

From: [David Elliott Lewis](#)
To: [SFPD, Commission \(POL\)](#); [Elias, Cindy \(POL\)](#); [Elias, Cindy \(POL\)](#); mcarter-oberstone@orrick.com
Cc: [Scott, William \(POL\)](#)
Subject: My public comment on DPA's Sparks report for this Wednesday's Police Commission (09/06/2023)
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 5:51:31 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Cindy Elias, Vice-President Max Carter-Oberstone and Commissioners,

Our city's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program is severely understaffed. It is down to four but should be at 8 or greater.

The officer trainings and field service provided by CIT has helped significantly reduce police use of force during critical incidents with the public. Police shootings have also dramatically fallen as a result. Our San Francisco CIT program has changed policing by introducing core concepts of creating time, distance and building rapport during crisis incidents.

Our program has also served as a national role model for how to implement CIT. It needs support.

I agree and strongly support the DPA recommendation to amend DGO 5.21 to maintain a minimum staffing level of eight.

Request submitted for your consideration.

=D=

David Elliott Lewis, Ph.D

Member, Mental Health Working Group SFPD Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)
Training Program (since 2014)