

(Translation)

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香港特別行政區政府  
保安局



The Government of the  
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
Security Bureau

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30 August 2013

Mr Raymond Lam  
Secretariat, Legislative Council Panel on Security  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

Dear Mr Lam,

**Panel on Security  
Letter from Hon Cyd HO**

I refer to the Secretariat's letter dated 9 August 2013. Our reply to Hon HO's questions is as follows.

(1) and (4) - Police's handling of public order events

The freedom and rights of processions and peaceful public meetings are enshrined by Article 27 of the Basic Law and Article 17 of Section 8 of the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance (Cap 383). The Police always handle all public order events in a fair, just and impartial manner in accordance with the laws of Hong Kong. The enforcement policy of the Police is to endeavour to facilitate lawful and peaceful public meetings and processions on one hand, while on the other, minimizing the impact of such events on other members of the public and road users, as well as ensuring public order and public safety. In expressing their views, participants of public meetings or processions are advised by the Government to observe the laws of Hong Kong and respect others' rights so that the events could proceed in a peaceful and orderly manner, without hindering the efforts of the Police to maintain law and order. The Police will act in accordance with the law under all circumstances and will, in the light of the prevailing circumstances, take decisive measures

against any contravention of the law, breach of peace or public order in a bid to maintain public order and protect public safety.

With substantial experience in handling large scale public processions or public meetings, the Police will formulate corresponding deployment and contingency plans with reference to the objectives, nature, number of participants, risk assessments and operational needs of individual public order events, while deploy their manpower in a flexible manner and implement crowd control measures. Appropriate arrangements will also be made by the Field Commander, after taking into account the circumstances and conditions at the scene, to ensure public safety and public order. In the event that groups with different positions hold public order events in the same place, the Police will adopt appropriate segregation measures, including the designation of “public activity areas” for various groups, to facilitate their expression of views.

The Police do not maintain relevant statistics on the information requested in part 4 of the Member’s question.

(2) and (3) - Police General Orders (PGOs)

The PGOs, made by the Commissioner of Police under Section 46 of the Police Force Ordinance (Cap 232), are required to be observed by all police officers. Any officers in contravention to the provisions under the PGOs will be subject to investigations and follow-up actions in accordance with the established procedures of the Police.

(5) Public order event at Sai Yeung Choi Street South in Mong Kok on 4 August

On 4 August 2013, while undertaking crowd control duty at Sai Yeung Choi Street South near Nelson Street, an officer of the Mong Kok Police District felt that someone touched his service revolver. A man became very emotional when being enquired at the scene and was subsequently brought to the police station. Upon further investigation, it was believed that no criminality was involved and the man left the station immediately afterwards. The case was classified as a “Misunderstanding”. Given that a member of the public has lodged a complaint in respect of the incident to the Complaints Against Police Office, the Administration is not in a position to give further comment.

Appropriate protective actions will be taken by front-line officers if they feel that somebody touches their service revolvers. Responding to such a

scenario in an appropriate manner is one of the regular items of the firearms training programme for police officers, with the intent of safeguarding their own lives and those of other members of the public.

Yours sincerely,

( Mrs Millie Ng )  
for Secretary for Security

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Commissioner for Police

(Attn.: Assistant Commissioner for Police (Support))

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