

# San Francisco Police Department Proposes Letting Robots Kill Suspects

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*A policy drafted by the San Francisco Police Department has sent a petition to the city's Board of Supervisors which would **allow police officers to deploy robots with the intent to kill suspects** in situations where "risk of loss of life to members of the public or officers is imminent and outweighs any other force option available to SFPD," [Engadget](#) reports, citing [Mission Local](#).*

Where have we seen this one before?

According to *Mission Local*, the draft proposal has already received significant pushback from both within and outside of the Board - including supervisor Aaron Peskin, who initially resisted the idea until he inserted language which would completely neuter the death-bots.

"Robots shall not be used as a Use of Force against any person," he wrote, which the SFPD then removed in a subsequent draft.

**The police force currently maintains a dozen fully-functional remote-controlled robots**, which are typically used for area inspections and bomb disposal. However, [as the Dallas PD showed in 2016](#), they make excellent bomb delivery platforms as well. Bomb disposal units are often equipped with blank shotgun shells used to forcibly disrupt an explosive device's internal workings, though **there is nothing stopping police from using live rounds if they needed**, as Oakland police recently acknowledged to that city's civilian oversight board. -Engadget

In short, if this proposal ever sees the light of day:

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