

I would like to submit written testimony in favor of a total ban on tear gas and chemical agents used for "riot" control. It is inhumane and unconscionable to be using chemical weapons on protesters while a respiratory virus pandemic is ravaging the country. Time after time, the use of tear gas by police and military against protesters has been indiscriminate and without provocation. It's dangerous for individuals, bystanders, and media witnesses to be repeatedly gassed and attacked by those charged to protect us. Furthermore, it is despicable to be using chemical weapons on your own citizens and residents for any reason, at any time. The efforts by the Mayor to restrict or limit its use have been ineffective. We need a total, complete ban on any use of chemical agents by law enforcement, government, and military personnel.

Sincerely,  
Rachel Schmerge