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Letter: A few requirements for new police chief



By [LETTERS TO THE EDITOR](#) |

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Moral Imperative. There are now three pieces of legislation on the books that address law enforcement conduct. They codify peace officers conduct as relates to use of deadly force, release of records, and the public's access to law enforcement records. These legislations are now the law and they combine to guide all police departments in California as regards transparency and these new limits on police behavior.

Chico's next police chief must, as part of his / her oath, swear to uphold these new laws. Additionally, a new police chief must approve, ratify, and recommend de-escalation and crisis intervention training for every police officer in Chico and, officers must learn how to apply these trainings in the field. De-escalation conduct by Chico's police officers must be the primary path of all police / citizen interactions. So far today, this approach to community policing has not been implemented. The unnecessary and tragic death of Tyler Rushing is just one example of how current policy has failed. This must change.

Each police officer must take it upon themselves to practice these new behavioral requirements. In fact, each police officer has a moral imperative to speak up when these policies are not followed.

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George Gold, Chico, CA

Scott Rushing, father of Tyler Rushing; Ventura, CA