

From: [regina.sneed](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Re: January 30, 2023 Board of Supervisors Rules Committee: Item 221062: Funding, Acquisition and Use of Certain Sheriff's Department Equipment.
Date: Saturday, January 28, 2023 4:41:33 PM

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

> Dear Supervisors:

>

> Today the Rules Committee will most likely pass the draft ordinance and policy for equipment used by the Sheriff's Department as required under AB 481 to the full Board of Supervisors for adoption. While there are still ways the policy could be made stronger, I appreciate the inclusion of the community through the good offices of the AFSC in discussions with the Sheriff's Department and members of the Rules Committee to produce this document.

I also appreciated hearing that the Sheriff's Department does not purchase equipment through the 1033 program.

> This draft recognizes that certain equipment like flash bangs, pepper spray or other projectiles need to be prohibited around the elderly, children, persons with physical, mental or intellectual disabilities, non English speaking persons and those with compromised immune systems. This language is exactly what AB 481 envisioned in its main purpose of protecting community members.

This equipment list notes that much of this equipment has not been deployed during the past year. That raises the question for future review of whether we need it. Was the lack of use due to covid or was it because of better alternative means of resolving a situation. As a community member, I generally prefer that our police and sheriffs use less military type equipment and more deescalation tactics to respond to incidents.

> The Board in its oversight responsibilities will be examining incident reports as part of the annual reporting to the Board. Citizens need to see information about deployment and use prior to the one required public hearing so they can fully participate and comment on issues of concern that might produce changes in the policy.

> I continue to advocate for providing a private right of action so citizens can directly take actions to address changes needed in the use of military equipment. As it stands, only the Board of Supervisors has authority to protect the public safety. California has a strong history of including private rights of action as another safeguard for insuring accountability and protecting citizens rights.

>

> I also support other recommendations made by the AFSC Healing Justice project that are not included in the current draft. These include decommissioning fully automatic assault weapons both pistols and machine guns and taking extra care on how weapons are used in confined spaces like a jail cell where innocent bystanders could be affected.

And finally, with the daily news reports of excessive use of force, I hope that under the Police and Sheriff's policies, we will have transparent reports of such incidents with specific data about location and race of those involved. The community deserves the best from our public safety departments.

Thank you.

Regina Sneed
District Two resident

