

DO 5.23 -SFPD Policy Working Group Recommendations and Discussion Tracking as of 10/03/2025

#	Working Group Recommendations	Meeting Date	SFPD Response	SFPD Explanation	Open/ Closed
R1	Member requested we change definition of "Deaf and Hard of Hearing" to be broader but more defined.	8/26/25	Recommendation has been completely included in draft DGO	New definition: A person with temporary or permanent restrictions to their hearing that limits access to sound and spoken language. Communication preferences and abilities vary among individuals. The new language will be reviewed in a future working group meeting.	Open
R2	DPA submitted a recommendation that the scope of the DGO be expanded to encompass all disabilities.	8/26/25	Recommendation will not be included in Draft DGO	Command Staff has reviewed the proposed change and does not concur. The scope of this Department General Order will remain limited to interactions with individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. This limitation is necessary because these contacts present unique risks of escalation if officers misinterpret a lack of response as non-compliance, when in fact the individual requires accommodations due to hearing impairment. The request has, however, generated interest in evaluating whether a separate written directive is needed to address interactions with individuals who have other specific disabilities where escalation risks are heightened.	Closed
R3	Member recommendation was made to review Fremont PD and Washington DC policy as they both have large schools for the deaf.	8/26/25	Administrative Question and Answer-not for inclusion in DGO	Fremont advised that the California School for the Deaf falls under CHP's jurisdiction. CHP does not have specific policies for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Gallaudet University is located in Washington, D.C. The Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Police Department has a policy from 2013 that is similar to the policy we are updating.	Open
R4	Member question about current state laws or DMV regulation that would allow tagging license plates or DMV records with a notification about the user being deaf or hard of hearing.	9/11/25	Recommendation will not be included in Draft DGO	There are no current California laws or DMV regulations that allow this.	Closed
R5	Can DEM tag license plates with a "prem hazard" type warning so when Officers run the license plates, they would get additional information about the occupant being deaf or hard of hearing.	9/11/25	Recommendation requires further discussion w/ other city departments. Outside scope of working group.		Open
R6	Member question, Are there any ASL training videos through POST?	9/11/25	Administrative Question and Answer-not for inclusion in DGO	No videos relating to ASL or deafness.	Closed
R7	DPA recommends the Deaf/Language Liaison should be an Officer and not a civilian.	9/11/25	Recommendation has been completely included in draft DGO	Policy will mirror language found in new DGO 5.20 regarding the Language Liaison.	Closed

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R8	DPA requests that information from the prior DGO live in another document.	9/11/25	Recommendation requires further discussion/analysis	Much of the training already exist in Ca. POST learning domain 37. We will include a copy of the Learning Domain to the group for reference.	Open
R9	Member provided information regarding DeafSafe.	9/11/25	Recommendation included in training, Department Manual, or other procedural or guidance document	This resource is being forwarded to the Domestic Violence working group for consideration and discussion.	Closed