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CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
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San Francisco, California 94158



**WILLIAM SCOTT**  
CHIEF OF POLICE

February 5, 2024

Board of Supervisors  
City and County of San Francisco  
City Hall, Room 244  
1 Dr. Carlton B Goodlett Pl  
San Francisco, CA 94102

President Peskin and Members:

**Re: SF Administrative Code 19B.7, Written Exigency Report: Interagency Incident Response and Use of Unmanned Aerial Support (“UAS” or “Drone”) on November 13, 2023.**

SF Admin. Code 19B (“19B”) was enacted in August 2019. Under 19B.7, the San Francisco Police Department (“SFPD” or “Department”) is required to report to Board of Supervisors the acquisition or use of the Surveillance Technology, as defined by Chapter 19B, in exigent circumstances.

On November 13, 2023, the Department partnered with the San Francisco Sheriff’s Department (“SFSD”) during a critical incident. Surveillance Technology was used during this incident, and UAS footage was shared with SFPD. As such, the Department is issuing this 19B.7. written exigency report to the Board of Supervisors. As required, this exigency report provides an overview to confirm the following:

- The use of the Surveillance Technology was solely to respond to an exigent circumstance.
- The use of the Surveillance Technology ceased within seven days.
- Data from the Surveillance Technology was not retained by SFPD, except as required by law; and
- Data from the Surveillance Technology was not disclosed to a third party, except as required by law.

**Use of the Surveillance Technology was solely to respond to the exigent circumstance:**

On November 13, 2023, SFPD was investigating a robbery. Officers located the suspect who ran into a home and proceeded to barricade himself inside. This resulted in a critical incident spanning several hours. After lengthy hostage/crisis negotiations, the SFPD Tactical Unit entered the home. The suspect climbed out of a second-story window and onto the roof of the residence. SFSD deployed and managed the use of their UAS. As a result of the operation the suspect was taken into custody. The suspect and one SFPD officer sustained minor injuries. No bystanders sustained injuries.

**The use of the Surveillance Technology ceased within seven days:**

SFSD operated the UAS for approximately 25 minutes on November 13, 2023. The SFSD ceased deployment of the UAS for this incident on November 13, 2023.

**Retention of data from the Surveillance Technology:**

After the incident the SFSD provided still photos or video footage from the UAS to SFPD and as such, surveillance technology data is being retained by the Department. The data will be retained in accordance with the Department’s retention schedule and as required by evidence codes.

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**Data from the Surveillance Technology was shared with a Third-Party:**

SFPD shared the UAS photos/footage as part of a re-booking package to the San Francisco District Attorney's Office in furtherance of the investigation.

This written report summarizes the use of Surveillance Technology under Section 19B.7 to the Board of Supervisors.

Respectfully submitted,



**WILLIAM SCOTT**

Chief of Police

cc: Police Commission  
SF Committee on Information Technology