

From: [Kristen Sartor](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Written testimony for Munitions Inventory Resolution
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:36:07 AM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to say that taking inventory of munitions is not even close to enough of an action in order to begin to solve the problem that we have in our city, in our nation, of over-militarized police.

We must pass a resolution to ban all military weapons from the police, not just count them. When police members are given military weapons, this often makes them feel (with varying degrees of consciousness) more like members of a military force. We've all experienced this- when we dress a certain way or have certain props on our person, this changes how we feel, whether or not we are aware of it. Our police are human beings and are susceptible to these things, just like the rest of us are. When you get ready physically for battle, your mind gears up for battle as well. This is not the mindset that we want our police to be in when confronting civilians.

What we really need is to be demilitarizing our police. We know that a militarized police does not keep police or citizens more safe. It does not reduce crime. Instead, it promotes unnecessary violence and fear. It damages the trust between citizens and police. When we have a less reactive police force prepared for battle, we will see fewer deaths and injuries. When we have a police force able to de-escalate, we will avoid unnecessary escalations.

Thank you very much,
Kristen Sartor

City Council Meeting - Wednesday, December 9, 2020 9:30 a.m. - Item 954

<u>First</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>Zip</u>
Dan Handelman	Portland Copwatch	97242
Alison	Cole	97206
Andrew	Riley	97216