

202001641



MOTION

Sept 21, 2020

We MOVE that the City Administration take all necessary steps to amend the CPD Procedure 12.700, which addresses Cincinnati's policies for seeking judicial approval for the execution of a warrant without the statutory precondition for nonconsensual entry, to prohibit the use of what are commonly known as No-knock warrants.

We FURTHER MOVE that the Administration bring to Council, in a report, the replacement procedure language prior to implementation of the change.

STATEMENT

No-knock warrants have been controversial for decades before the tragic incident in Louisville, Kentucky that led to the death of Breonna Taylor. No-knock raids across the US have led to numerous deaths of police officers and innocent bystanders.

In December, 2013, Henry Magee of Killeen, Texas shot & killed a police officer executing a no-knock raid because he feared his house was under attack. A grand jury dropped all charges against him and in essence, declaring the shooting self-defense.¹ In May 2014, police in Georgia executing a no-knock raid threw a flash-bang grenade into the crib of a 19-month old toddler who ended up in the burn unit and a medically-induced coma. The local government settled for \$1 million with the family.²

Thankfully, Cincinnati Police have not had such an incident and Cincinnati's use of no-knock warrants is limited compared to many jurisdictions. Unfortunately, we have seen too many incidents across the country where a life is lost or forever changed due to the surprise of a no-knock warrant, including in some instances where an address typo led to the wrong raid.

It is expected that the replacement procedure will not prohibit CPD from the important policies and procedures they currently implement during standard 911 response, during a hostage situation, or for the purpose of preventing immediate bodily harm to the general public.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Seelbach", written over a horizontal line.

¹<https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2014/10/texas-no-knock-swat-raid/>

²<https://www.vox.com/2014/5/30/5764386/georgia-police-threw-a-stun-grenade-at-a-toddler>