

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 25, 2020

Contact:

Mychal Vlatkovich (Frey), 612-346-0875

John Elder (Police Information), 612-578-4322

Frey and Arradondo Issue New No-Knock Warrant Policy

For the first time in department history, there will be official policy governing the use of no-knock warrants

MINNEAPOLIS – Today, Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey and Police Chief Medaria Arradondo issued a new policy governing the Minneapolis Police Department’s (MPD) use of unannounced entry or no-knock warrants. The new policy marks a first for the city and is the latest policy change driven by the mayor and chief. Outside of limited, exigent circumstances, like a hostage situation, MPD officers will be required to announce their presence and purpose prior to entry.

“This is about proactive policymaking and instilling accountability,” said Frey. **“We can’t prevent every tragedy, but we can limit the likelihood of bad outcomes. This new, no-knock warrant policy will set shared expectations for our community and clear and objective standards within the department.”**

The new policy adds transparency and shared expectations for community and codifies best practices in the department’s Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Unit.

“Even amid the most difficult circumstances, our men and women of the Minneapolis Police Department continue to carry out their duties with the highest level of excellence,” said Arradondo. **“By implementing this new policy, we’re committing ourselves to continued improvement and ensuring best practices are cemented in policy within this department.”**

On an average year, the MPD execute 139 such warrants. Full text of the new policy is attached.

Over the last several months, Frey and Arradondo have issued a number of policy changes, including overhauling the use of force by making it as stringent as allowable under State law. In July, they implemented a new, cutting edge requirement, ensuring parity between civilians and officers when it comes to the review of body camera footage after a critical incident. They have also emphasized the importance of de-escalation in policy and practice, requiring for the first time in department history that officers accounted for attempted de-escalation in all use of force reports.

###