March 1, 2018

Ballot Simplification Committee Attn: Barbara Carr, <u>publications@sfgov.org</u>

Dear Chair Packard and Committee Members:

I write to you as not only District 1 Supervisor but also the wife of a 35-year veteran of the police department. I did not support the Police Commission's decision to adopt Electronic Control Weapons (ECWs), but I do respect the decision that was made and their authority to make such a decision. I also respect and acknowledge the work that the Police Commission is currently undertaking to develop a policy to guide implementation and use of ECWs.

I am alarmed that the "Use of Tasers by San Francisco Police Officers" was placed on the ballot by the Police Officers Association, effectively circumventing the authority of the Police Commission. The language of the draft digest is also concerning for several reasons, and I write to you to request your consideration of several amendments to the language.

- The draft digest makes reference to "Conductive Energy Devices (CEDs)" rather than the standard language used by the Department of Justice and other sources: "Electronic Control Weapons (ECWs)". It is important that the standard language is used here to describe what many would refer to as "tasers".
- The draft digest also states that these weapons discharge an electric current into an individual, causing "incapacitation". It has been well documented that ECWs can do more than "incapacitate" individuals, and the draft digest should reflect that the weapons could result in injury to or death of an individual.
- 3. It must be made clear to San Francisco voters that the Police Commission did in fact approve Electronic Control Weapons already, and is finalizing a policy to guide the implementation and use of ECWs.
- 5. The Police Officers Association is a labor union, and does not represent the San Francisco Police Department nor the Police Commission; that too must be made clear to San Francisco voters, that it is former and not either of the latter that has authored this ballot measure.

I strongly urge you to consider the above changes to the digest for this ballot measure, and thank you for your consideration.

Sandra Lee Fewer