

November 15, 2018

VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Chief Calvin Williams  
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Jack Guttenberg  
President

J. Bennett Guess  
Executive Director

**RE: Recommendations for search and seizure GPOs**

Dear Chief Williams and Mr. Barge:

We write today to express our support for the CPC's revisions to the Cleveland Division of Police's Search and Seizure, Investigatory Stops, Probable Cause/Warrantless Arrests, Miranda Warning and Waiver, and Strip Searches and Body Cavity Searches GPOs ("search and seizure policies").

Comprehensive reform of CDP's search and seizure policies is long overdue. In December 2012 the ACLU of Ohio was one of several organizations that requested a federal investigation into CDP's excessive use of force arising from police interactions with Cleveland community members. In January 2016 we requested that search and seizure reform be prioritized in the first year of the consent decree. Fundamental changes to CDP's search and seizure policies and practices are crucial to re-building community trust and implementing constitutional policing in all of Cleveland's neighborhoods.

We urge you to adopt *each and every* recommendation, as they are necessary for the policies to conform to nationally-recognized best practices. Some of the most critical changes include:

- Provide guidance for officer interactions with juveniles, including those who have experienced trauma;
- Mandate that trainings on the policies be given by a lawyer with in-depth knowledge of Fourth Amendment law and practices; and
- Allow transgender individuals to choose the gender of the officer to conduct any searches.

Because the success of these policy reforms hinge on their implementation and enforcement, we respectfully request to review the training curriculum in advance of it being finalized.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please don't hesitate to contact us via email or by phone at 614/586-1959.

Sincerely,



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January 26, 2016 letter regarding search and seizure reforms  
Enclosures: December 19, 2012 letter requesting federal investigation of CDP

\*Note enclosures referenced to recipients are not included in this edition of the report