



CPP Statement on SDPD's Position Regarding Vehicle Pursuit Reform

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 17, 2025

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In March 2025, The Commission on Police Practices formally submitted a letter to the San Diego Police Department acknowledging their response to our Police Pursuit Recommendations, where the Police Chief committed to the adoption of 6 out of 9 recommendations. While the CPP appreciates SDPD's willingness to engage in this important dialogue, and in some parts agreeing with our recommendations, the Commission continues to strongly advocate for SDPD to restrict vehicle pursuits to violent crimes and serious felonies, viewing it as a critical and overdue reform necessary to prevent avoidable harm.

The SDPD publicly committed to both improving data systems and creating a **Vehicle Pursuit Review Board** as these are both important steps toward greater accountability. At the February 19, 2025, CPP meeting, Chief Wahl publicly committed to implementing quarterly reports to keep the public informed about the department's pursuit data, decision-making, and performance outcomes. SDPD has committed to improving internal data collection but has not yet committed to publicly reporting pursuit-related incidents, injuries, fatalities, and legal costs. We encourage SDPD to publicly report pursuit-related incidents, including injuries, fatalities, legal outcomes, and associated costs.

We value the opportunity for continued collaboration and are focused on a **data-driven approach** to refining policies that serve both officers and the community. Although we appreciate SDPD's willingness to engage with us in good faith, we are aware of recent public mischaracterizations of the Commission's work by the San Diego Police Officers Association. On February 7th, SDPOA released statements misrepresenting our role and intentions in an attempt to undermine the mission of the Commission and the public benefit that comes from community-based police oversight.

The CPP remains focused on unbiased facts, research, and constructive policy development, as we await the ability to fully exercise our right to conduct independent investigations into police misconduct. Our priority is and will continue to be the safety and well-being of all San Diegans, and we will persist in advocating for thoughtful, evidence-based changes that reflect community values and national best practices. Our commitment to accountability, transparency, and the community's right to clear, reliable data is essential for the public to evaluate the impact of police practices and drive meaningful reform. The CPP is committed to closely monitoring SDPD pursuits and advancing policy recommendations that enhance public safety.

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