



Joint Response to Public Comment Pursuant to DGO 3.01.04(D)

DGO 3.02, *Terms and Definitions*

July 15, 2025

SFPD Department General Order (DGO) 3.01 requires that all policies under development be posted publicly to provide members of the public thirty (30) business days to submit policy recommendations.

Pursuant to DGO 3.01.04 (D), the Department and the Department of Police Accountability (DPA) jointly prepare a public response, which shall be posted on the Department's website, outlining the recommendations included and not included in the DGO draft submitted to the Police Commission.

Joint responses are captured in the following recommendation grid which captures the original recommendation, whether the recommendation was included or not included in the draft DGO, and the explanation relating to the decision to include or not include the recommendation into the draft DGO.

The Department reserves the right to remove or not respond to comments if they are:

- Unrelated to the subject of the DGO
- Include private personal information (whether the commenter's or someone else's), including home address, home or cell phone number, personal e-mail address, or personal identification.
- Include profanity or obscene language.

The Department received 11 recommendations for DGO 3.02, *Terms and Definitions* from the public and the DPA did not provide feedback on the recommendations.

The Department and DPA extend gratitude to all who took the time to contribute recommendations to this policy.

DGO 3.02 - Terms and Definitions - Public Comment Responses (DGO 3.01.04(D))
 Public Review Period: 10/3/24 to 11/18/24

#	Public Comment	DGO SEC	Date Received	Required Response	SFPD Explanation	DPA Explanation
R1	Add definition of Deploy . It has two possible meanings, to move into position for use or to bring into action. The department should clarify what it means by deploy, as it’s used differently in DGO’s.	3.02.01	9/11/24	Recommendation will not be included in Draft DGO	This definition has not been included; the department could not find instances where the use of the word 'deploy' would cause confusion in different directives.	No Comment
R2	Squad is defined as : "A group of seven officers generally supervised by a sergeant." However, in some situations, a squad consists of fewer officers than seven. This can help maintain platoon formations when staffing isnt sufficient.	3.02.01	9/11/24	Recommendation will be modified and will be included in the draft DGO	The term has been updated to "a group of usually seven members, generally supervised by a Sergeant"	No Comment
R3	De Facto Arrest: Not always unlawful. It can be a lawful detention that is long and turns to a de facto arrest, but its not unlawful or unreasonable given the circumstance. Moving someone can make it a de facto arrest, but can be done for safety reasons.	3.02.01	9/25/24	Recommendation will be modified and will be included in the draft DGO	This definition was removed from the draft. This term was adopted by the San Francisco Police Commission on January 6, 2021 and is the current and accepted definition by the SFPD. If necessary, it will be defined in specific DGOs using the term.	No Comment
R4	Harrassment: Remove "perceived membership in one or more of a protected category." Although that is harassment, that makes it a different crime. Harassment is more general, that makes it more specific to basically a hate crime.	3.02.01	9/24/24	Recommendation will be modified and will be included in the draft DGO	This term has been removed from the DGO. If necessary, it will be defined in specific DGOs using the term.	No Comment
R5	Non-Criminal Barricaded Incident: Why is that there? If it's not criminal, why are the police there and why is that definition needed?	3.02.01	9/25/24	Recommendation has been included in draft DGO	This term has been removed from the DGO. The SFPD responds to multiple calls for service that involve persons experiencing mental health emergencies and/or incidents that are not criminal in nature but may pose a threat to public safety. The SFPD will continue to respond to all calls for service that pose a threat to public safety - criminal or otherwise. The SFPD feels that it is important to differentiate between a non-criminal barricaded incident and a barricaded suspect incident. Those clarifications will be included in DGOs that mention non-criminal barricaded incidents.	No Comment
R6	Pressure: is this a science class or police needed definition?	3.02.01	9/25/24	Administrative Question and Answer-not for inclusion in DGO	The department is mindful that while these policies are for employees, they are also public documents and some terms are useful for the public.	No Comment
R7	Member: "Member" in some DGOs it states sworn unless specified. Other lang. I've read that defines term, "Includes all employees of the Police Department, sworn and non-sworn"	3.02.01	9/25/24	Recommendation will be modified and will be included in the draft DGO	The SFPD is transitioning to "Member" as the term for a sworn police officer in the SFPD. Other general orders may not reflect this transition until the general order is amended/updated. The term has been updated and now reads "An employee, regardless of rank, who is a sworn peace officer of the Department, including reserve officers. The term ‘member’ can be used interchangeably with ‘officer’ or ‘sworn member’."	No Comment
R8	Officer definition, "Includes all sworn personnel"	3.02.01	9/25/24	Recommendation will be modified and will be included in the draft DGO	The term "officer" has been removed from the draft DGO as a singular reference to a sworn member. The SFPD is transitioning to the term "member" to include all sworn members of the SFPD.	No Comment
R9	Include " Policy " Policy Terms and Definitions	3.02.01	9/25/24	Recommendation requires further discussion	This term is already included in the draft DGO.	No Comment
R10	Define term " Abandoned. " Term used in various policies which permits the taking of said property.	3.02.01	9/25/24	Recommendation will not be included in Draft DGO	This definition has not been included; the department could not find instances where the use of the word 'deploy' would cause confusion in different directives.	No Comment
R11	Terms used in DGOs not listed for public to understand law enforcement point of view of enforcement: abandoned, abduction, acquaintance stalking, active resister, active shooting, administrative Investigation, Affidavit, Affirmative Duty, Agency Briefing, Alternatives to arrest, Analysis, Arrest warrant, Assistant, Audit, Auxiliary Aids and Services, Bias, Body armor, body cavity search, bomb threat, bullying, canine deployment, chaplain, child abuse and neglect, choke hold, collaborative partnership, complaint, confidential, confidential informant, consent, contact officer or team, contaminated, Controlled substance,	3.02.01	9/25/24	Administrative Question and Answer-not for inclusion in DGO	DGO 3.02 is designed to clarify and standardize the meanings of certain terms used throughout the Department and that may appear in multiple general orders. The DGO is not meant to define each term that appears in every general order, manual, bureau order, unit order, department notice, etc.	No Comment

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R11 (Cont.)	Course and Scope of employment, crime scene, crime victim, criminal investigation, crowd control, crowd management, custodial, custody, disability, developmental disability, Diplomatic Immunity, Discovery, disposition of property/Evidence, Diversion, Division, Domestic Violence, drug, drug test, duty, duty to disclose, elevated risk factors, eligible employee, eligible personnel, emergency, Emergency Warning device, Employee Assist. program, employment, endangered, event, evidence: testimonial, physical, digital, excited Delirium, exculpatory evidence, exigent circumstances, exposure, expressive association, fair and bias treatment,	3.02.01	9/25/24	Administrative Question and Answer-not for inclusion in DGO	DGO 3.02 is designed to clarify and standardize the meanings of certain terms used throughout the Department and that may appear in multiple general orders. The DGO is not meant to define each term that appears in every general order, manual, bureau order, unit order, department notice, etc.	No Comment
	false report, family and medical leave act, family orientation, field activities, Firearms qualification, first responder, License plate reader,deadly force, deadly force justification, debriefing, deconfliction, decontamination, deescalation, Demonstration, detainee, developmental disability (create DGO for these type of encounters), foreign National, found/abandoned property, fraternization, gender, gender expression, gender identity, gender non conforming, Good standing, hate crime, hate group, Hate incident, hit, holding facility,hot zone, idenity theft, identity theft report, Immediate action, impact projectiles, impacted personnel, impoundment, improper bias, incident, incident action plan, incident command post, incident commander, incident management team, inner perimeter,					
	interrogation, interview, investigative detention, involved officer, isolation, kidnapping, less-Lethal Force, line of duty injury and death, lineup, major crimes, mandatory notification, Memorandum of Understanding, mental health crisis and services, Mental illness, Mobile security trailer, monitoring to monitor,motor vehicle, motor vehicle crash, mutual aid, naloxone,Natinoal incident management system, nepotism, next of kin, noncomplicance, non custodial, nonemergency, nonsecure custody, notification foregn national option, off-duty employment, Office of Professional standards, opioid, opioid overdose, outer perimeter, out of uniform/non uniformed, overtime, passive resister, pat down, peer support,peer support team, personal use, police chaplin,					
	police services, preliminary investigation, primary investigator, primary unit, prisoner, probable cause, procedures, profile, property, property for disposal, property held for safekeeping, property report, protective sweep, Pub. info. officer,Purge, quarantine, registered sex offender, retaliatory conduct, romantic relationship, rules, school resource officer, search, search warrant, second employment, secondary unit, section, secure custody, selection process, serious bodily injury, sexual harassmnt, sexual orientation, shelter in place, sign lang, simultaneous, small unmanned aircraft system, special needs child, staff inspection,staging area, stakeout, strip search, suicide bomber, summary action, surveillance, survivors,					
	tactical & Emerg. response plan, tactical coordinator, terminate, threat, transgender, trauma, traumatic incident, undercover operation, unified command, unintended discharge, unmanned aircraft,use of force, victim, victim services, volunteer, warning shot, welfare check, well-being, written directives					