



SAN FRANCISCO POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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August 21, 2017

Chief William Scott  
San Francisco Police Department  
1245 3rd Street, 6th Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94158

Dear Chief Scott:

As you know, in the past ten days there have been two more deadly terrorist attacks by suspects using vehicles to kill and maim innocent bystanders.

On August 17th, in Barcelona, Spain, 15 people were mowed down and killed while dozens of others were hospitalized for injuries. Some are still in critical condition. On August 13th, in Charlottesville, Virginia, a hate-filled white supremacist ran over and killed an innocent demonstrator.

From 2014 through 2017, terrorist have carried out 17 ramming attacks worldwide, causing 173 deaths and 667 injuries. This does not include the recent attacks in Spain or Virginia. Below is a chart listing these specific attacks.

Chief William Scott  
San Francisco Police Department  
August 21, 2017

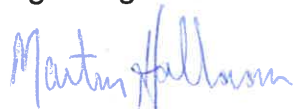
(U) Table 1: Recent Terrorism Inspired Vehicle Ramming Attacks, 2014-2017 cont.

Attack Details	Casualties
4/2017, Stockholm, Sweden (truck rammed a department store in the city center)	4 killed, 15 injured
3/2017 London, England (car rammed pedestrians on Westminster Bridge)	6 killed (including attacker), 50 injured
1/2017, Jerusalem, Israel (truck rammed military personnel near a popular promenade)	5 killed (including attacker), 15 injured
12/2016, Berlin, Germany (truck rammed pedestrians at outdoor Christmas market)	12 killed, 56 injured
11/2016, Columbus, OH (car rammed pedestrians at Ohio State University)	1 killed (attacker), 11 injured
10/2016, Vienna, Austria (car rammed pedestrians on a busy street)	none
7/2016, Nice, France (truck rammed pedestrians during parade)	87 killed (including attacker), 434 injured
1/2016, Valence, France (car rammed military personnel guarding a mosque)	1 injured
6/2015, Lyon, France (van rammed gas cylinders at gas factory)	2 injured
6/2015, Graz, Austria (car rammed pedestrians in the city center)	3 killed, 36 injured
12/2014, Nantes, France (van rammed pedestrians at Christmas market)	1 killed, 10 injured (including attacker)
12/2014, Dijon, France (car rammed pedestrians throughout the city)	11 injured
11/2014, Jerusalem, Israel (van rammed pedestrians at light rail station)	4 killed (including attacker), 13 injured
10/2014, Jerusalem, Israel (car rammed into pedestrians at light rail station)	3 killed (including attacker), 7 injured
10/2014, Quebec, Canada (car rammed military personnel in shopping center parking lot)	2 killed (including attacker), 1 injured
8/2014, Jerusalem, Israel (tractor rammed pedestrians and a public bus)	2 killed (including attacker), 5 injured
5/2014, Xinjiang, China (two sports utility vehicles rammed pedestrians in street market; attackers also threw explosives from vehicles)	43 killed (including 4 attackers), 90+ injured

This form of terrorism cannot be ignored, and law enforcement agencies must be prepared to address it swiftly and forcefully. We hope and pray that violence of such a horrific nature never occurs in San Francisco, but if it does, our officers must have clear directions to follow.

In March, 2017, the SFPOA sent you a letter (see attachment) requesting clarification on the SFPD Use of Force Policy as it pertains to officers encountering suspects using a vehicle as a killing machine. Since that time no changes have been made to this policy. In its current form, it leaves our public and our officers vulnerable.

The safety of our residents and visitors has always been paramount to the SFPD. The SFPOA is asking for the Department to reconsider this policy and provide clarification regarding what actions are acceptable and permitted under these circumstances.



Martin Halloran  
SFPOA President



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March 23, 2017

Chief William Scott  
San Francisco Police Department  
1245 3rd Street, 6th Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94158

Dear Chief Scott:

As you know, three people were tragically killed, including a police officer, and dozens more wounded yesterday when an individual driving an automobile mowed down pedestrians in London before stabbing the police officer. This incident follows the recent attacks in Nice, France in Berlin, Germany and on the campus of Ohio State. In each case, drivers used vehicles as a weapon to murder and harm innocent victims.

In light of these tragedies, I write to you to ask that you issue a clarification to the San Francisco Police Department's General Order around an officer's capacity to shoot at a moving vehicle. The guidelines are currently unclear and do not provide officers with the specific directions they need to protect San Franciscans should a similar event take place on the streets of San Francisco.

Last month, NYPD issued a clarification to the department's policy on shooting at a moving vehicle, stating: "A 'vehicle ramming attack' is the type of extraordinary event that this clause was intended to address. The objectively reasonable use of deadly physical force to terminate a mass casualty terrorist event would be legally justified and within department guidelines." The department reinforced this directive after yesterday's attack.

I urge you to take a similar step by issuing a Department Bulletin to clarify the DGO so that the men and women of our police force know what is expected of them under similar circumstances. We cannot wait for the next tragedy to strike. We must act now.

Sincerely,

Martin Halloran

cc: Mayor Ed Lee  
San Francisco Police Commission