

Members,

It has come to our attention that a press release will occur soon in which Representative Danny Alvarez will call for law enforcement to discontinue the use of the Sig P320/M18 due to ongoing safety concerns and cases in Florida allegedly involving un-commanded discharges. There are some reports from other states that will likely be mentioned in the release which are linked for your review:

- August 30, 2024, <u>FBI Ballistic Research Facility report</u> to the Michigan State Police regarding a July 31, 2024, incident where a Sig M18 discharged inside a holster. That said, it appears Michigan State Police is using the Sig P320 as their primary weapon and Sig P365 as secondary. <u>SIG SAUER P320-M18</u> and P365 Adopted by Michigan State Police
- March 2025 <u>Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission</u> incident involving a recruit class and a decision being made to prohibit the use of the weapon on state owned or leased properties run by the Commission.

There are many reports online detailing various incidents, but it can be difficult to ascertain the reliability or sourcing of some of the videos. In addition, there have been some recent civil cases, to include one in Georgia in June 2025 that found Sig Sauer liable for a defect in the P320 and making an award to the plaintiff who claimed the gun fired while holstered. Recently DHS/ICE indicated they were phasing out the weapon and as of two days ago the Air Force Global Command paused the use of the weapon citing safety concerns and the death of an Airman.

Sig Sauer has some information on their website that would be critical for any department to review as they make decisions about the use of this weapon.

P320 Voluntary Upgrade Program | SIG SAUER

Chiefs should include their risk managers and counsel in the internal discussions regarding the use of the Sigs.

The FPCA is passing along this information for your situational awareness, as we know this press release will likely raise questions from your members and community. For those departments utilizing the weapon, we would offer the assistance of our Cole Pro Media team to help you engage in any press responses.

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A few key points that Cole Pro Media would like to pass along are as follows:

- Acknowledge the concern: Public safety is our top priority. We take any allegations of weapon malfunction seriously.
- Evaluate internally: Chiefs should review current deployment of the P320/M18 and confirm whether issued weapons have received the voluntary upgrade as you will be asked. NOTE: it is unclear if this this update completely solves the concern of un-commanded discharge but checking the weapons for the upgrade is a good first step. Utilize resources from the manufacturer as well as your department armorer and other SMEs in the assessment process.
- Coordinate messaging: Consider preparing a public information statement or FAQ document if your department uses this firearm.
- Utilize FPCA resources: Our media support team, including Cole Pro Media, is available to help craft statements and manage press interactions.
- Emphasize officer safety protocols: Regardless of equipment, all officers are trained in safe handling, and all firearms undergo regular inspections.

Thank you,

Cookie

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