

April 7, 2026

Attention:

The Honorable Erin Mendenhall, Mayor, Salt Lake City
Salt Lake City Department of Public Lands
Kristin Riker, Director, Salt Lake City Department of Public Lands
Nick Frederick, Director, Park Ranger Division, Salt Lake City Department of Public Lands
Brian Redd, Chief of Police, Salt Lake City Police Department
Salt Lake City Police Department, Community Outreach Division
The Honorable Jenny Wilson, Mayor, Salt Lake County
Tyler Clancy, State Homeless Coordinator, Utah Office of Homeless Services
Nick Coleman, Assistant State Homeless Coordinator, Utah Office of Homeless Services
Meredith Vernick, Assistant Director, Utah Office of Homeless Services
Major General Daniel D. Boyack, Adjutant General, Utah National Guard
The Honorable Spencer J. Cox, Governor, State of Utah
The Honorable Deidre M. Henderson, Lieutenant Governor, State of Utah
The Honorable John Curtis, United States Senator, State of Utah
The Honorable Mike Lee, United States Senator, State of Utah
The Honorable Blake Moore, Member of Congress, Utah's 1st Congressional District
The Honorable Nate Blouin, Utah State Senator, Senate District 13
The Honorable Hoang Nguyen, Utah State Representative, House District 23
Utah Office of Homeless Services
State Homeless Coordinating Committee
Utah Non-Profit Housing Corporation
Utah HMIS Data Team
The Road Home
Volunteers of America, Utah
Family Support Center (LifeStart Village)
Salt Lake County Homeless Coalition

Re: Observed SLCPD Tactical Formation at Liberty Park, Public Safety, Homelessness, and Fiscal Accountability

To all,

I write to formally document an observation made today at Liberty Park, 600 Harvey Milk Boulevard, Salt Lake City, and to raise three interconnected concerns regarding public safety posture, the root causes of homelessness, and the stewardship of public funds.

I was in the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps and am the child of a multi-deployment Army veteran. I know a Vee formation when I observe one, and today I observed the Salt Lake City Police Department in a Vee formation at the center of Liberty Park. In United States Army doctrine, this is a direct fire support configuration in which units are arranged in a "V" shape with the point oriented toward a target, two flanking positions providing coverage, and a third maintaining a central command position. This was a wartime operation directed at unarmed civilians sitting in a park, talking and eating, with three vehicles each weighing approximately 4,766 pounds and producing 400 horsepower oriented toward them.

The formation made it difficult to distinguish between an active war zone and a park where children and their parents were playing and eating snacks, dogs were at play, and elders were reminiscing about how much the park has changed and how many fun events the city used to host there every day.

I approached two civilians nearby to inquire about the operation. The first stated that the police were likely conducting a drug operation and that this type of interaction would occur "often." The second, without prompting, confirmed the targeting was a regular occurrence and disclosed that the individuals in the target line of the formation were homeless residents of Salt Lake City.

Unhoused people in a public park were the identified targets of a combat tactical formation. I submit that this fact alone warrants immediate review by command leadership and elected oversight.

Root Causes

Homelessness is not a law enforcement problem. It is the downstream consequence of white-collar crime, systemic failures, including the misallocation of public resources. Over the last three fiscal years, the Governor's Office of Economic Development has appropriated approximately \$415 million in taxpayer funds to entities operating with limited or no meaningful public accountability. Deploying tactical law enforcement resources against unhoused individuals, rather than addressing the structural

conditions that produce homelessness, represents an inversion of responsible governance.

Additionally, the Salt Lake County Auditor Chris Harding has declined to audit cyberattacks currently impacting critical infrastructure. These attacks exploit legislative cover under HB 230 but remain within county jurisdiction. A conservative estimate indicates that resolving these vulnerabilities could yield approximately \$270 million in recoverable public funds, sufficient to address the homelessness crisis in its entirety.

At \$685 million, this is a substantial sum produced through only two audits of information security systems. I offer my services and encourage all levels of government to engage with that offer, so that the byproducts of unrecovered funds are no longer the pretext for military-grade operations against civilians.

Salt Lake City is the prize of the world, a land of riches, talent, and ability. There is no justification for homelessness, and there is no justification for the harassment of civilians.

Notice of Public Documentation

Each party receiving this letter is hereby placed on notice that this observation, this correspondence, and all subsequent developments will be documented publicly at <https://unofficialslcmayor.com>, which serves as an ongoing public record of unresolved matters impacting Salt Lake County residents.

Respectfully submitted,

January Walker

Planetary Information Security Officer

<https://infoton.ai/>

<https://cybersecuritymindfulness.com/>

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