

## **Written Testimony in Support of HF1104**

Armed police have a capacity to inflict harm on a scale that is far greater than the civilians that they are called to protect.

Using everything from rubber bullets and tasers - intended to be "non-lethal force" but still known to kill - to militarized guns, tanks and even the force of their own bodies, police officers have disproportionate power in our communities.

At the very least, police officers need to be subject to the same consequences as every other Minnesota resident. In true justice, they need to be held to a higher standard, because even their honest mistakes can lead to death and the devastation of entire communities. Mistakes need to have serious consequences for the police just as they have consequences for the rest of our community.

Ending qualified immunity is just one small step toward achieving equal justice under the law.

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