

# Our Priorities for Police Reform

**We believe the window for creating lasting change is now**

As the marches and rallies for police reform continue, the ACLU of Utah is joining the policy discussions heating up in city council chambers, town hall meetings, and legislative hearings. So far, the Utah Legislature banned chokehold restraints and the Salt Lake City Council restricted purchases of military-surplus equipment for law enforcement. But those first measures should not be the last word. Much more needs to be done to change use of force rules, reform training, and bolster accountability. Current police policies fail the public by allowing law enforcement to justify

an overuse of deadly force, which disproportionately happens against Black, Brown, and Indigenous people in Utah. In 2018, 19 people died from police shootings in Utah, and 13 people have already died this year. Until we establish legal and policy systems that encourage police accountability, we cannot have equal justice under the law.

Listed below are **17 priority areas** for police reform identified by the ACLU of Utah and shared by many of our allies in this important work.

## ACLU of Utah Police Reform Index

1. Reform use of force rules when a suspect is fleeing or a threat is abated
2. Collect consistent data on race and ethnicity for all use of force incidents
3. Prohibit the use of tear gas during protests and marches
4. Limit no-knock and quick-knock warrants
5. Require an oral warning prior to the use of deadly force
6. Reinvest public safety budgets to make de-escalation training a mandatory and repeated practice
7. Standardize body-worn camera use policies for all police departments
8. Establish statewide protocol to release body camera footage within a certain time-frame for all Officer-Involved Critical Incidents (OICI)
9. Require agencies to file public reports with a central POST (Peace Officers Standards and Training) database if officers under investigation resign first
10. Remove police officers from public schools
11. Prohibit deadly force in self-harm situations
12. Require implicit bias training for all supervisory and administrative staff
13. Require implicit bias and restorative justice training for all SROs (School Resource Officers)
14. Prohibit “kettling” or containment zones for mass arrests during protests or marches
15. Establish definitions of “necessary” and “imminent” in use of force situations
16. Establish local control for civilian review boards
17. Create a framework to expand non-police emergency first responders for non-serious incidents