

I support the regulation of chemical incapacitants, kinetic impact projectiles and sound devices by law enforcement agencies. As an independent journalist, these weapons have been indiscriminately used on me while I do my job. As a disabled person, these weapons have been used on me while I have done my best to get out of the way. I am slower to heal and break easier than the average human, and thus suffer more. And yet disabled bodies are not considered when crowd control agents are used. As a disabled, working journalist, this year I have experienced:

a foam baton to the calf

A rubber baton to the thigh

More tear gassings than I can count

HC gas exposure, a carcinogen

More pepper ball hits than I can count (several that would have hit my eyes if not for eye protection)

A tear gas canister hitting my head

Sound weapons (LRAD and flash bangs) that will result in permanent hearing damage

Burns and lacerations from exploding a crowd control munitions

A tear gas canister hitting my thigh

I support this legislative change because no working, disabled person should suffer from a police force this militarized.