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Subject:	August 12 protest briefing
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Tonight's protest announcement stated that people should meet at Chapman Square at 9:00pm. The theme of the protest announcement was "No Cops, No Prisons, Total Abolition", "Black Lives Maters". However, the Twitter announcement the protest stated, "Fuck the peace police, were coming home", "No Cops, No Prisons, Total Abolition". There was no mention on the Twitter announcement of supporting Black Lives Mater. Both of these announcements were similar in tone to the announcements from all of last week.

As the night began we received information that 40-50 Back the Blue supporters were gathering near East Precinct and will be making their way to Chapman Square. We observed video on social media showing these people gathering at Mall 205, but we did not see them in the downtown area at all this evening.

Throughout the early part of the evening dozens of people began to gather in front of the Justice Center on the 3rd Ave. side. Several speakers took to a microphone, most of them African Americans. There was a constant theme in their message that relayed frustration with police officers, PPB and the lack of police reform. However, most of these speakers made it very clear that they did not want the crowd to become violent, and they stated that if people are here to destroy stuff and fight with the police you should not be here. Some of the comments made by these speakers were as follows, "if you are an opportunist, take your ass home. If you are bent on destruction, take your fucking ass home!" The speakers also stated, the problem is not here at the justice center, the problem is over at City Hall. Other comments made by speakers were, "We need to stay outside of the neighborhoods downtown, because they have children", and "If we see people getting jumped on, we are going to intervene. If we want to stop the police from intervening, then we have to start policing ourselves." It should be known that the people speaking early in the evening were delivering their message about not being violent and destroying stuff in a very forceful tone, and many people in the crowd were cheering in response. These early speech's sounds very positive in that they were encouraging the crowd to peacefully protest, not to commit acts of violence, and not to vandalize property. As a result of the crowd's behavior, NO POLICE ACTION WAS NECESSARY with this crowd.

Between the hours of 8:40pm and 10:15pm we observed a drastic change in the crowd. We started to see the crowd size grow to about 300 people, with many of them dressed in Black Block attire, and wearing gas masks and carrying shields. We then heard a speaker state they did not want the crowd to "peace-police" the crowd, and they encouraged crowd members to fight with the police.

Around 1020pm one of the protesters tossed an unknown substance on the front door and sidewalk of Central Precinct. The substance had such a foul odor, officers could not enter the precinct without dragging the fluid inside. As a result of this a plan was put together to have fire come wash down the unknown liquid, and make the precinct operational again. Once the area was cleared of the liquid, officers left the area, but not before a large crowd had assembled around the area. It

should be known that why this was happening protesters shook the rollup doors of the jail so violently, the door sustained significant damage that took several hours to fix so the door could be closed.

At 2250 hrs the crowd took a drastic turn. Members of this later crowd began lighting fires on the federal property, and setting off large mortars in the same area. Flares were also tossed over the federal fence at the building and near the plywood boards. Shortly after 11:00pm the crowd grew to over 400 people, and PPB began bringing multiple MFF units from every precinct to stage in the downtown area. (It should be known that the protest activity once again significantly impacted our ability to provide police services throughout the city. At 2:30am we still had over 80 calls for service holding in the city.)

Due to the large number of fireworks and flares being thrown at the federal building, and in the area of the Justice Center, along with other criminal activity, I had the sound truck make an announcement that stated, "We know there are people in the crowd who do not want violence or vandalism to occur. Please know there are people in this crowd who are engaged in criminal activity. Please stop engaging in criminal activity. Do not start fires or throwing fireworks." This announcement was made in hopes that the crowd members would try and correct the behavior, keeping PPB from having to engage with the crowd.

About 20 minutes after the announcements were made a large crowd made a sudden march to the 3rd Ave side of Central Precinct. At the time this was occurring, MCSO was conducting their shift change and the IMT was not aware that deputies had been sent outside onto SW 2nd Ave. This large crowd began blocking traffic, and the private parking lot across the doors from Central Precinct were county employees were trying to exit with their personal cars. Close to a dozen protesters began walking down the ramps to confront the employees, while a few hundred took up the entire street.

At 11:32pm a Civil Disturbance was declared and people were ordered to disperse from the area. While this was going on several MCSO employees also got stuck in an elevator requiring us to coordinate a fire bureau response.

Right after the announcement was made, the crowd noticeably increasing in intensity. Hundreds of people in the crowds intentionally antagonize officers and attempted to get the officers to engage with them. MCSO informed me that their employees being confronted in the parking structure were in trouble and needed help. I was told that the employees were not in life safety danger, but that they were concerned the crowd could become violent and possibly start damaging their personal cars.

As this was going on the crowd set up a shield wall when the police started moving in to assist those in the parking structure. The crowd also lit smoke bombs and used them on officers. Due to the crowd surrounding the front part of the precinct, violently shaking and braking the jail gate, throwing mortars and starting fires, I ordered the crowd dispersed under a Civil Disturbance declaration.

The RRT and MFF units began to disperse the crowds and as they did they met heavy resistance. Multiple officers were sprayed in the face with pepper spray by members of the crowd. 4-5 mortars were thrown at officers, and multiple radio transitions came in advising officers were injured. As a result of all the listed criminal activity occurring, as well as it least 100 people acting violently towards the police, I make a declaration of RIOT. After making the declaration we ensured the proper sound truck warnings were given, then had the RRT and MFF officers disengage and move back to Central Precinct. It was at that time I learned several officers had metal pipes swung and tossed at them, one being struck in the hand possibly causing a fracture.

It should be known that this was an EXTREMELY VIOLENT crowd. As officers were disengaging projectiles were tossed at them, as well as paint bombs. As the officers were regrouping at Central Precinct, a large crowd had massed back up and were advancing on the police. I then ordered the crowd to be dispersed again, and instantly the crowd began throwing projectiles at the officers. At 12:15am I **authorized the use of CS Gas,** ensuring all legal area were appropriately covered, and CS Gas was deployed.

Throughout this next push projectile were constantly tossed at the officers, as well as mortars. The crowd kept forming back up and advancing on officers, with a significant amount of crowd members wearing PRESS on their persons. As the officers were attempting to disengage with this crowd, hundreds are rioters continued to follow them, engaging them with bright lights in their faces, while yelling at them. The persons wearing items identifying themselves as PRESS were within inches to feet from officers, creating a significant safety risk. The people waring PRESS on their clothing were directly/intentionally antagonizing the officers, following them and blinding them with bright lights. Once the officers were again done moving the crowds, the crowd reformed up in an organized manner and again advanced on the police. It is a serious mistake for anyone to misinterpret the intentions of this crowd to be that of protesting. This crowd, later in the evening, had no other intent then to antagonize the police and create a violent encounter. These rioters are anarchists and Black Blockers who's only intention is to force the police to take action against them.

After the crowd was again dispersed, RRT disengaged and went back to Central Precinct. At 1245am the large crowd formed up again, and again they advanced on the officers while marching east bound on Main St. Due to the serious acts of violence this crowd committed against our police officers, and once again them returning to engage with the police, I again authorized CS Gas to be used on the crowd if necessary. However, during the next push the RRT members did not deploy CS Gas.

For the next two and a half hours this crowd continued fight with police, blocked the exit from the jail, assault other members of the crowd, and throwing projectiles at passing patrol cars. The group also set numerous fires in the area around central precinct.

At one time when the group was being pushed, an OSP trooper was struck in the head by a rock thrown by a protester. The rock was described as being the size of two fists. Also, the crowd continued to shine lasers in the eyes of officers. Around 3:00am the IMT was taken down, and Central Precinct was left with a plan to monitor and address the crowd.

As the Incident Commander I cannot stress enough how much the current restrictions related to CS Gas, and the TRO's, cause our police offices to be exposed to an unacceptable amount of increased danger. There is no doubt in my mind that tonight, once again, we had officers who were injured due to our inability to safely and effectively address rioting/violent crowds with appropriate crowd control tactics. I refuse to believe that any reasonable person cannot look at the two distinct crowds that were downtown tonight and draw a clear conclusion to the intentions of each one. The earlier protesting crowd conducted themselves in manner that encouraged people not to commit acts of violence, vandalism or alarm families in the surrounding neighborhoods, and to civilly protest their common grievances. The later rioting crowd displayed a behavior, and expressed themselves verbally, in a manner that declared they were committed to conducting acts of violence towards the police, vandalizing property, and encouraging members of the crowd not to try and stop people from committing illegal acts. There must be some consequence for the people who chose to participate in the activities and actions of the group that arrived later in the evening. Failure to hold such violent groups accountable will absolutely result in more officers and citizens becoming seriously injured.

It should be known that almost 45 minutes passed from the time the first Civil Disturbance dispersal order was given, and when a Riot was declared and CS Gas deployed. Any person who chose to leave the area had ample time to do so. Only those who choose to disobey the lawful order to dispers were still present when the CS Gas was deployed.

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