

# ENTERPRISE-RECORD

By **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

October 29, 2020 at 1:34 a.m.

**Police shoot to kill.**

**The last meeting of Chico Policing Review Ad Hoc Committee was one for the books.**

**Hopeful possibilities, a new police chief? At this last meeting the police officers on the Committee insulted and tried to disparage anyone who suggested that there should be civilian oversight of our police department. They lectured us on how many years they have been cops, and that they know best. Accountability seems anathema to our police.**

**The Chief says every officer at Chico PD has taken de-escalation training and that they know what they're doing. So the question is, did the police know what they were doing on October 14, 2020 when Stephen Vest was shot and killed.**

**The cops with de-escalation training were not able to de-escalate the confrontation at Chico Petco? They did not fire a warning shot, they did not disable Mr. Vest with one bullet, not two bullets, they killed him with eleven bullets. After the first shot, what can we conclude?**

**Nothing has changed. De-escalation training? Right now, just words. Clearly there has been no application of de-escalation skills in the field or in the minds of our police officers. It's either that or the training they are getting is completely without merit.**

**The police say we, the citizens, don't know what we're talking about. But there's a simple question. Do the police? Without civilian oversight of our police, they will continue to kill whomever they want with impunity.**

***George Gold  
Chico, CA***