



Together...We are the Solution!

TEXAS COPS & COMMUNITIES, INC.

Fighting for Justice...Uniting Community!

Noel A. Pinnock

President & CEO

P.O. Box 154
Stafford, Texas 77497

T. (713) 202-3235

E: president@texascopsandcommunities.com

W: www.texascopsandcommunities.com

March 27, 2021

Honorable Senfronia Thompson
State Representative – District 141
10527 Homestead Rd.
Houston, Texas 77016

Email: Senfronia.Thompson@house.texas.gov

RE: IT'S TIME TO ABOLISH QUALIFIED IMMUNITY

Dear Honorable Senfronia Thompson:

It is worse than anyone could have expected, the FBI's latest report on racially motivated extremists in our country was leaked to news outlets and released in a [fiery article on March 8, 2021](#). This report indicates that there is an imminent threat to members of minority groups because of the ongoing infiltration of White Supremacists in law enforcement, which makes traffic stops and other police encounters more dangerous and lethal than ever before. The report further exclaims that members of these minority groups are being targeted and states:

“White Supremacists 'seek affiliation' with the military and law enforcement to further their goals, internal FBI report warns racially motivated extremists want to develop new tactics the document says. 'In some cases, they wanted to join the military or police so they would be able to commit acts of violence toward members of minority groups.' In others, they planned to join the military or police to learn how to wage war against members of those minority groups.”

Notably, in October 2006, the FBI warned that 'white supremacist infiltration in law enforcement' represented (then) a significant national threat, and as we fast forward to 2020, Michael German, a former FBI special agent, who has written extensively on the ways law enforcement agencies in the United States have **failed** to respond to the far-right domestic terrorist threats, concludes that law enforcement officials have been tied to racist militant activities in more than a dozen states since 2000, and hundreds of police officers have been caught posting racist and bigoted content on social media.

Conclusively, the FBI warned this infiltration in law enforcement represents a significant national threat because these groups, predicated on hate, have infiltrated policing agencies in every region of our country to include state and federal police as well as the military.

Therefore, it is time to end the [White Supremacists Infiltration into Law Enforcement Strategy](#) by pushing the national [petition](#) and abolish Qualified Immunity. See Addenda 1-4 for more information.

Related Documentation:

- ACLU Agrees: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gy7QRZ4uMu0&feature=youtu.be>
- View US Senator Dianne Feinstein's comments during the January 6, 2021 Deadly Insurrection Senate Hearing on March 2, 2021: <https://youtu.be/TJhjnHnW4U0>

So far, however, this problem has not attracted many solutions...until now...until YOU! If you have any questions, please call me at 713-202-3235 or email at president@texascopsandcommunities.com.

In Solidarity and Service!



Noel Pinnock, BS, MPA, IPMA-SCP, MCC, CA, CPM

Cc: State Representative Ron Reynolds,
Eric Carr (Houston Police Department)

Addendum (1): Qualified Immunity Documentation

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Addendum (4): Warriors Trained to Kill Become Texas Police in Just 3 Weeks (*Online Training*)

Addendum (1): Qualified Immunity Documentation

After the U.S. Supreme Court decision on qualified immunity there have been a growing number of deadly police shooting, including unarmed citizens.

The 1989 U.S. Supreme Court decision that held a police officer can legally use deadly force if the officer has an objectively reasonable fear that someone will be killed or suffer **serious bodily injury**. This ruling, by design, insulates police officers from criminal liability because of the unique, life-threatening challenges of being in law enforcement.

Officers are now intentionally insulating themselves from guaranteed criminal liability taking special training Killology aka Warrior Training or Urban War Fair, Fear Based Training, which teaches officers how to kill, which makes officers believed they are fighting an Urban War and that they are Warriors fighting a War, an Urban War Fair, to justify they fear that someone will killed them or they will suffer **serious bodily injury**, to fit into the 1989 U.S. Supreme Court ruling, thus to justify killing someone with qualified immunity, which cause cops to feel entitle to do whatever they want without being held accountable. With the latest FBI's report was leaked to news outlet and released in an article on March 8, 2021, that shows members of minority groups are targeted makes traffic stops and other police encounters more dangerous than ever before.

Sadly, so many of these cops are trained to believe they are fighting a war in African American and Latinos neighborhoods, which is evident with the latest FBI report and the increasing number of violent attacks and deadly use of force against members of minority groups.

Some officers, like those in the George Floyd case in the Minneapolis Police Department, attended Killology aka Warrior Training, Urban Warfare, and/or Fear Based Training, which teach police officers how to kill. After attending Killology aka Warrior Training these officers already have a mindset they are in fear of their life, as they enter into minority neighborhoods. These officers already have a mindset that they are justified in killing someone and be protected by qualified immunity.

“We believe our police officers need to be equipped to respond to severely difficult situations, but we do NOT need modern-day Rambo’s with a white supremacist agenda or extremist ideologies free to patrol our streets with a badge ready to kill.” said Noel Pinnock, President & CEO of Texas Cops of Communities, Inc.

Therefore, it’s time to abolished Qualified Immunity!

Addendum (2): George Floyd Death Puts Spotlight On 'Warrior Training' For Police

David Knowles Editor, in Yahoo News May 29, 2020 wrote that the death of George Floyd puts a spotlight on **Warrior Training** for police officers. The death of George Floyd in police custody in Minneapolis is the latest in a series of deaths of black men at the hands of white law enforcement officers, notable because of the graphic video of an officer kneeling on his neck as he pleaded for breath, and the violent protests it sparked. Like other cases, it has called attention to police training, protocols and discipline — including the controversial practice of imbuing police cadets with a readiness to kill, known as “warrior training.”

Derek Chauvin, the white officer seen in the video, had 18 prior complaints filed against him, according to the Minneapolis Police Department. The maneuver he employed had been taught until 2016 at Hennepin Technical College, which trains roughly half of Minnesota’s police officers, the Minneapolis Star Tribune reported Mylan Masson, former director of the education center at the college, expressed shock at seeing Chauvin use the restraint technique for nearly eight minutes while Floyd pleads, “I can’t breathe ... please stop.”

“Once the [officer] is in control, then you release,” Masson told the Star Tribune. ***“That’s what use of force is: You use it till the threat has stopped.”***

Police had been called to the scene by a shopkeeper who said a man had tried to pass a counterfeit bill. Floyd, who was not armed, was handcuffed and prone on the ground during the video. While the chokehold has been banned in most of Minnesota, it was still allowed in Minneapolis.

Floyd’s death has refocused attention on “**warrior-style**” police training, which Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey banned last year, and which may help explain how yet another unarmed African American suspect was killed after being detained.

Citing the 2016 death of Philando Castile, a 32-year-old African American man who was shot and killed by a police officer during a traffic stop with his girlfriend and her daughter in the car with him, Frey banned police from using “**fear-based training**” in April 2019

“Fear-based training violate the values at the very heart of community policing,” Frey said. ***“When you’re conditioned to believe that every person encountered poses a threat to your existence, you simply cannot be expected to build out meaningful relationships with those same people.”***

Frey specifically mentioned the classes taught to police in Minnesota and the rest of the country by Dave Grossman, a retired lieutenant colonel with the U.S. Army’s 82nd Airborne. Grossman is the author of “On Killing: The Psychological Cost of Learning to Kill in War and Society,” a book that promotes the training of a theory he calls “killology” that promotes the mindset needed to take human life

While many in Minneapolis applauded Frey’s decision to stop the city-funded classes, many members of the **police force did not.**

Minneapolis Police Union president Lt. Bob Kroll said the ban was illegal. “It’s not about killing, it’s about surviving,” Kroll said. He also announced that the union would offer the training to officers during off-duty hours.

Kroll, a supporter of President Trump, spoke at a Trump rally in Minneapolis wearing a “Cops for Trump” T-shirt.

“The Obama administration and the handcuffing and oppression of police was despicable,” Kroll told the audience. ***“The first thing President Trump did when he took office was turn that around. ... He decided to start let cops do their job, put the handcuffs on the criminals instead of on us.”***

But not everyone in law enforcement agrees that Frey was wrong to eliminate warrior-style training by the police academy.

“The local union chief in Minneapolis has had a long history of antagonism to the community, and I’m saying that very lightly,” Vanita Gupta, president and CEO of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and former chief of the Justice Department civil rights division, told Yahoo News’ [“Skullduggery” podcast](#).

“There have been much stronger accusations about his own affiliations, but you know, when the mayor a year ago tried to abolish a kind of training, a warrior-type training in Minneapolis, the union chief went ahead in defiance and hired and spent money to reengage trainers to kind of promote this warrior thinking.”

Retired Minneapolis Police Sgt. Michael Quinn, a former trainer at the Minneapolis Police Academy, told local NBC News affiliate KARE that courses like “killology” inculcated a dangerous mindset.

“You end up with this hyper vigilant mode all of the time,” Quinn said. ***“If you fear for your life on every little startling moment in this job, you’re in the wrong job.”***

Trump has long promoted an aggressive response from police toward suspects in their custody.

“When you guys put somebody in the car and you’re protecting their head, you know, the way you put their hand over?” Trump said in a 2017 speech in Long Island, N.Y. ***“Like, don’t hit their head, and they just killed somebody — don’t hit their head. I said, you can take the hand away, OK?”***

A month later, Trump **overturned** a 2015 executive order signed by Barack Obama that ended the practice of supplying police departments with surplus military equipment — including armored vehicles, grenade launchers and high-caliber weapons.

The ban came following an outcry over the “militarized” police response to violent protests over the killing of Michael Brown, an African-American teenager, in Ferguson, Mo.

“We’ve seen how militarized gear can sometimes give people a feeling like there’s an occupying force as opposed to a force that’s part of the community that’s protecting them and serving them,” Obama said. ***“It can alienate and intimidate local residents and send the wrong message.”***

In explaining Trump’s decision to overturn the ban, then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions said the priority was in protecting the lives of law enforcement.

“The executive order the President will sign today will ensure that you can get the lifesaving gear that you need to do your job and send a strong message that we will not allow criminal activity and lawlessness to become a new normal,” Sessions said in a speech to the Fraternal Order of Police.

It’s not yet known whether Chauvin, who was arrested and charged with third-degree murder on Friday, had attended any “warrior-style” classes during his 19 years with the MPD. In the video of the encounter with Floyd, he appears calm and unemotional.

A cornerstone of Grossman’s “killology” training is the frame of mind required to do the job.

“Are you emotionally, spiritually, psychologically prepared to snuff out a human life in defense of innocent lives?” Grossman asked officers who attended one of his classes in Ohio. “If you can’t make that decision, you need to find another job.”

Addendum (3): Are You Prepared to Kill Somebody? Dark Version of Killology Training

[MAR/APR 2017 ISSUE](#) "Are You Prepared to Kill Somebody?" A Day With One of America's Most Popular Police Trainers. The dark vision of "killology" expert Dave Grossman.

By [BRYAN SCHATZ](#)

Minneapolis banned warrior-style training in 2019

Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey banned warrior-style training in Minneapolis in April 2019, calling it "fear-based."

"Fear-based training violate the values at the very heart of community policing," Frey said when he banned Bulletproof training from Minneapolis. "When you're conditioned to believe that every person encountered poses a threat to your existence, you simply cannot be expected to build out meaningful relationships with those same people."

A chain portrait of George Floyd is part of the memorial for him, Wednesday, May 27, 2020, near the site of the arrest of Floyd who died in police custody Monday night in Minneapolis after video shared online by a bystander showed a white officer kneeling on his neck during his arrest as he pleaded that he couldn't breathe. But Grossman's course is still continuing elsewhere.

Craig Atkinson told Insider that if police departments decide to continue to promote warrior training, they need to balance their training with de-escalation techniques that teach officers how to respond to heightened situations with proper communication. He also urged law enforcement agencies to destigmatize mental illness and include trainings on trauma and mental health.

"You can't just send people out there with one side of the equation and expect that it's not going to get universally applied," he said.

Atkinson, the filmmaker, called warrior training the 'number-one issue' that's getting people unnecessarily killed by police.

"If we really want to get down to the root of why all these killings are happening, this warrior training 100% has to be put under a microscope and analyzed. People need to ask the question: Is this still the appropriate training for what we're asking our cops to be on a day-to-day basis?" Atkinson said, later adding: ***"If cops got less of this training, less people would die. There's no question!"***

Addendum (4): Warriors Trained to Kill Become Texas Police in Just 3 Weeks

By: Larry Karson
 AUGUST 30, 2016 04:45 PM
 SPECIAL TO THE STAR-TELEGRAM

Texas humorist Molly Ivins once said, “All anyone needs to enjoy the state Legislature is a strong stomach and a complete insensitivity to the needs of the people.” The Texas Legislature proved in 2013 just how prescient she was when it passed Senate Bill 162, allowing military Special Forces personnel to become Texas peace officers with only three weeks of training — and that training can be online.

Not the 16 weeks the Texas Commission of Law Enforcement has determined is appropriate, not the six months of training the Houston Police Department requires of its officers. Just 120 hours of training to carry a badge, a gun and the authority to stop, detain and arrest anyone they believe they should. The Legislature basically said that highly trained combat personnel don’t need any significant law enforcement training and are otherwise fully qualified to police Texas communities.

Basic academy training includes classes on professionalism and ethics, the Bill of Rights, racial profiling, multiculturalism and human relations, Spanish, use of force, professional driving, communication and problem solving, and crisis intervention. Recognizing this as a basic level of training, Texas requires a minimum of 643 hours of formal instruction to start serving as an officer or deputy. Many departments require extensive training beyond the state minimum. Yet the Texas

Legislature has chosen to go in the opposite direction and create a dangerous exception to this basic, minimum requirement. Senate Bill 162 allows Special Forces personnel such as Army Special Forces (Green Berets), Marine Force Recon, Air Force Pararescue or Navy SEALs to become police officers with only three weeks of training.

For some reason, Texas politicians believed that completing a 120-hour supplemental peace officer course that only focuses on penal, traffic and family statutes was enough to make someone a qualified peace officer if they had extensive combat training. Basically, they were saying that warriors trained to kill in combat are already highly qualified to be peace officers.

From warrior to peace officer in three weeks. How ironic — and wrong. That supplemental peace officer course was designed to allow an experienced deputy whose license had lapsed to be relicensed. It was not created to take a sailor trained in parachuting and reconnaissance techniques and turn him into a police officer doing traffic stops. And it was not designed to turn an Air Force Pararescue medic trained to recover downed fighter pilots from behind enemy lines into a deputy responsible for investigating a high school fight on a Friday night. Yet that is what day-to-day policing is all about.

In failing to require the formal basic police officer academy program for these combat warriors, legislators have done an injustice to the people they are supposed to serve — as well as to the veterans unknowingly being put into harm’s way. Do Special Forces personnel have skills valuable to policing? Of course.

And organizations often hire expertise. If they investigate white-collar crime, they hire accountants. If they need pilots for their air fleet, they recruit experienced ones. But they also send them through the basic academy program if they are going to give them the authority to lock people up for the rest of their lives, let alone kill them.

Three weeks studying the penal code doesn’t make a peace officer.

Larry Karson, a former customs agent, is an assistant professor of criminal justice at the University of Houston-Downtown. karsonl@uhd.edu.

