

Minutes from the May 5, 2017 CED meeting

Location: Public Safety Building

Attendees: Commissioner Melara, Commissioner Hing, Marry Harris, Peter Walsh, Eric Vanderpool, Tom Meyer, Sneh Rao, Samara Marion, Angelica Almeida, Alan Schlosser, Jennifer Friendenbach, Teresa Ewins, Lucy Wang, Paul Henderson, Carl Fabbri

Item #1: Introduction: Commissioner Melara

Commissioner Melara asked people to introduce themselves as there were people at this meeting who were not in attendance at the April 21, 2017 meeting.

There was no public comment

Item #2: Presentation for the Bar Association from San Francisco

Tom Meyer from BASF passed out a document that detailed a list of studies and articles involving Conducted Energy Devices. (Document posted on the Commission webpage). The studies and articles were listed under 4 broad heading:

- Tasers © are lethal
- Tasers © often don't work
- Tasers © are disproportionately used against people of color and psychologically vulnerable population
- Tasers © are incompatible with de-escalation principles

Most of the discussion involved questions about UCSF Dr. Tseng's study that showed an increase in in-custody deaths after the first year a law enforcement agency introduced Tasers © but then returned to a slightly increased rate from the pre- Taser © rate. Mr. Meyer was able to answer some questions, but said the group would need to hear directly from Dr. Tseng to have all of its questions answered.

Captain Ewins from Pride Alliance mentioned that with the removal of the carotid restraint from the use of force policy officers have limited intermediate force options. She asked if members of the CED stakeholder group would be willing to attend the Force Options Training at the Academy. Some members said they would be interested in attending that training.

- Public Comment

Barbara Attard spoke about the need to review all of the evidence before making a decision on developing a CED policy.

Item #3: Presentation 2: San Francisco Police Department

The San Francisco Police Department said it was not able to get an outside law enforcement expert because of the need for extra personnel on Cinco de Mayo. It will have an expert attend the next meeting.

Item #4 Open Discussion

Commissioner Melara passed out the draft CED policy and advised that the group would begin to discuss the policy at the next meeting. She asked members to bring in a list of items from the policy they wanted to discuss.

Members of the group asked if the discussion of the policy would include projecting the draft on the screen and going through the policy line by line. Commission Melara said the list of items that stakeholders bring will be discussed – she was not sure what method would be used.

- Public Comment

Barbara Attard reiterated her concern about reviewing a policy when there has been no discussion of the evidence on whether to have CEDs.

Item #5 Proposals for additional subject matter experts and evidence

Commissioner Melara spoke to the group about getting additional experts to speak at future meetings. There were questions from the group about allowing experts to speak to the group over the phone or via Skype because one SME they would like to have address the group is in Tennessee and Dr. Tseng from UCSF may not have availability to come to the meeting at the scheduled time. Commissioner Melara said she would speak to the City Attorney's Office about the possibility of experts providing testimony over the phone.

No public Comment