1) Have any data been collected for this study already?
It's complicated. We have already collected some data but explain in Question 8 why readers may consider this a valid pre-registration nevertheless.

2) What's the main question being asked or hypothesis being tested in this study?
We hypothesize police officers’ levels of social dominance orientation (SDO) will be associated with how frequently they use force in interactions with residents, benchmarked on the number of pedestrian and vehicle stops conducted by each officer. The measure of SDO has Dominance (SDO-D) and Anti-Egalitarianism (SDO-E) subscales (8 items each). We predict a positive relationship between the overall SDO scale and the rate of force. We also predict this relationship will hold for both subscales. We predict the relationship will be stronger for White officers than for Black officers.

3) Describe the key dependent variable(s) specifying how they will be measured.
Use of force frequency will be measured as the total number of times each officer has used force over a five-year time period.

As an offset (i.e. benchmark) for use of force frequency, we will use the number of pedestrian and vehicle stops each officer has conducted. If the total number of stops is unavailable for any reason, we will use each officer’s total number of citations as the offset for use of force.

4) How many and which conditions will participants be assigned to?
The main independent variable is a scale measuring social dominance orientation. Items will be averaged to form a composite SDO score. Items will also be averaged within the SDO-D and SDO-E subscales.

Regression analyses will be stratified by officers’ racial identity. Categories will include Black, White, and a third group including Hispanic, Latino, Asian, Native, More than one race, and groups not listed here.

5) Specify exactly which analyses you will conduct to examine the main question/hypothesis.
We will conduct a negative binomial regression model, stratified by officer race, to test the relationship between SDO and officers’ total number of force incidents, with an offset for total number of stops. We will also include a binary measure of officers’ departmental rank in the regression analysis: patrol rank vs. higher rank groups.

6) Describe exactly how outliers will be defined and handled, and your precise rule(s) for excluding observations.
Outliers will be defined as exceeding 3 standard deviations away from the mean and will be winsorized. All observations will be included from respondents for whom we have available data on SDO, racial identity, departmental rank, and use of force and stops history. We will include all respondents for whom we have data on all of the following: SDO, racial identity, departmental rank, and use of force and stops history. As is commonly the case in law enforcement data, some respondents are likely to have suspicious data elements (e.g., multiple use of force incidents at the same time; non-existent street addresses) and we will remove these cases.

7) How many observations will be collected or what will determine sample size? No need to justify decision, but be precise about exactly how the number will be determined.
We publicized the online survey during police roll-call meetings, and collected responses from all officers who were willing and able to participate from March through May, 2017. Respondents consented to having their survey responses linked with administrative data that describes their actual behavior during interactions with residents. We are currently working with the department to collect this behavioral data.

8) Anything else you would like to pre-register? (e.g., secondary analyses, variables collected for exploratory purposes, unusual analyses planned?)
Survey data have been collected but not yet analyzed. We are currently in the process of collecting behavioral data. Behavioral data will need to be matched with survey data to test the registered hypotheses.