HAVE POLICE DOGS FINALLY LOST THEIR BITE?

PRESENTED TO:

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Sept.27-Oct. 1, 2023, La Quinta, CA

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THE IMAGE OF POLICE CANINES



REPRESSION AND POLICE DOG ABUSE



MISUSE OF POLICE CANINES AT PROTESTS



The News View



New Circleville Police body camera footage of fired officer released following K-9 arrest

WOSU 89.7 NPR News | By George Shillcock
Published July 31, 2023

- The records reveal it wasn't just Speakman's conduct on July 4 that led to his firing. Circleville Police Chief G. Shawn Baer also ordered Speakman not to talk about the incident to others in the department but Speakman refused to comply.

- In body camera footage, Speakman is heard talking to his K-9 partner, Serj, on route to the scene where law enforcement pulled over 23-year-old truck driver Jadarrius Rose of Tennessee. Two minutes before he arrived on the scene, Speakman is heard encouraging the dog.

- "Serj get ready. Are you ready to stellen? Find man? Stellen," Speakman said.

- Speakman, as shown in previously released body camera footage arrives on the scene and immediately gets Serj out of the patrol car. After giving several warnings and telling Rose to get on the ground "or you're going to get bit" he ran towards Rose and released the dog.

- Law enforcement across the highway median from the Ohio State Highway Patrol are clearly heard giving conflicting orders to Rose, telling him to come to them. Not to get on the ground like Speakman ordered.

- When Serj is released, less than 20 seconds after Speakman arrived on the scene and exited his vehicle, the dog first charges towards the other law enforcement until Speakman gives the order.

The Video At Issue



POLICE CANINES SHOULD NOT BE PRESENT AT PROTESTS



WHY POLICE CANINES ARE NOT APPROPRIATE FOR CROWD CONTROL



THE MARSHALL PROJECT

- The Marshall Project is a nonpartisan, nonprofit news organization that seeks to create and sustain a sense of national urgency about the U.S. criminal justice system. We have an impact on the system through journalism, rendering it more fair, effective, transparent and humane.

Fierce K-9 bites are another use of excessive force by police

Opinion by DeWitt Lacy
Updated 6:10 AM ET, Fri May 28, 2021

The controversy over police use of excessive force has been front and center in this pandemic year. The murder of George Floyd by former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin, a number of fatal shootings by law enforcement officials and the sometimes harsh treatment of Black Lives Matter protesters have rightly dominated the national debate. But the public remains largely ignorant of the damage done by another form of police violence: Dog bites.

Dogs are inherently likable and many police departments have given K-9, as these dogs are known, a starring role. Officers take them to visit children at school, celebrate their drug busts, detail their training regimen on social media and, when they die, their funerals meet all law enforcement honors. If the public could vote on a favorite police officer, the winner might end up being a K-9.

However, police K-9s inflict a staggering number of bites each year. More than 32,500 people were taken to emergency rooms in the US for K-9 bites between 2005 and 2013, according to a study published in 2019 by researchers at Indiana University School of Medicine. Black people accounted for 42% of the wounded.

Out in the field, the public usually misses out on what happens when a K-9 bites. The dog is routinely unleashed to hunt and sink its teeth into suspects who are running or hiding from officers. But sometimes it turns on innocent bystanders. And sometimes it kills. Our country should long ago have ended this form of state-sanctioned mauling, which harkens back to the era of slave hunters before the Civil War.

MAULED

A short film about the current narrative, conveyed in a short film, created to bring awareness to K9 Bites.

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NJ's Attorney General Considering Ban on Using K-9s During Arrests

Attorney General Gurbir Grewal directed staff to research how many police dogs are in the state, how they are trained and when they've bitten residents, among other information, and submit recommendations by the end of March.

Staff Writer

January 6, 2021

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- Some law enforcement and civil rights organizations want K-9s banned entirely when it comes to arrests, and the state attorney general said he would make a final decision in the coming months, NJ.com reports.

- The “use of dogs against people of color has a long and horrific history,” Gurbir Grewal recently wrote to law enforcement leaders, citing the German Shepherds used against peaceful civil rights protesters in the 1960s.

New California bill would ban K-9 officer arrests, crowd control

The bill would not prevent search and rescue, explosive detection and narcotic detection – that do not involve biting.

Daniel Macht, February 13, 2023

A bill that would ban the use of police K-9s for arrests and crowd control was introduced at the California state Assembly on Monday.

Assembly Bill 742's supporters, which include the NAACP and ACLU, say the use of police K-9s has been a mainstay in America's history of racial bias and violence against Black Americans and people of color.

AB 742

- SECTION 1. (a) The use of police canines has been a mainstay in this country's dehumanizing, cruel, and violent abuse of Black Americans and people of color for centuries. First used by slave catchers, police canines are a violent carry-over from America's dark past. In recent decades, they have been used in brutal attempts to quell the Civil Rights Movement, the LA Race Riots, and in response to Black Lives Matter protests. The use of police canines make people fear and further distrust the police, resulting in less safety and security for all, especially for communities of color.

- (b) The use of police canines has severe and potentially deadly consequences for bite victims. In a Police Assessment Resource Center study of police canine bites, researchers found that bites resulted in hospital visits 67.5 percent of the time. In contrast, other uses of force, including batons and tasers, resulted in hospital visits 22 percent of the time or less. These same researchers found that police canine bites led to permanent physical disfigurement and injuries to bones, blood vessels, nerves, breasts, testicles, faces, noses, and eyes, sometimes causing blindness.

- 13653. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature to prevent the use of police canines for the purpose of arrest, apprehension, or any form of crowd control.
- (b) A peace officer shall not use an unleashed police canine to arrest or apprehend a person.
- (c) A police canine shall not be used for crowd control at any assembly, protest, or demonstration.

- (d) A police canine shall not be used in any circumstance to bite.
- (e) A law enforcement agency shall not authorize any use or training of a police canine that is inconsistent with this section.
- (f) This section shall not be interpreted as to prevent the use of police canines by law enforcement for purposes of search and rescue, explosives detection, and narcotics detection that do not involve biting.

- ((c) Per the California Department of Justice Use of Force data from 2021, injuries caused by police canines accounted for nearly 12 percent of cases that resulted in severe injury or death. Of these cases, Black people are more than two times more likely than any other group to be subjected to this use of force.

K-9’s at the center of a new bill that would ban them from suspect apprehension

by: Esteban Reynoso, Feb 15, 2023

A state assembly bill introduced on Monday would ban the use of police canines for apprehending suspects, arresting suspects, and crowd control.

The bill’s authors claim using canine police to help make arrests helps oppress people of color.

Fresno Police Chief Paco Balderrama normally doesn’t comment on pending legislation but made an exception for this bill.

Canines were deployed 77 times to apprehend suspects in California, according to the Department of Justice's 2021 use of force report.

13 of those were African American, 36 were Hispanic, and 25 were White. All 77 of them, however, were injured from a canine bite.

"I'd much rather use a canine to apprehend somebody than use deadly force," said Balderrama.

Of the 7,000 canine deployments over the past year in Fresno, there have been 27 bites and zero deaths.

AB 742 Was Amended After All The Backlash

- Existing law authorizes a peace officer to use reasonable force to effect the arrest, to prevent escape, or to overcome resistance of an individual. Existing law requires law enforcement agencies to maintain a policy on the use of force.

- Existing law prohibits the use of kinetic energy projectiles or chemical agents by any law enforcement agency to disperse any assembly, protest, or demonstration, except in compliance with specified standards.

Dogs Are Deadly Force?

- This bill would prohibit the use of an unleashed police canine by law enforcement to apprehend a person, unless the person is being pursued for a felony that threatened or resulted in the death of or serious bodily injury to another person and the person poses an imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or to another person and any use of a police canine for crowd control.

- The bill would prohibit a police canine from being used to bite unless there is an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or another person by the person against whom the canine is used. The bill would attribute the death of or serious bodily injury to a person caused by a police canine to the canine‘s handler as constituting deadly force. The bill would prohibit law enforcement agencies from authorizing any use or training of a police canine that is inconsistent with this bill.

WHY WE MAY LOSE POLICE DOGS IN CALIFORNIA



PRESCOTT, ARIZONA



POLICE CANINES NEED TO BE WELL TRAINED!



CONTROL OVER A POLICE CANINE CAN BE ACHIEVED!



WHAT CAN BE DONE TO PROTECT THE USE OF PATROL DOGS?

- Handler/Dog selection
- Up To Date Policies
- Up To Date Training
- Effective Supervision



- NO WHINING
- PLAY BY THE BIG BOY RULES
- ALWAYS COMPLETE YOUR MISSION, NO MATTER WHAT
- DO THE RIGHT THING, EVEN WHEN IT'S NOT THE POPULAR THING

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