

SDCDP Proposed Police Demilitarization Resolution

WHEREAS state violence against Black, Indigenous and Communities of Color has become an epidemic across the United States, including San Diego County and local municipalities and educational districts,

WHEREAS local police forces across America are becoming more militarized, including police departments in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Ferguson, Missouri and Louisville, Kentucky; cities that have received publicity for brutal murders and treatment of Black citizens, including techniques such as armored vehicles, weaponized aircraft, drones, Stingray surveillance equipment, camouflage uniforms, grenade launchers, no-knock warrants,

WHEREAS in 2014 the San Diego Unified School District acquired - and later returned - an MRAP (mine-resistant ambush protected vehicle); in 2019, the city of San Diego installed more than 4,000 surveillance cameras and microphones inside streetlights throughout San Diego which are now exclusively used by the police and the number is expected to climb to 8,000; in that same year, law enforcement executives from the San Diego Police Department, San Diego Sheriff's Department, Port of San Diego Harbor Police, and other local police departments received military training; and in 2020 the Chula Vista Police Department expanded two dozen autonomous small drones and some larger ones for surveillance purposes,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Diego County Democratic Party urges the County of San Diego and all municipalities within the county to cease use of the militarized techniques listed above including surveillance, return all military equipment purchased or received from the federal government, cease military trainings, prevent law enforcement agencies from purchasing or using military weaponry, and end the supply of federal military weaponry to local police departments under the 1033 program.