

Juduser

From: Peter Black
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To: JudTestimony
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My thoughts:

It is too hard to fire or discipline police officers. We fire teachers without waiting for criminal convictions, but cops linger on, getting paid, cashing in on pensions, even when the cops are criminals. Look at LT Tennant in New Haven.

Misdemeanors as well as felonies should be firing offenses. Police commissions should have final say, not DoL arbitrators.

Arrest should be cause for firing. We need to place more weight on having police forces worthy of respect than on individual officers' employment protections.

Police discipline should be public. Right now, contracts shield officer discipline from public. We cannot respect police who keep their dirty laundry hidden.

Current police training makes police objects of fear rather than reassurance. Use of force is calculated only with regard to officer safety, making police a danger to the public, even innocents like Andrew Finch, Breonna Taylor, and Justine Diamond. Police forces should place primacy on maintaining order, i.e., avoiding actions which provoke disorder, and on valuing all lives. Police should not use lethal force in the absence of an actual threat. Why is Brian Taylor still not charged? He killed Mubarak Souleman when Souleman was trapped in a car and could not get out.

Considering the failure of the State's Attorney Gailor to charge Taylor, we need independent Grand Juries to investigate killer cops. The State's Attorneys have no credibility.

Killer cops should be judged by a reasonable person standard, not a reasonable officer's standard.

Towns should be allowed to legislate residency requirements. Right now, police are not part of the communities who employ them. Police have dug a chasm between themselves and the public. Police need to recognize that they are civilians, not military, and stop setting themselves apart from others

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