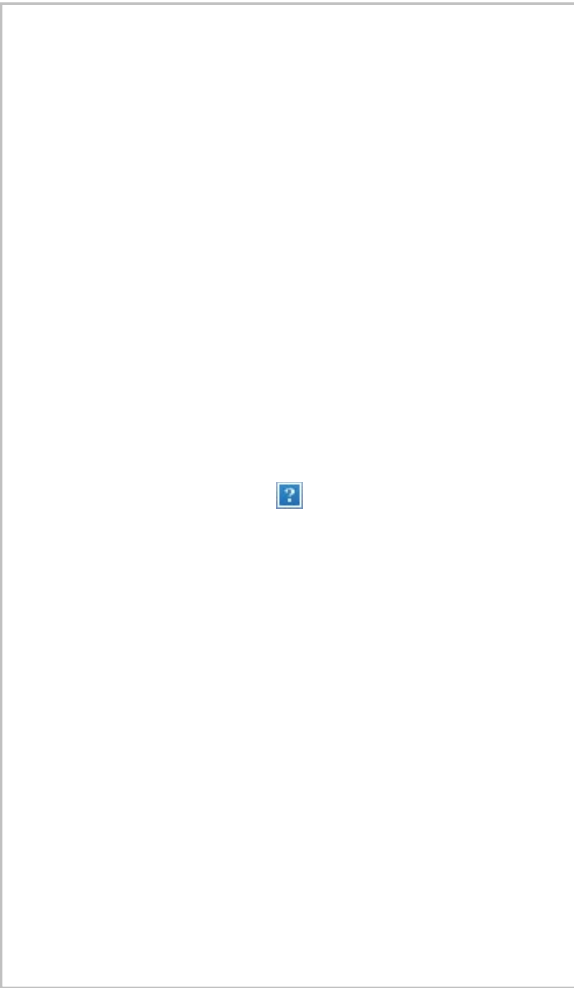
For the reasons below I wish you'd show you care for children's safety too and delay the approval of 250017 until the investigation (chemical weapons employed during an exercise injuring children downwind) is complete, at minimum.

Reasons:

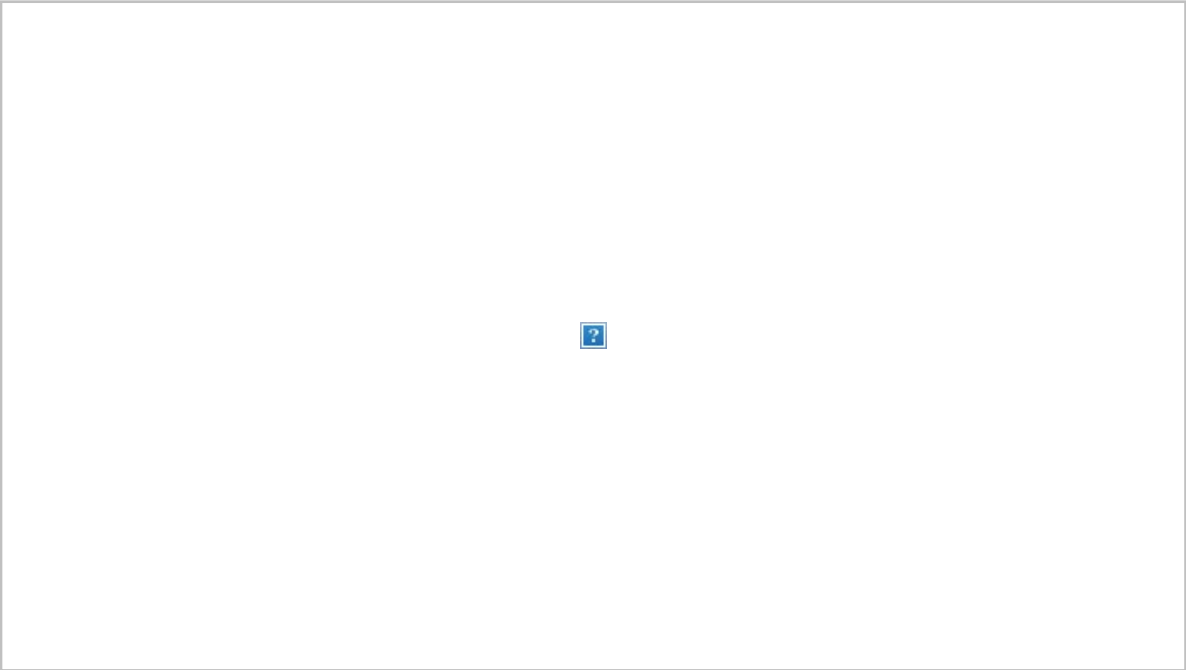
The agenda item that caught my attention was this Sheriff's military equipment inventory and request. For starters, as an abolitionist I do not want any militarized policing, period. As Lea, I have been derided by our Sheriff's X account which leaves me feeling even less safe.



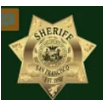
This same account recently thanked a man, "JJ Smith," in Supervisor Matt Dorsey's network for getting video of a man who has filed ethics complaints against corrupt politicians and the Salvation Army, and who was at a protest.



So, back to the Sheriff's weapons. They are requesting to replace some older inventory they have and have a request for a new pepper spray projectile weapon to hit/impact people 150 feet away, assisted with a "red dot system"/red light beam for easier targeting. They also want new PPC Breacher weapons that can break glass from 150 feet away. It sounds like they also use pepper balls as projectiles.



But that's not all. This request comes after the Sheriffs got in trouble for an outdoor chemical agent exercise and children in school downwind from the training were hit with the chemical: [Kids sickened by training at nearby S.F. jail may have ingested decades-old chemical weapons](#). The investigation is still ongoing. Supervisor Walton voiced concerns approving more chemical weapons for the Sheriffs before this investigation concluded. People actually came to public comment on this item also concerned about this, and concerned about it happening again to the children. The public didn't trust the current leadership in the Sheriff's department with chemical weapons, and were concerned about the Sheriff's negatively impacting their community's safety.



San Francisco  
**Sheriff's Office**

Rules Committee Presentation  
Military Style Equipment - 2024

## Complaints

### Complaints & internal audits.

- Agreement with the **Department of Police Accountability (DPA) to accept and investigate complaints regarding its use of the military equipment.**
- For 2024, DPA did not receive any formal misconduct complaints regarding the use of military equipment.
- **SFSO received complaints from several community members in San Bruno, CA** regarding an incident that occurred near the County Jail located at 1 Moreland Drive.
- Incident that occurred on **May 21, 2024 when members of the SRT conducted chemical agent training.**
- Sheriff's office continues to cooperate with the investigation. **Chemical agent training resumed but not currently at the San Bruno jail complex.**

I voiced my concerns about any militarized policing department while we have a Trump administration, wondering what the Sheriffs would do with these weapons if the federal government ordered them to illegally use these weapons against us. I don't have faith police would stand up to the President if ordered to do so, especially under threat. I also said a military has an enemy to use these weapons against, and that I feel like an enemy to the Sheriffs, in personal reference to the X post above, but also said given the long history of violence and brutality against the LGBTQ+ community.

Since committee member Supervisor Mandelman was so late to this meeting, he didn't hear the Sheriff's presentation nor did he hear public comment on this, so Chair Walton continued this item until 2/3 for a vote, this week. When this item came up again, Chair Walton voiced his concern again, saying he would like to sever this item from other items on their agenda so that it wouldn't get passed onto the BOS, or to continue the item to see what the investigation produces, but he didn't know if Supervisor Sherrill and Mandelman supported this. Silence. So he motioned to send this to the BOS with a *No* recommendation. Sherrill and Mandelman approved with Sherrill still getting used to saying *Aye* instead of *Yes*. I predict this will get voted *Aye* by our "Moderate" BOS. They love policing us in spite of the dangers to us.

Sincerely,  
D6 resident

**From:** [Deetje B](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [DEETJE BOLER](#); [Jennifer Tu](#)  
**Subject:** Sheriff's Dept. Weapons - @SF BOS meeting, 2/11/25  
**Date:** Friday, February 7, 2025 10:41:02 AM

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

Dear Supervisors: Re: Sheriff's Dept. Weapons: Pepperball launchers & munitions; submachine guns

The Sheriff's Department is seeking approval to acquire 12 Pepperball launchers & 1,200 munitions, which the Department has not previously owned (pp.26-27 of Military Equipment Annual Report).

We support AFSC's request\* (copied below) that, in short, if you approve the Sheriff Department's proposed acquisition of launchers and munitions, it incorporate all those stronger protections they propose, so as to prevent harms from their use.

However, further, we at WILPF-SF consider these projectile weapons entirely unsafe and unacceptable for use in our community and so would ask that you not approve their acquisition.

We also support the AFSC's request that the Department dispose of their 8 submachine guns. They, too, are not appropriate for San Francisco.

We appreciate your attention to this serious matter.

Sincerely,

Deetje Boler

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF-SF)

\* The Sheriff's Department is seeking approval to acquire 12 new Pepperball launchers and 1,200 munitions, weapons the Department has not previously owned (pp. 26-27 of Military Equipment Annual Report). These weapons launch chemical agents. which can be in the jail or on patrol, both as an anti-personnel weapon and to break glass. The policy for using this weapon includes the state law restrictions on using 'less lethal' weapons for crowd control, but it does NOT include prohibitions and other guidelines included in the manufacturers manual.



The launcher that SFSD proposed to acquire fires up to 160 rounds from a single magazine, on an AR-15-type platform.

These manufacturer guidelines in [the product manual](#) for the Pepperball VKS PRO launcher and munitions include:

- Never point or discharge your launcher at anything you do not intend to shoot
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- KEEP ALL PEPPERBALL PROJECTILES AND LAUNCHERS OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN.

However, the proposed uses for this weapon do not include these restrictions. Authorized uses in the proposed policy include making arrests (“criminal apprehensions”), an extremely wide range of situations, as well as operations at homes where a person is “resisting arrest.” The latter could include people in mental health crises who do not represent a threat to others. The Sheriff’s Department already has 50,000 “less lethal” munitions, according to the report (p. 22).

We strongly urge you to require the Sheriff’s Department to incorporate stronger protections to prevent harms from the use of these weapons. These should include limitations on the velocity setting for the Pepperball launchers and a prohibition on their use in the presence of children.

In addition, we urge you to direct the Sheriff’s Department to dispose of the eight submachine guns it owns. The Department does not train officers on these high-powered weapons and it has not assigned or deployed them for at least 10 years. They are not appropriate for San Francisco.

Sincerely,  
John Lindsay-Poland  
American Friends Service Committee

**From:** [John Lindsay-Poland](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [BOS-Supervisors](#); [BOS-Legislative Aides](#); [BOS-Operations](#)  
**Cc:** [Goossen, Carolyn \(PDR\)](#); [Kingston, Tim \(PDR\)](#); [jfriedenbach@cohsf.org](mailto:jfriedenbach@cohsf.org); [mlyon01mlyon01@gmail.com](mailto:mlyon01mlyon01@gmail.com); [dlee@im4humanintegrity.org](mailto:dlee@im4humanintegrity.org); [Jennifer Tu](#)  
**Subject:** Supervisors: Item 24 on Sheriff's Military Equipment, Feb. 11  
**Date:** Friday, February 7, 2025 10:25:12 AM

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

Dear Supervisors:

We are writing regarding [Item 24](#) on your Board agenda on Tuesday, the Sheriff Department's Military Equipment Use Report.

1. The organizations signed below urge you to direct the Sheriff's Office to dispose of the eight submachine guns it owns. The Sheriff's Office does not train officers on these high-powered weapons and it has not assigned or deployed them for at least 10 years. They are not appropriate for San Francisco.
2. The Sheriff's Office is seeking approval to acquire 12 new Pepperball launchers and 1,200 munitions, weapons the Department has not previously owned (pp. 26-27 of Military Equipment Annual Report). These weapons launch chemical agents, which can be in the jail or on patrol, both as an anti-personnel weapon and to break glass. The policy for using this weapon includes the state law restrictions on using 'less lethal' weapons for crowd control, but it does NOT include prohibitions and other guidelines included in the manufacturers manual.

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We strongly urge you to require the Sheriff's Office to incorporate stronger protections to prevent harms from the use of these weapons. These should include limitations on the velocity setting for the Pepperball launchers and a prohibition on their use in the presence of children.

Sincerely,

American Friends Service Committee

Coalition on Homelessness

Gray Panthers of San Francisco

Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity

Racial Justice Committee of the San Francisco Public Defender

San Francisco Public Defender's Office