From: <u>Vicki Schaur</u>
To: <u>J1SS Exhibits</u>

**Subject:** Oregon Police Standards

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I am very concerned about the knee jerk reaction to 'reforming the police'. Just know that I believe any LEO should be held accountable when actions fall outside the department's accepted procedure at the time. I understand there is consideration to ban the use of tear gas or other mucous membrane irritants, flash bangs or other loud noise disruptors plus other nonlethal measures the police use to control crowds and other volatile situations. In my opinion, this is not only ill-advised but fool-hearty. Primary job of LEOs is to enforce the law, not let lawbreakers run rampant. I like the idea of using fire hose water spray. It does the job well in certain situations. I ask you, what will you be leaving the police with to combat those who are breaking the law? You speak to curbing police violence. If you remove the tools police now use that are non-lethal, but have proven efficacy in given situations, what have they left to use? You speak to de-escalation of situations. You are delusional if you think someone who is breaking the law, resists being arrested, is belligerent, often compromised with drugs and/or alcohol, will contribute to the requirement for a 2-way conversation of de-escalation. Sending social workers to some selected calls is foolhardy at best. Any police officer will tell you disputes are the most dangerous calls to make because they are almost always unpredictable, involve uncontrolled anger, drugs and/or alcohol, or all of the above. These folks are incapable of making good decisions at the time. If you take away the tools mentioned, you leave an individual police officer with few options, walking away from the law-breaker, physical force, taser (can be lethal) and using a weapon. If this is really what you want, then you aren't interested in protecting the law-abiding citizen or their property. There are too many LEOs now who are looking to leave the profession because they feel betrayed and abandoned. They are unable to do the job they were hired to do, which is enforce laws. There is virtually no proactive policing going on, pretty much anywhere. They only respond to the most dire calls and as seen in Atlanta, maybe not even those. How is the recruiting going for those departments who have so many sworn vacancies? It was recently reported that PPB reduced the requirements for the job just to get some applicants. That says little for having high standards for potential officers! Please think hard and carefully before banning anything our Oregon Police now use as tactics to control bad situations. Before you legislate anything concerning police procedure, best to have citizen and law enforcement input as they are the experts on providing and receiving police services. Not you privileged few.