

Dear Chief Nisleit:

On behalf of the Citizens Advisory Board on Police/Community Relations, I extend this letter of appreciation for your bold leadership and commitment to the improved relationship and trust between police and community.

Our nation's history reflects numerous incidents where police and community relations have been fragile and full of tension. The major cause being the incidents where law enforcement's use of force extended beyond the legal parameters afforded by its community.

On June 1, 2020, you took a proactive stand to suspend the carotid restraint for the City of San Diego's Police Department. It was a very brave and just step toward addressing the hurt and anger that has burdened citizens, particularly of underrepresented communities. We know this move raised great concern and upset in law enforcement agencies, making your decision the more worthy of praise. Through your proactive step, you became the trailblazer that prompted other agencies, and then our state, to also suspend their practice of the carotid restraint as a de-escalation method.

In an even greater step, you have led SDPD to modify its policies to improve how law enforcement de-escalates a situation. Now officers have the duty to intervene when a fellow officer is acting outside of the permitted guidelines. While it will take time for these policies to be fully accepted and trusted by both community members and law enforcement as the pathway to healing, you set the course for this to occur.

Your leadership sets you as a noteworthy leader in San Diego. CAB recognizes you and all law enforcement officers who act with integrity and sacrifice daily for the betterment of our community.

With much appreciation,

Norma Sandoval  
Chair  
Citizens Advisory Board

Cc: Mayor Faulconer  
Citizens Advisory Board  
San Diego City Council