

NO MORE HALF STEPS: WE DEMAND REAL CHANGE TO END POLICE VIOLENCE

May 25, 2020 was a both a personal tragedy for the Floyd family and a community tragedy. But it was also a watershed moment locally and nationally in people's understanding of police violence, the racism and classism that underpins it, and the systems that enable it.

Below is a list of specific recommendations for addressing police brutality, misconduct and abuse of authority in the state of Minnesota. Many of these recommendations are not new—our organization has presented them to city, county and state officials for years. Prior failures by leaders at these levels to adopt these evidence-based solutions are what brought us to this place.

In the aftermath of other high-profile police killings, occasional half-measures have been enacted but, generally, public officials simply outlast the storm and go back to business as usual. Even now some public officials labor under the illusion that they can put the genie back into the bottle. That can't happen this time. Every recommendation on this list is readily able to be implemented. All that is required is the will.

To see the full details of these recommendations, go to cuapb.org/reports

Police Accountability

- Require police officers to carry their own professional liability insurance.
- Require police chiefs to adopt a disciplinary reset mechanism.
- Enact robust civilian oversight of police.
- Overturn MN Statute 609.505, Subd. 2.
- Require the MN POST Board to adjudicate complaints on chief law enforcement officers.
- Require the MN POST Board to take prompt, consistent action on licenses.
- Pass legislation recognizing the right to videotape police and document their conduct.
- Ensure badges are visible and legible.

Police Critical Incidents

- Create an independent agency for investigation and prosecution of law enforcement critical incidents.
- End the practice of allowing officers involved in critical incidents 48 hours before giving a statement.
- Ensure officers involved in deadly force incidents are treated the same as other suspects.
- Prosecute excessive force, investigator misconduct and perjury.
- Require detailed reviews of law enforcement critical incidents.
- Lengthen the statute of limitations for wrongful death civil actions.
- Require the state to pay for independent autopsies in deaths associated with law enforcement activities.

Training

- Improve the course approval process for the MN POST Board.
- End fear-based, military style, "warrior" trainings and significantly increase the amount of de-escalation training through POST Board requirements.
- Change the foundation of police response with better basic education.
- Require training for law enforcement in recognizing and interacting appropriately with people on the autism spectrum.
- Require annual in-person anti-oppression training conducted by community-based organizations that represent people from oppressed groups.
- Require EPIC or other peer intervention training along with a duty to intervene.
- Stabilize and increase training funds.
- Create certification tracts for sexual assault investigators, homicide investigators.

Safer Community Interactions

- End police-only responses to mental health crisis calls.
- Protect our immigrant neighbors.
- End anti-camping and other ordinances targeting homeless people.
- Restrict use of deadly force to last resort.
- Ban lateral vascular neck restraint (LVNR), choke holds, body-pins to the neck, hobble tying and other potentially lethal restraint methods.
- Change canine policy from locate and bite to locate and bark.
- Review and improve pursuit policies.
- Mandate appropriate law enforcement response to civil disturbances.
- End the use of military equipment in our community.
- Significantly limit the use of SWAT teams and no-knock warrants.

Police Fitness For Duty

- Require law enforcement agencies to conduct mandatory psychological testing.
- Require drug and anabolic steroid testing after a police critical incident.

Collective Bargaining

- Require community participation in negotiations of collective bargaining agreements.
- Split police federations into separate unions for rank-and-file staff and supervisors.

Data

- Provide for penalties in MN Statute Chapter 13, the MN Government Data Practices Act (MGDPA) for failure to release data timely, especially the “super public data” outlined in MN Stat. 13.82, subd. 2.
- Ensure better access to body-worn camera footage.
- Require the release of unedited video footage to families of people killed by law enforcement officers within 48 hours of the fatal incident.
- Require law enforcement agencies to collect data for every encounter, whether it results in arrest or not.
- Post lawsuit data on a dashboard or other access mechanism.
- Make information on use of force information quickly available to the public through a dashboard or other access mechanism.
- Require departments to review search warrants relative to the results of those warrants.

WHAT WON'T WORK

As we consider measures to end police violence, we must recognize those measures that will not actually address the problem. We must not waste our resources on non-solutions.

- Residency requirements.
- Implicit bias training.
- Police-community relations efforts.

WHAT ABOUT ABOLISHING OR DEFUNDING THE POLICE?

There are multiple levels of law enforcement agencies in every community in Minnesota. Abolishing or defunding local police may have some impact but unless we address all levels of policing, people will still be harmed by law enforcement violence. We must push for measures to reduce harm and ensure justice even as there are moves toward other models of public safety.



Information provided by **COMMUNITIES UNITED AGAINST POLICE BRUTALITY**. We meet every Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at 4200 Cedar Avenue in Minneapolis. For more information or for help with a police brutality incident, call our 24-hour hotline: **612-874-STOP** or see our website at **www.CUAPB.org**.