

Mass Movement Against San Francisco Police Killer Robots

44 Local Organizations Stand Against SFPD's Killer Robots

By [Matthew Guariglia](#)

Global Research, December 06, 2022

[Electronic Frontier Foundation](#) 5 December 2022

Region: [USA](#)

Theme: [Law and Justice](#), [Police State & Civil Rights](#)

All Global Research articles can be read in 51 languages by activating the **Translate Website** button below the author's name.

To receive Global Research's Daily Newsletter (selected articles), [click here](#).

Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) and subscribe to our [Telegram Channel](#). Feel free to repost and share widely Global Research articles.

EFF is announcing a letter signed by 44 community groups who stand united in opposition to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors authorizing the San Francisco Police Department to deploy deadly force with remote-control robots. The signers include racial justice groups, civil rights and civil liberties organizations, LGBTQ organizations, and labor unions.

You can read the entire letter [here](#).

From the letter:

"SFPD's proposal, if approved, threatens the privacy and safety of city residents and visitors. Police in the United States have killed [1,054 people](#) in the last year. Black Americans are [three times more likely](#) than white Americans to be killed during police encounters. San Francisco is no exception; according to Mapping Police Violence, [from 2013 to 2021](#), Black people were 9.7 times as likely and Latinx people were 4.3 times as likely to be killed by SFPD as a white person by population. According to [Mission Local](#), from 2000 to 2021, over 30 percent of fatal police shootings in San Francisco killed Black people, even though Black people were only about 5 percent of the city's population. And despite California having one of the [strongest laws governing police use of deadly force](#) in the country, unarmed people and bystanders are killed with disturbing frequency.

There is no basis to believe that robots toting explosives might be an exception to police overuse of deadly force. Using robots that are designed to disarm bombs to instead deliver them is a perfect example of this pattern of escalation, and of the militarization of the police force that concerns so many across the city."

We thank all of the groups who signed onto this letter, and the many groups and residents who attended today's Stop Killer Robots rally outside of city hall. We again commend Supervisors Walton, Ronen, and Preston for their continued leadership in support of civil rights and civil liberties issues.

The policy passed with a vote of 8-to-3 last week, but is not effective without another vote at the Board of Supervisor meeting on Tuesday, December 6. Responding to public outcry, Supervisor Mar [announced he will be changing his vote](#). We thank him for doing so, and urge other members of the Board to do the same.

Residents must continue reaching out to their supervisors and tell them to vote against SFPD's killer robots. You can find an email contact for your Board of Supervisors member [here](#), and determine which Supervisor to contact [here](#). Here's text you can use (or edit):

Do not give SFPD permission to kill people with robots. This broad policy would allow police to bring armed robots to every arrest, and every execution of a warrant to search a house or vehicle or device. Depending on how police choose to define the words "critical" or "exigent," police might even bring armed robots to a protest. While police could only use armed robots as deadly force when the risk of death is imminent, this [problematic 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.

*

Note to readers: Please click the share buttons above. Follow us on Instagram and Twitter and subscribe to our Telegram Channel. Feel free to repost and share widely Global Research articles.

Featured image is not a recent photo, from Wikimedia Commons

The original source of this article is [Electronic Frontier Foundation](#)
Copyright © [Matthew Guariglia](#), [Electronic Frontier Foundation](#), 2022

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Matthew Guariglia](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca
www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted

material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca