



Mayor Breed signs SFPD/SFFD
heart trouble legislation.
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JOURNAL

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VOLUME 51, NUMBER 11



SAN FRANCISCO, NOVEMBER 2019

www.sfpoa.org



Gascón's Number One Priority: Gascón

By Tony Montoya

George Gascón. Good riddance. Unfortunately, it may not be a complete goodbye for our former District Attorney. No, consistent with his past practice, he quit on San Francisco early in order to continue to propel his political career. Now he wants the District Attorney's job in Los Angeles. His goal: be the top-ranking law enforcement officer in California's most populous county, in the country's second largest media market.

You can bet your last dollar that if he is successful, it's definitely not the last we've heard from Gascón. That's why it's so important that the people of Los Angeles hear from the residents, business owners and police officers of San Francisco about what criminal justice with District Attorney Gascón was truly like.

Gascón Report Card

Gascón has always been a great manipulator of the numbers. He came under fire while at the LAPD for publicly promoting artificially lower crime stats and faced similar criticism here. He'll tout the recent crime dips as his successes (not those of police officers and

residents working together), but what do the numbers really say?

Since Gascón took office as DA in San Francisco:

- Crime has increased by double digits.
- Auto break-ins increased by 130 percent.
- Property Crime increased nearly 50 percent.
- Criminal Convictions went down 25%.
- Larceny rose up 60%.

With all of the crime statistics, the statewide average numbers either decreased, or San Francisco's increases were larger than the statewide average.

The Prop 47 Deception

His spin machine touts that Prop 47, which he penned, is not responsible for crime increases or the literal revolving door of criminals in and out of our jails. They use top level statistics to hide what's actually happening on the ground. Any resident or street cop can tell you that since Prop 47 passed, property crimes have gone up, open drug use in our streets have gone up, and our



Tony Montoya

What Gascón didn't tell the public is that those Jonesing for their next hit could break into their car, and possess up to \$950 in stolen property and maybe, just maybe they would get a written citation rather than removing them from our streets. And then they could go victimize someone else. They didn't tell voters that more sophisticated criminals would actually do the same, provided they kept the possession of stolen goods below the magic threshold. So, car break-ins in San Francisco set national records. Gascón response? "Wasn't me!"

Things may have turned out different if Gascón lost the fancy suits and polished loafers and put on a pair of jeans, some work boots and gloves and joined SFPD officers and our partners in actually trying to assist the lost souls on our sidewalks and in tents. Things might have been different if he was there as we arrest the same drug dealer this week that we arrested last week. Maybe if he did that every week, he'd see that everything that glitters on a phony spreadsheet is not gold. Maybe he got it wrong. And maybe he should've put in some work to do something about it.

Why do that, when you can simply abandon your post and head to Tinseltown and feed your ego and political career. An excellent plan for California!

Honor America's Veterans

November 11th is Veterans Day. On this important national holiday, please take the time to thank a military veteran for his or her service to our country. Join with us, the men and women of the San Francisco Police Officers Association, in honoring all of America's military veterans, and those brave and dedicated men and women currently serving at home and abroad.



Veterans Day Parade

Embarcadero at North Point Street

Sunday,
November 10, 2019
11:00 AM



The American Legion Post #456 Will Honor The Below-Listed San Francisco Public Safety Military Veterans.

Read the details, menu options, and registration info on Page 13.

SAN FRANCISCO POLICE-FIRE POST NO. 456 ANNUAL OFFICER AND FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARDS DINNER



HONORING

OFFICER KEVIN ENDO
OFFICER TESS CASEY
SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICERS OF THE YEAR FOR VALOR

OFFICER JOHN CATHEY
SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICER OF THE YEAR FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE



BATTALION CHIEF FRANK CERCOS, IV
LIEUTENANT RONALD ROSSER
FIREFIGHTER JOSHUA EDELMAN
SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIREFIGHTERS OF THE YEAR FOR VALOR

FIREFIGHTER KIRK FORBES
SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Minutes of the October 16, 2019, Board of Directors Meeting

Call to Order

- Sergeant-at-Arms Tracy McCray called the meeting to order at 1206 hours.

Pledge of Allegiance

- Sgt-at-Arms Tracy McCray led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Tracy McCray asked for a moment of silence for our service men and women, as well as for law enforcement, who have lost their lives serving our country and communities.

Roll Call

- Secretary Lobre conducted roll call. 28 Board of Directors were present, 7 were excused.

Presentation by Crystal Snyder of Capital Edge

- Crystal Snyder of Capital Edge discussed retirement planning for our members.

Presentation by Bill Barnicle — Commissioner of Veterans Affairs for the City and County of San Francisco

- Bill presented on the various services that veterans service office offers.

Presentation by Brian Stansbury re the upcoming Retirement Board Election

- Brian advised the Board that his seat on the Retirement Board was up in January 2020 and was seeking the Board of Directors endorsement for the upcoming election.

Presentation by Lt. Mike Nevin re Field Tactics Force Option Unit

- Lt. Nevin took time to explain to the Board how the unit functions by providing different scenario trainings and reviewing serious Use of Force incidents. The Lt. took questions from various Board members.

Presentation by Karl Ma regarding the Wilderness Program

- Karl spoke about the various programs and activities run by the program. Over 1500 kids from San

Francisco are able to participate in these programs. Karl made a financial request of \$6,000.00

Approval of September 2019 Board Minutes

- Before a motion was made to approve the September board minutes was made, President Montoya requested to have item 15 from the September minutes removed regarding the Heart Presumption Legislation.

President Montoya had our Welfare Officer Mike Hebel speak on the recent Heart presumption legislation signed into law by Mayor Breed on October 7th. This signing now allows both the Labor Code and City Administrative Code to mirror each other. This will make it easier for police and fire to obtain Industrial Disability Retirements, as well as death and line of duty benefits for heart trouble injuries. It should be noted that all 11 members of the Board of Supervisors voted in support of this legislation.

After Mike's presentation, President Montoya made a motion to strike item 15 from September's minutes in place of the above. The motion was seconded by Directors Friedman and Obot, which passed unanimously.

President's Message

- President Montoya discussed the on-going issue with staffing and retention. After discussions with Chief Scott and AC Moser, there will not be any amendments to current overtime rules. Current overtime rules apply and will be enforced.

- President Montoya reminded Board to advise members to write "Mandatory" on the back of OT-2 and OT-3 Overtime cards. The policy for this went into effect in August. Members who have a payroll issue should contact their reps should there be an issue.

- President Montoya discussed the 1700 hour bulletin regarding longevity pay. After President Montoya's discussion with Chief Scott, Asst

Chief Moser and Commander Ford, there are no plans to change this bulletin at this time.

- President Montoya addressed the limited days for Range qualification at Lake Merced this month. There should be no FTA's this month filed on members who are to qualify this month. However, members should make a concerted effort to qualify as soon as possible.

- President Montoya discussed promotions and the upcoming Sgt promotions. Classes for the new Sgt's will be the week of November 4th.

- President Montoya reinforced that we are not endorsing anyone for District Attorney at this time. Contrary to some media reports, there will be no endorsement for District Attorney.

- President Montoya announced that the next General Membership meeting will be November 13th at the Irish Cultural Center.

- President Montoya made a motion to endorse Brian Stansbury for the upcoming Retirement Board Election. It was seconded by Directors Johnson and Macchi. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice President's Message

- Vice President Andreotti requested volunteers from Board of Directors for upcoming Meet and Confers regarding various policies.

Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer Perdomo advised that the Association has currently spent 75% of this year's budget through September 2019.

New Business

- A Director inquired about the status of newer vehicles needed at District stations.
- A Director inquired about the possibility of Investigations being completely moved out of the City with the closing of the Hall of Justice.
- A Director inquired about the re-

cent Department Bulletins re job openings that conflict with the P-1 process.

- A Director inquired about the possibility of Corporal ranks for senior officers or FTO's.

- A Director inquired about the possible return of a General Crimes unit and the creation of a Golden Gate and Metro Investigative units.

- A Director advised that the MOU between the Department and the District Attorney has been out for quite some time, but there has been very little direction from the department on the process. Supervisors are encouraged to review the MOU should there be an Officer involved shooting, in custody death, etc.

Old Business

- A Director inquired if the City has added additional towers to improve the radio transmissions. Members are noticing that there are some issues when going into certain buildings, which poses an officer safety risk for members.

Financial Requests

- Director Johnson made a motion of \$6,000.00 for the Wilderness Program, which was seconded by Sgt at Arms McCray and Director Lyons. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

- President Montoya requested today's meeting be adjourned in memory of Officer David Vizcay who lost his battle with cancer last month. Meeting adjourned at 1358 hours.

Submitted by
Matt Lobre

**These minutes will not be adopted by the Board of Directors until the next General Membership meeting. Corrections and amendments might be made prior to a vote to enter the minutes into the permanent record. All corrections and/or amendments will be published in the succeeding issue of the Journal.*

The San Francisco Police Officers Association
POA JOURNAL
(USPS #882-320)

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WEBMASTER Cyndee Bates	LAYOUT & PRODUCTION Georgette Petropoulos	

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Members or readers submitting letters or articles to the editor are requested to observe these simple rules:

- Address letters to the Editor's Mail Box, 800 Bryant St., 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103.
- Letters must be accompanied by the writer's true name and address. The name, but not the street address, will be published with the letter.
- Unsigned letters and/or articles will not be used.
- Writers are assured freedom of expression within necessary limits of space and good taste.
- The editor reserves the right to add editor's notes to any article submitted, if necessary.
- Articles should be typed, double-spaced, or submitted via e-mail or on disk in Microsoft Word.

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San Francisco Police Officers Association Editorial Policy

The POA Journal and the POA web site (www.sfpoa.org) are the official publications of the San Francisco Police Officers Association and are published to express the policies, ideals, and accomplishments of the Association. The following provisions that are specific to the publication of the POA Journal shall also be applicable to publication of material on the POA web site to any extent that is practical. Publication of material in the POA Journal or on the POA web site does not necessarily include publication on or in both instruments of communication. Nor does the following editorial policy for the POA Journal preclude a different or contrary editorial policy for the POA web site.

Member Opinions and Commentary: Unsolicited Written Material

A member or group of members may submit unsolicited written material to the POA Journal that expresses his/her/their opinion(s) and concerns within the following limitations and guidelines:

- Such material must be addressed as a letter or mail using common salutations such as "Dear POA," "Editor," "SFPOA" "Dear POA Members" etc.
- Such material must be authored and signed by the member(s) making the submission. Anonymous submissions will not be published.
- Such material must be factually correct and presented in a respectful and civil manner.
- Such material can not be slanderous, unnecessarily inflammatory, sexist, racist, or otherwise offensive, nor can it be disparaging of any member or bring upon them unwarranted accusation or rebuke, either express or implied.
- Such material can be forwarded to the editor by electronic mail, US Mail, inter-departmental mail or other written communication, or delivered in person to the editor or to any person in the POA office.
- Upon receipt of such material, the editor shall cause it to be published in the next regular printing of the POA Journal, or in a future issue designated by the submitting member provided that the content complies with all the provisions of this policy. Such material will not necessarily appear in more than one issue of the POA Journal.
- Such material will be published in a designated section that shall be clearly titled as "Letters to the Editor," "Letters to the Journal," "Mail" or other similar title indicating that the material included therein is the express opinion of the author(s) and not necessarily that of the SFPOA or any of its elected or appointed officers.
- Depending upon considerations of timeliness and space, the editor reserves the right to withhold publication of such material for as many as two issues. The editor also reserves the right to decline to publish material beyond a date wherein the context of the material is no longer timely.
- All such material is subject to editing for grammar and punctuation. Portions of a submission may be omitted for considerations of space so long as the general context of the material is not significantly diminished or altered.
- The editor may select portions of a submission to be highlighted in a common editorial manner such as pull quotes, sub-heads, or kickers.

Other Submitted Material

All other written, photographic, or graphic material must be:

- Specifically solicited by the editor;
- Or be unsolicited material that may be published at the discretion of the editor, and in accordance with other applicable sections of this editorial policy and Article XI, Section 8(e) of the by-laws.

Support Officer Elia Lewin-Tankel's Family

October 18th marked the second anniversary that our Brother Officer Elia Lewin-Tankel was tragically and senselessly struck down in the prime of life while simply doing the job he loved.

Brother Elia continues to make amazing progress, but he still has a long way to go. Let's continue to rally around Elia and family during his recovery. He is one of us and deserves our support.

Please consider financial support by making a donation to Elia's Go Fund Me Account.

Click this link: <https://tinyurl.com/yy79w2u4>



Be Safe,
Tony

Seal Discipline Records

By Paul Chignell,
Legal Defense Administrator

Under the terms of the contract between the SFPOA and the City prior discipline can be sealed in your personnel folder.

If you have suffered a written reprimand or a suspension in the past please contact me and I will facilitate the sealing.

Sealing means any reprimand two (2) years old or suspension five (5) years can be sealed and cannot be used against you for purposes of promotion, transfer or special assignment.

Email me any time at paul@sfpoa.org.

Board of Directors Meeting Roll Call — Wednesday, October 16, 2019

President	Tony Montoya	P
Vice President	Rick Andreotti	P
Secretary	Matthew Lobre	P
Treasurer	Sean Perdomo	P
Sergeant-At-Arms	Tracy McCray	P
Editor	Ray Shine	E
Co. A	Josh Cabillo	P
	Larry Chan	P
Co. B	Damon Hart	P
	Louis Wong	P
Co. C	Joseph Kavanagh	P
	Danny Miller	E
Co. D	Mikayla Connell	P
	Thomas Johnson	P
Co. E	Joan Cronin	E
	Jesus Peña	P
Co. F	Jeremy Cummings	P
	Matt Friedman	P
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	Chris Mansfield	P
Co. H	Matt Inocencio	P
	David Lee	P
Co. I	Michael Ferraresi	E
	Pavel Khmarskiy	E
Co. J	Kevin Lyons	P
	Bassey Obot	P
Co. K	Crispin Jones	P
	Rob Vernengo	P
Hdqtr.	Patrick Macchi	P
	Patrick Woods	P
Tactical	Dan Laval	E
	Steve Needham	P
Invest.	Ed Carew	P
	Rich Hunt	P
Airport	Erik Whitney	P
Retired	Val Kirwan	E

Calendar of Events

Mark your calendars for the following meetings and events by the POA and its friends and supporters. All dates and times are subject to last minute changes, so always contact the event coordinator to confirm dates and times. If you have an event you would like posted on our calendar, contact the editor at journal@sfpoa.org

☛ Specially Scheduled Events

BALEAF/SJ SHARKS VS. CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS

LEO APPRECIATION NIGHT

Where SAP Center, San Jose
When Tuesday, November 5, 2019, 7:00 pm
Contact rlm2214a@aol.com

NOBLE'S BLESSING OF THE BADGE CEREMONY

Where Foothill Missionary Baptist Church, 1530 Foothill, Oakland
When Sunday, November 10, 2019, 11:00 am
Contact Open to all

40TH ANNUAL 133RD RECRUIT CLASS REUNION DINNER

Where Broadway Prime Restaurant, 1316 Broadway, Burlingame, CA
When Wednesday November 13, 2019, 5:30 pm
Contact phipps446@aol.com

FOOTHILL FUZZ RETIREE LUNCHEON

Where Redhawk Casino, Placerville, CA
When Tuesday, November 19, 2019, 11:30 am
Contact See Flyer, Page 14

SF POLICE-FIRE POST ANNUAL OFFICER AND FIREFIGHTER AWARDS DINNER

Where Patio Espanol, 2850 Alemany Blvd., SF
When Thursday, November 21, 2019, 6:00 pm.
Contact gc1207@comcast.net

BRAVE THE BAY BENEFIT FOR MAKE-A-WISH

Where Aquatic Park, SF (Jefferson at Hyde Streets)
When Saturday, December 7, 2019, 8:00 pm
Contact www.BraveTheBay.com

CALIFORNIA COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION & INTERNATIONAL POLICE ASSOCIATION CHRISTMAS DINNER

Where SF Italian Athletic Club, 1630 Stockton St., SF
When Sunday, December 8, 2019, 6:30 pm
Contact See Flyer, Page 14

INGLESIDE STATION CHRISTMAS PARTY

Where Basque Cultural Center, 599 Railroad Ave., So. SF
When Saturday, December 21, 2019, 6:00 pm
Contact See Flyer, Page 15

☛ Regularly Scheduled Meetings or Events

VETERAN POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

Where Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 2850 19th Ave., SF
When Second Tuesday of every month, 11:00 am
Contact Larry Barsetti 415-566-5985 larry175@ix.netcom.com

WIDOWS & ORPHANS AID ASSOCIATION

Where Hall of Justice, Room 150, (Traffic Co. Assembly Room)
When Second Tuesday of every month, 12:30 pm
Contact Mark McDonough 415-681-3660, markmac825@comcast.net

AMERICAN LEGION SF POLICE-FIRE POST

Where Park Station Community Room, 1899 Waller St., SF
When Second Tuesday of every month, 4:00 pm
Contact Greg Corrales 415-759-1076

POA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Where POA Building
When Third Wednesday of every month, Noon
Contact POA Office 415-861-5060

RETIRED EM1PLOYEES OF CCSF

Where Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 2850 19th Ave., SF
When Second Wednesday bi-monthly
(Feb., Apr., June, Aug., Oct., Dec.), 10:00 am
Contact RECCSF Office 415-681-5949

RETIREE RANGE RE-QUALIFICATION

Where SFPD Pistol Range
When Contact Lake Merced Range for Dates
Contact Range Staff 415-587-2274



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October 30, 2019

To: All Members
From: Tony Montoya, President

SFPOA Takes on Dangerous DA Candidate: Chesa Boudin

As you know, the race to elect our next District Attorney is coming down the home stretch. There's one candidate in the pack who poses an absolute risk to our city's public safety, Chesa Boudin. That's why the SFPOA is aggressively opposing him and working with other law enforcement associations to assist in those efforts.

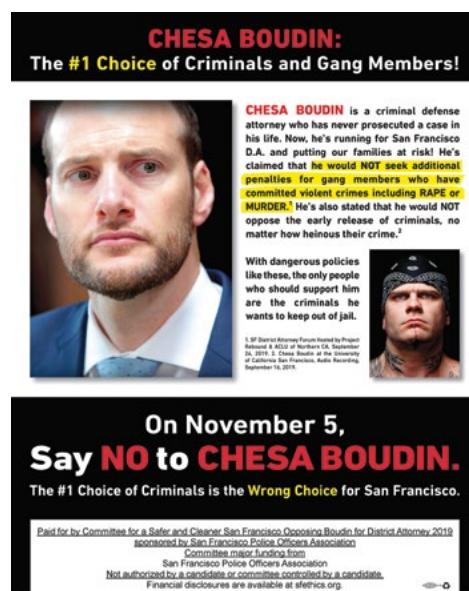
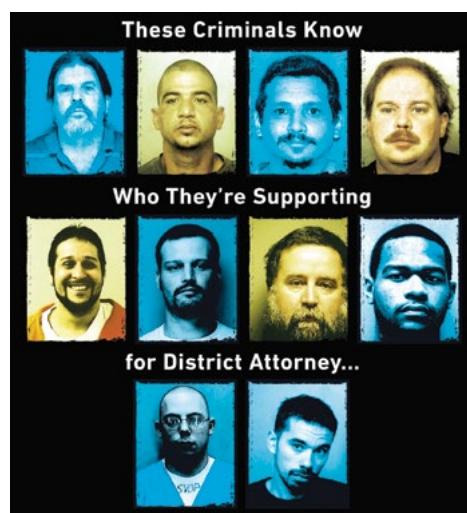
Boudin has pledged that he will not:

- Utilize gang enhancements to keep convicted gang members behind bars longer, no matter the crime.
- Send prosecutors to oppose the early release of dangerous criminals from prison, no matter the crime.
- Fully prosecute DUIs unless the driver was involved in an accident.

These are just some of his reckless policy proposals that will put all of us, and our community at risk. Below is a mailersent to San Francisco voters highlighting Boudin's threat to public safety.

Tomorrow, we will share other campaign communications with you and ask for you to take action.

Stay safe,
Tony



October 31, 2019

To: All Members
From: Tony Montoya, President

Yesterday, District Attorney candidate Chesa Boudin attacked the SFPOA in the San Francisco Examiner for our fact-based campaign highlighting his dangerous, criminals first agenda. I issued the following statement to the news media in response.



SFPOA President Calls Out Boudin Lying About his Own Record

San Francisco, CA—San Francisco Police Officers Association President Tony Montoya issued the following statement in response to disparaging remarks made by San Francisco District Attorney candidate Chesa Boudin:

Yesterday, in response to SFPOA campaign materials truthfully informing the voters of District Attorney candidate Chesa Boudin's dangerous platform, Boudin told the San Francisco Examiner: "They are suggesting to voters that I am unwilling

to seek severe punishment in cases of serious crimes," Boudin said. "In no part have I said that."

That's a lie.

Mr. Boudin has proudly run on a 'criminals first' platform that he promises to bring to the District Attorney's Office. Now that his own words are being exposed to voters, and the real-life implications of his words potentially becoming policy are being exposed, he wants to retreat to his ivory tower and drop the race card. As a gay Latino, I find it deplorable that Chesa Boudin is attacking me and the rank and file police officers of our city for telling voters what he has said numerous times during his campaign to be DA. Darkening my image in Boudin's deceitful video response to our efforts is an attempt to scare voters and should be condemned as a racist tactic intended to divide our city. It's shameful.

Here are the facts:

Boudin's Absolute Refusal to Charge Gang Enhancements

A central component of Boudin's criminals first platform is not charging gang enhancements, which carry longer sentences, on violent gang members. This comes straight from his website: "**No more prosecuting racist gang enhancements,**" and "**We don't need racist gang enhancements, with their additional potential prison time, to keep San Francisco safe.**"

After being a criminal defense attorney for a whopping 6 years, and never prosecuting a single case, let alone a gang case, Mr. Boudin has stated he will throw away an important tool to hold violent criminal gang members accountable.

Why are gang enhancements important? Because criminal prison and street gangs intimidate witnesses and literally terrorize neighborhoods through violence as a routine course of business. They also seek to fund their criminal enterprise off of the misery of others through human trafficking, drug sales, burglary and theft rings, and protection rackets on local business owners. Going to jail or prison for a short time is not a deterrent, in fact, it will boost a gang member's prestige. The discretion to add longer sentences is a tool for prosecutors to keep guilty gang members from returning quickly to the neighborhoods they seek to control. Boudin is handing criminal gangs a win if he is elected.

Refusal to Contest Early Release of Prisoners for Parole

Boudin has promised not to contest the early release from prison for anyone who has taken any sort of plea bargain for a felony, unless they committed crimes in prison (and that's a maybe). At a UCSF candidate forum on September 19, 2019, Boudin stated, "*Now, for me, personally, as a district attorney, I'm going to stop having lawyers in my office go to parole hearings and advocate against release, except in exceptional circumstances. If there's some reason a person was involved in criminal activity in prison, sure, we can look at opposing release. But for people who serve the time that we agreed to as part of a plea deal it is a waste of resources. I think it's frankly, questionable whether it's not a violation of a contract.*"

As a criminal defense attorney who has negotiated plea bargains over his short career, Mr. Boudin knows that often times prosecutors offer plea bargains for lesser crimes in the interest of protecting crime victims from having to relive the terror of the crimes perpetrated upon them. This is especially true of sexual assault victims (particularly minors), for example.

Prosecutors, even though they may have a strong case, are reluctant to put a child on the stand in order to undergo humiliating and traumatizing cross examination from criminal defense attorneys', like Boudin. It's a compassionate solution for a victim. That convicted criminal most likely will later qualify for an early release, especially if the crime meets the criteria for Proposition 57—which allows for even earlier release of a litany of crimes that most non-defense attorneys would consider violent. Mr. Boudin can explain to every rape and sexual assault victim he is supposed to speak for that he will either not accept any plea deals to ensure a violent predator stays behind bars for the crime they actually committed or that they should put their trauma to the side and testify no matter what. We think that's a dangerous strategy that re-victimizes crime victims.

Soft on Drunk Driving

Mr. Boudin has stated repeatedly that he would not take first-time DUI offenders who did not cause an accident to trial. He called this type of crime "victimless" as described in this news article. He is the only DA candidate to take this position. His position was reconfirmed as recently as October 23, 2019 in the San Francisco Chronicle. Mr. Boudin has been criticized by all of his opponents for his position.

Inexperience as a Prosecutor

The SFPOA has stated that Chesa Boudin has never prosecuted a case. This is a fact. Mr. Boudin has never served as a prosecutor. In fact, by most standards he would be considered a relatively inexperienced attorney as well. He was only admitted to the California Bar in 2012 and has worked as a criminal defense attorney for only approximately six years. He is running to be the top prosecutor of an office with over 200 employees.

Chesa Boudin seems to be perfectly comfortable with all of his positions until someone points out how it may actually impact public safety or crime victims. It's obvious in his response and his positions that he considers safety and victims as an afterthought. What's more telling is that once his position is challenged, he's quick to demean his opposition, primarily by playing the race card. As a person of color, I find this despicable. The men and women of the San Francisco Police Department work daily to protect all of our residents, all of them, and they are very concerned with the policies that Mr. Boudin champions.

Tony Montoya
President

Close Encounters

There's a certain bond between first responders that makes their relationship to one another special. That bond was celebrated on the last day of Father John Greene's long service to the Catholic Church held at St. Monica's during the annual Police/Firefighter Mass.

But as 'Father John' moves on with his future interests maybe we should re-evaluate some of ours.

Why not have a non-denominational service next year to include the women and men in the Sheriff's Department as well as our Dispatchers

After all, the Sheriffs have an extremely high-risk environment they have to manage which has its own dangers. And each month in the *POA Journal* a Dispatcher is honored for handling some very difficult calls for service while watching over the officers on the street.

Of course, if we really wanted to organize a proposal like this we'd need someone who knows something about the job you do because he was always there for us when we needed him, someone with a clerical background, and, of course, someone who would have the time to put such a service together.

Sounds like a perfect opportunity for someone who just retired . . . just a thought.

It's early evening at the Westfield Mall at mid-Market Street packed with shoppers and people leaving work when Officer Kaitlin Christ and Officer John McNamara respond to a 9-1-1 call involving a felony assault. They arrive and find the victim bleeding uncontrollably from a severe facial injury. He was able to give

the officers a description of the suspect which they later confirmed after reviewing the incident captured on the store's surveillance cameras. Once medical aid was summoned the officers conducted a search for the attacker. They weren't successful at first but the next day, with the help of Officer Kevin Cuadro and Officer Kohl O'Keefe, the officers managed to locate the suspect and place him in custody.

And thanks to the fast work displayed by Officer Keith Lipp and Officer Gavin Kundert, a man is still alive. Keith and Gavin were walking their Tenderloin Beat when they found an individual who showed all the signs of an overdose going downhill fast. The officers, having been trained in the dispensation of Narcan, acted quickly and the medication brought him back from a deadly alternative.

And only a few blocks away Officer Ryan Jones, Officer Irvin Huerta, Officer John Crockett II, and Officer Robert Rutledge were trying to reason with a man who had climbed halfway over the ledge of the 280 freeway at 6th and Bryant Streets and was slashing his wrist with a knife while threatening to jump. The officers were soon joined by CHP personnel who took over the scene with SFPD as back-up. The CHP officers used their less-than-lethal resources but they did not phase this subject who was now cutting both of his wrists. Officer Huerta was finally able to distract the man and he was taken into custody and transported to the hospital.

The streets of San Francisco are home to a lot of people. Many of them with serious physical and psychological issues. The Police Department cannot be held responsible for solving this problem. **There should probably be a closer look at all the Non-profits that San Francisco is subsidizing to reduce any duplicity of services and to evaluate the effectiveness of each one operating at a tremendous drain on the City's total budget . . .**

Some thief stole a backpack from a woman shopping at Whole Foods in The City. She had been distracted at the time but now realized that her laptop, cell phone, wallet, driver's license, passport and keys were gone. It was up to Officer David Dito, Officer Raymond Zuroske, and Officer Jesus Nevarez to save the day. And they did.

After reviewing the store's surveillance tapes the crew from Co B knew exactly who they were looking for. Then they located the cell phone through a successful investigative technique. That led to finding the suspect living in a tent under a freeway nearby. And, finally, they recovered all of the victim's belongings.

Officer James Horan and Officer Gary Kunaboot responded to a car burglary in-progress at the Sutter/Stockton Garage and located a suspect matching the description given. The individual was detained and later placed under arrest after the officers completed their investigation. **Turns out he had broken into 3 cars and his getaway car had been reported stolen earlier in the morning.** And, as it turned out, the subject's criminal record showed that he was currently on probation for similar crimes and had a lengthy criminal history as well.

And just five days later Officer Vanessa Johnson and Officer Joseph Marte responded to another auto burglary at the Stockton/Sutter Garage and met with the victims. The parties told the officers that they parked on the 7th floor of the garage and left their little dog in the car. When they returned from shopping they found their dog lying dead in the street in front of the garage having been thrown over the side by whoever was responsible for the break-in. The officers succeeded in obtaining video of the break-in along with photos of the suspect. The next day Sergeant William Toomey located and arrested the suspect who was, ready for this, already on felony probation for burglary.

The individual who was wanted for an outstanding felony drove by Officer Ronald Kuchas and Officer John Cahay who were patrolling the Mission

5-car sector when he should have known better. The officers immediately recognized him and double-checked to see if the felony arrest warrant that was issued in his name was still in play. It was. The traffic stop resulted in the arrest and, subsequently a search of his residence with the help of Officer Vincent Masilang and Officer Michael Beaird and the court-imposed search condition. An unsecured, unregistered, and loaded .40 caliber handgun was recovered along with narcotics. And, no, it's never a slow day in the Mission.

The car was driving at a reckless and excessive speed when Officer Mark Walker and Officer Kevin Chang spotted it at noon in the Bayview. The officers pulled the driver over for further investigation. Turned out that he had outstanding warrants for his arrest for robbery, burglary, and possession of stolen property. They incidentally also discovered his driver's license was suspended.

And, as luck would have it, he'll probably spend more time at the DMV waiting in line for a replacement license then he will in prison.

Officer Michael Cunnie, Narcotics Division, was in possession of a search warrant for several homes owned by a major drug dealer in the Tenderloin. The warrant was the culmination of surveillance over several weeks conducted by Officer Cunnie of an individual who was currently on federal probation for selling large quantities of narcotics. Officer Cunnie enlisted the assistance of numerous other officers in order to coordinate the service of the warrant at the different locations. Once the main suspect was taken into custody the search of the other homes was conducted resulting in the seizure of over 3 pounds of methamphetamine, a pound of cocaine, a pound of heroin and more than \$10,000 U.S. currency.

When Sergeant Darren Nocetti was preparing the Captain's Commendation for Officer Cunnie, he knew Mike would settle for nothing less than including the entire team he worked with. That's the sign of a good cop and Sergeant Nocetti agreed.

Members participating in the incident: Officer Michael Montero, Officer Christina Hayes, Officer Michael Tursi, Officer Anthony Scafani, Officer Brenton Reeder, Officer Timothy Brophy, Officer Derek Schutz, Officer Eduard Ochoa, Officer David Johnson, Officer Blake Cunningham, Officer Denis O'Connor, Officer Christopher Leong, Officer Andre Taylor, Officer Christopher Costa, and Officer Stephen Orengo.

Stay safe.

New Law Bans California Cops from Using Facial Recognition Tech on Body Cameras

October 15, 2019

California police departments won't be allowed to use facial recognition software on body cameras for the next several years, under a law signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom on Tuesday.

The bill from Assemblyman Phil Ting, D-San Francisco, takes effect at the start of 2020 and expires after three years. Ting initially proposed a permanent ban on the technology.

It's unclear whether a single law enforcement group in California uses facial recognition software in body cameras, but Ting has said he wanted to address a potential problem "before it became a major issue."

"The public wanted their officers and deputies to use body cameras to provide accountability and transparency for the community. The addition of facial recognition technology essentially turns them into 24-hour surveillance tools, giving law enforcement the ability to track our every move. We cannot become a police state," Ting said in a statement after Newsom signed the bill.

The new law is welcome news for privacy advocates, including the American Civil Liberties Union — a group that also worries about minorities being misidentified if the technology is deployed.

"Rather than facilitating the expand-

sion of a discriminatory surveillance state, California must invest its precious resources to foster free, healthy communities where everyone can feel safe — regardless of what they look like, where they're from, how they worship, or where they live," said a statement from Matt Cagle, an attorney with the ACLU of Northern California.

A test of facial recognition software conducted by the ACLU this summer showed an Amazon program mistakenly identify 26 California lawmakers as criminals. A spokesman for Amazon criticized the study to news organizations at the time, accusing the organization of "knowingly misusing and misrepresenting" the recognition software.

Meanwhile, police groups fear Newsom's decision will prevent them identifying potential suspects or missing persons.

Ron Lawrence, chief of police for Citrus Heights and president of California Police Chiefs Association, told The Sacramento Bee last month that officers work hard to protect privacy and wouldn't use the technology to spy on the public.

Ting plans to consider extending the ban once the three-year moratorium expires.

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Technology Corner

By Susan Merritt
Chief Information Officer

A Faster, Better Technology Environment

Our SFPD Technology team has completed many technology infrastructure improvements this year. We have upgraded smart phones, Body Cameras, desktop operating systems, Report Writing Computers, District Station Video Cameras. We have also upgraded to Firstnet, enhanced network security, and completed upgrades to servers, firewalls, and printers.

One of the biggest such projects we completed is an upgrade to our Crime Data Warehouse (CDW) system. We moved our enterprise database to Oracle's flagship computer system, Exadata. We also implemented Oracle's Advanced Resolution and Monitoring service. This is a proactive service that monitors all our computers, network, software, etc., and takes action if anything starts to go wrong. In addition to a more robust and stable environment, these upgrades also resulted in an 80% improvement in response time in Crime Data Warehouse. Hopefully, you noticed that when you hit "Enter" in CDW, the screen comes back very, very quickly (from an average of 1 second to an average of .19 second.) This is extremely fast for a database of our size searching decades of data.

e-Citations Update

1. E-Citation data now searchable

- We can, for the first time in the history of the department, search citation data in CDW. Every piece of data on a citation is searchable and if you search for a phone number,



Susan Merritt

a name, etc., anyone who was cited with that information will return a result in Crime Data Warehouse. We consider this to be an important improvement and one that most agencies do not have. This is another good reason to please use e-Citations since paper citations provide us with no data.

2. **Offline e-Citation** -Based on your feedback, this year we are working on a new version of e-Citations. The new version will not require an officer to be connected. Officers requested this, so we are happy to do whatever it takes to make this system as easy to use as possible.

Business Intelligence (BI) Takes Off

We are pleased to announce that we have 300 active users of our BI Tools. The usage of our capability to create dashboards, automate reporting, and generally do all kinds of crime analysis seems to be taking off within the department. Our BI team is flooded with requests for this tool and training. We are now giving in depth department wide BI trainings at the Academy at least 2 times a year.

We're Not in a Staffing Crisis...SHHHHH!

By Rich Cibotti
Tenderloin Station

Do not worry...we are not in the midst of a staffing crisis. If we were, I'm sure the exalted members of the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor would be working tirelessly to help recruit new faces to join our ranks. They would not be dumping more on us in the press. I'm also sure our command staff would know of the issue and be addressing it head on.

Never mind, it's rumored that somewhere between 65-140 cops are actively applying for other departments. Of course we can afford to lose 5-10% of patrol, or even more when people retire.

Even ABC 7 News reported on the matter back in July in a piece entitled, "By the Numbers: How Many Police Officers Are There in San Francisco." In this piece, Liz Kreutz found there were 1,869 full duty SFPD officers assigned to the City. These officers police San Francisco's current population, reported by the U.S. Census, of 883,305 people. However, looking back to 2010 we had 1,920 full duty sworn officers for a population of 805,235, or 1 officer per 419 people.

Meaning that over the past 10 years while the City has been growing, our department has been contracting, unable to keep up with population growth. We now stand at 473 people per officer. But that figure, does not account for the large influx of workers during the week that swell the city population to well over 1,000,000, and do not forget our city's life blood, the tourists.

In 2015, our staffing fell to a decade's low of 1,659 full duty officers. With our current Academy classes turning out maybe 10-15 officers, we cannot even keep up with attrition and retirements, let alone grow our department to, what should be, its proper staffing.

Recruitment

Our contract was a hard-fought battle to get what we did. During negotiations the POA told the city, and called witnesses to attest to, the lack of viable candidates applying for the SFPD. The argument fell on deaf ears.

Now we are seeing the results of the city's frugality and lack of foresight. The most recent academy class began with 25 members. 15 new hires, 5 recruits, and 5 Sheriff's Department Recruits. It was budgeted for 55. That means 30 seats were left unfilled. The next class, scheduled for December 2019, has only 9 people selected for it so far. Heck, we cannot even attract people to come and take the written exam, let alone commit to the academy and continual harassment by DPA and the Public Defender's Office.

Mayor London Breed in the above article stated, "The police department is understaffed" and speaking about two big crimes at the time, said "Ultimately police presence is what's going to make

the difference." She also added that "...more academy classes are also needed." And while I could not agree more, she fails to recognize the raises offered by the city are no longer competitive in the Bay Area police market. The outrageous amount of "accountability" and the high administrative burden placed on officers, all drive away potential applicants. Our accountability has turned into the infamous "TPS Reports" from the movie, Office Space. No matter what we do, we end up having to hear about it from eight different bosses and were probably always wrong.

As Our Recruitment Woes Continue...

San Francisco is on course, or destined, to become the training station for the entire state. Join the SFPD, get modestly good benefits, pretty good pay, in a horrible work environment. Then after your two years are done, go to a place that pays better, with a lesser workload, fewer dangerous calls, and widespread community support. The suburbs will be snatching up SFPD trained cops with big city experience, and paying a fraction to train them. Meanwhile, San Francisco will be putting up the \$100,000+ cost per recruit, and letting these new, highly trained cops, slip away to other jurisdictions once they can lateral.

The flyer from Redwood City PD is posted at every station I have visited. In case you have somehow not seen it, \$178,714 is the yearly salary for a senior patrol officer. In addition to better pay, they offer free on-site uniform cleaning, a gym, a sleeping area, and better court compensation. I know smaller departments can offer much more in money and benefits than some larger departments, but the outrageous amount over our current deal, is what is shocking.

But even with the extra money and the better benefits, I think the one line on the poster that draws the most attention from all of us, is "Strong Community Support." The support for the police in Redwood City is so high, that they advertise it to help recruit or draw officers from other departments.

San Francisco has almost no visible community support. I still have a feeling the silent majority is on our side, but they are vastly overshadowed, by the exceedingly vocal groups, that control the conversation. It's difficult to draw candidates when we are dumped on consistently by elected city officials and the news media. Our accomplishments, and great uplifting stories, are frequently eclipsed by narrative driven pieces printed to discredit us.

Meanwhile, as staffing continues to decline, and our members go running for greener pastures, say hello to mandatory overtime. So maybe we end up with that extra money anyhow? Until then, we're not in a staffing crisis so...shh...don't tell anyone.

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FR-1483263.1-0416-0518

The Great Ed Epting and the SFPD Tactical Unit

By Paul Chignell, Former President and Current Legal Defense Administrator

Lieutenant Edward Epting joined the San Francisco Police Department in 1945 after serving in the United States Navy during World War II. He then served for thirty-six (36) years until his retirement in 1981 from the Mission Police Station.

If there ever was an icon in the San Francisco Police Department, it was assuredly Ed.

After his retirement he worked full time in security at the Cannery in San Francisco's Fisherman Wharf area for over twenty-five years and when he retired from that gig in 2006 he was eighty-six years old. Four years later Ed left this Earth.

Almost forty-five (45) years after Ed was instrumental in starting the SFPD Tactical Unit, young officers assigned to the current Tactical Unit know his name. Some of them speak with awe about the capabilities and foresight that Ed Epting personified in his long career as a police officer.

My personal journey in the SFPD took me to the Police Academy in the early 1970s on the fifth floor of the Hall of Justice on Bryant Street. Then Sgt. Ed Epting taught a course to the thirty-five (35)

recruits on how to handle a prisoner. To the uninitiated the term "prisoner" was completely unknown to anyone in the class who had not served in the military.

When Epting finished his class everyone knew that a prisoner was someone in custody who was arrested for a crime, that a prisoner had civil rights and should be treated with respect, but that the prisoner belonged to the officer and that the officer was responsible to secure the prisoner and that this relationship of officer/prisoner was at the heart of basic police work and criminality.

Ed Epting in his oratory to recruits about the fine art of policing the streets of San Francisco had the recruits, and even the Academy staff spellbound with his apt and articulate description of crime on the streets.

The 1960s were a decade of tumult on the streets of San Francisco and the 1970s were worse.

Fifteen (15) San Francisco police officers were murdered from the mid 1960s and into the 1970s. Some of those slaughtered were taken down by radical leftish maniacs.

Anti-Vietnam war demonstrators filled the streets, public employee strikes were commonplace, and civil unrest was

quite common.

Traditional means to identify, arrest, and control these street conflagrations were often unworkable.

Ed Epting and his colleagues conceived a "Tactical Squad" of chosen police officers to engage in crowd control that would mitigate and channel the massive civil unrest that often enveloped the streets of San Francisco.

Epting chose officers who had the stature and conducive to training persona that would become a well-oiled machine. Their ability to move rapidly from one formation to the next with military precision and uniformity was a sight to behold.

To see Epting march a platoon of Tac Squad officers to confront a civil unrest gang of individuals intent on violence and property damage was metamorphosis in action!

Leaders of illegal and unpermitted but large groups of demonstrators would flee in panic when the Tac Squad officers marched towards a conflagration.

Then Sgt. Ed Epting's tactics of viable escape routes, changes in formation to adapt to demonstrators' machinations and his mantra of constant training changed the city landscape in addressing civil unrest.

In his later years as a lieutenant in 1980 and 1981, he was revered by the officers under his tutelage.

But Ed Epting's brilliance in crowd control was personified by his colleagues and subordinates many of them still household names amongst old timers.

Many of those top notch Tac Squad officers are still alive, but many are not; nonetheless, I acknowledge them here:

- Lieutenant James Curran
- Sgt. Dan Howard
- Sgt. Ralph Schaumleffel
- Sgt. Burton Bishop
- Officer Lloyd Yeargain
- Officer Daniel Sheehan



Paul Chignell

- Officer Russ Ahlgrim
- Officer Lou Ligouri
- Officer Michael Lewis
- Officer Edward Dennis
- Officer Thomas Anderson
- Officer John Comisky
- Officer Jim Crowley
- Officer Ray Portue
- Officer Thomas Smith
- Officer Charles Tedrow
- Officer Bert Gutierrez
- Officer Edward O'Haire
- Officer John Sully
- Officer Greg Beatty
- Officer Michael Brady
- Officer Ray Musante
- Officer Ray Koenig
- Officer Bernard McKay
- Officer Joe Patterson
- Officer David Seyler
- Officer Donnie Hansen
- Officer Dick Yoell
- Officer Willis Kennedy
- Officer Donald Walden
- Officer Charles Logasa
- Officer Steven Runyan
- Officer Mel Fortenberry
- Officer James Allgo
- Officer Tom Dougherty
- Officer Elbert Boyd
- Officer James Smith



Edward Epting, March 1946



May 1968

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My 30+ years of experience as a First Responder has provided me the unique opportunity to work with a multitude of life and work issues. I believe, with support, we all have the ability to be resilient and overcome the most challenging of events.
Lic#112474

Member Commentary

Going onto DP Leave is a Process: I Followed These Basic Steps

By Cameron Coulter
Mission Station

We hope it doesn't happen. We see it happen to somebody else on our shift or at our station. We try to be as careful as possible. But then it happens. Injury. Hospital. X-rays. We can very quickly go from being a hard charger to a bench warmer.

I'm going to lay out some basic steps of the DP experience and how you can avoid common pitfalls. (DP stands for disability pay and is shorthand for being out due to an injury.)

You might trip coming down some stairs after a meeting (my first DP), or get banged up chasing and tackling a robbery suspect (my current DP). Either way, don't be a tough guy or gal and think that you can "walk it off". That messes everything up.

If you're hurt, immediately notify your supervisor. Get someone to take lots of photos of the scene, your body, and anything else that's relevant. Depending on the injury, you might need to get a 408 and go to the hospital for an exam and diagnosis. Be sure to get copies of all the hospital paperwork. If you're admitted for care, let your supervisor know and that's likely all you need to do at that time.

If you're discharged and are able to go back to the station, give copies of everything to your supervisor. They may want to take more pictures of you at the

station with bandages, crutches, etc.

Write a memo to your commanding officer explaining what happened, including case and CAD numbers. If you have an arm/hand injury, get a coworker to type it out while you dictate. Your supervisor will take the memo and add it to their packet of state, county and department forms. The packet might also include photos, hospital discharge paperwork, CAD printout and the incident report. Everything is spelled out in DB 19-141 and DGO 11.1(k)(2).

This big packet goes to Sgt. Scott Kiesel at the SFPD Medical Liaison office (scott.kiesel@sfgov.org, ph. 415-837-7220). Contact Sgt. Kiesel as soon as possible the next day to confirm that he's received the packet and that it's complete. If it's complete, you're done for the day. If it's not, make it your priority to fix whatever problem is in the packet because your case won't move forward until then. Sgt. Kiesel told me that his office (himself and one civilian employee) manages anywhere from 50-90 employees on DP at any time and DP can last from a couple days to a year of more. The most common problem he sees are forms not filled out correctly. That's why you call to check.

Sgt. Kiesel then forwards the packet to the Worker's Compensation Division at the city's Dept. of Human Resources (ph. 415-557-4800, 1 South Van Ness Ave., 4th Fl.). It may take a couple days

for your case to get assigned to a claims adjuster. Like in every other step of this process, if you don't hear anything by day four or five after your injury, give them a call.

You may also get a call from Maria Mariotto of Mariotto Resolutions Inc. (maria.m@mariottoresolutions.com, 415-932-6770). Since July 2019, the county contracts with her office to ensure proper delivery of services to injured police and fire members. This is a GREAT resource should be used early and often to make sure you're getting what you need when you need it. It's spelled out in more detail on the county's DHR website: SFDHR.org>Employees>Workers' Compensation>Carve Out. A big thanks is due to our SFPOA for getting this benefit in our current contract.

Important to know:

- For a DP less than 30 days, you'll stay under your normal chain of command so notify your supervisor directly of developments. Once you hit 30 days, you'll move to the Medical Liaison.
- While on DP, you can't work overtime (duh!), can't promote, and can't contribute to your Deferred Comp (457) account.
- Keep receipts for parking, Uber/Lyft/taxi when you go to appointments. You can get reimbursed.
- If you're on DP for six months or more, you'll have to do re-entry. That's a whole separate complex issue that I

won't go into in this article, but make sure to educate yourself on that before returning to full duty.

- When in doubt about medical issues in the initial hours, call the advice nurse at the CCSF Injury Reporting Hotline (855-850-2249) to get treatment options in your area.
- Anytime you see your doctor, they'll fill out a "Work Status Report" spelling out if you can work or not, and with what restrictions. Make sure this form gets to your supervisor or Sgt. Kiesel.
- In HRMS will show you with Sick Pay while you're out until you switch over to DP, which will then be applied retroactively from your injury date.

Other relevant info is included in the following:

- DGO 11.12 - Modified Duty
- DGO 3.08 - Court appearances

From the moment of injury, you have to take charge of your own case. Get services wherever you feel you need them. Ask for follow-appointments. Schedule radiology (X-Ray, CT or MRI scans). You can't return to work until you recover from your injury. You can't recover if you don't have a good treatment plan. You can't get a good treatment plan without an accurate diagnosis based on various exams under the supervision of the best doctor for your injury. If you put in the work in the first couple weeks of your injury, the rest will go a lot smoother.

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-San Francisco Police Officer

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* The POA has verified that this quote was made by an SFPD member.

News from the Credit Union

Q: With the high price of homes in the Bay Area, does the credit union offer any low down-payment home loan options to help make getting into a new home easier?

(The following response was provided by the Marketing Department at The Police Credit Union)

Yes, we are pleased to now offer members the opportunity to purchase a new home for as low as 3% down* for owner occupied homes, and as low as 10% down for second homes. Eligible loans are for fixed-rate, conforming/high balance purchase mortgages. For more information, call us at 800.222.1391 and ask to speak to a Mortgage Lending Officer.

*Private mortgage insurance (PMI) is required for LTVs greater than 80%. Members must meet CU guidelines for approval. Final approval required.

Promotions

You can now earn \$50 for referring an eligible colleague or family member who becomes a member! Referrals are unlimited, but some restrictions apply, so check our website at www.thepolicecu.org/referral for complete details.

Save \$500* on closing costs on a new mortgage loan! Did you know loan costs can range from \$1,500 to \$3,000? Take advantage of this offer to save money—good for purchase loans and outside refinances. Offer good through November 30, 2019.

*The \$500 off the loan costs of your first mortgage will be disclosed upon submission of your complete application for outside refinances and purchase transactions between now and 11/30/19.

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars for our next used auto sale with Enterprise Car Sales, **November 22–24**. Members who stop by any of the four Enterprise Car Sales locations and finance a vehicle with us will receive a **1.25% APR rate discount!*** As an additional ‘thank you’, all members who finance a car purchased at an Enterprise location during the sale will receive a \$50 gift-card. For a list of Enterprise car sale locations, sale hours, plus details on the rate discount, please go to www.thepolicecu.org/carsale.

Members are invited to attend a no-cost seminar to learn about Living Trusts

and estate planning on **November 23, 2019**. You will receive an overview of living trusts, wills, estate planning, Power of Attorney and Healthcare Directives, and our partner law firm can help you create a plan to address your priorities and family needs. A discount on services will be provided to members of The Police Credit Union. Space is limited, so please register to attend by November 21. For more information or to register, visit www.thepolicecu.org/seminar

Location

The Police Credit Union
1250 Grundy Lane, San Bruno, CA, 94066

Session 1: 9:30 am–11:00 am

Session 2: 11:30 am—1:00 pm

Give Us Your Feedback

If you have feedback about any matter at the Credit Union, please send a note by going to www.thepolicecu.org/contact-form. If you have a specific concern, the Credit Union encourages you to work with branch or Contact Center staff who can answer questions and either promptly resolve issues or escalate an issue to the appropriate department or individual for assistance. You can also post a message on the Credit Union's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ThePoliceCU/>.

Do you have something you'd like to see in this column?

You can contact me at AIC@thepolicecu.org or 415-307-9226.

Membership: Credit Union membership is open to all law enforcement, support personnel and their family members throughout the state of California, as well as designated First Responders within the 9 Bay Area counties. To see a full list of eligible membership criteria, visit www.thepolicecu.org. Growing the membership helps your Credit Union provide the best products and services.

Al Casciato is a retired SFPD Captain, past POA President and Current Retirement Board Commissioner who was elected to the Credit Union Board of Directors in February of 2014. He is currently a member of The Police Credit Union Board of Directors and can be contacted at AIC@thepolicecu.org. Suggestion: Cut this Column out and tape inside the pantry door as reference for the entire household.

reside



October 4, 2019

To: Active and Retired Members
From: Tony Montoya, President

Statement on Resignation of District Attorney George Gascón

As you probably are aware, yesterday our District Attorney, George Gascón, announced that he would be abandoning his responsibility as District Attorney early to explore a possible run for the District Attorney's job in Los Angeles County. I issued the following statement to the media and public yesterday in response to Mr. Gascón quitting:

"We are praying for the residents of Los Angeles hoping that George Gascón does not do to their city what he did to San Francisco during his tenure; double digit increases in crime, author of Proposition 47 that created our criminal justice revolving door, cars broken into by the thousands and neighborhoods ravaged by open air drug markets and crime. We are happy he will be leaving San Francisco but feel horrible that he is taking his record of failure to an even larger county where he can cause even more harm to public safety. Good riddance."

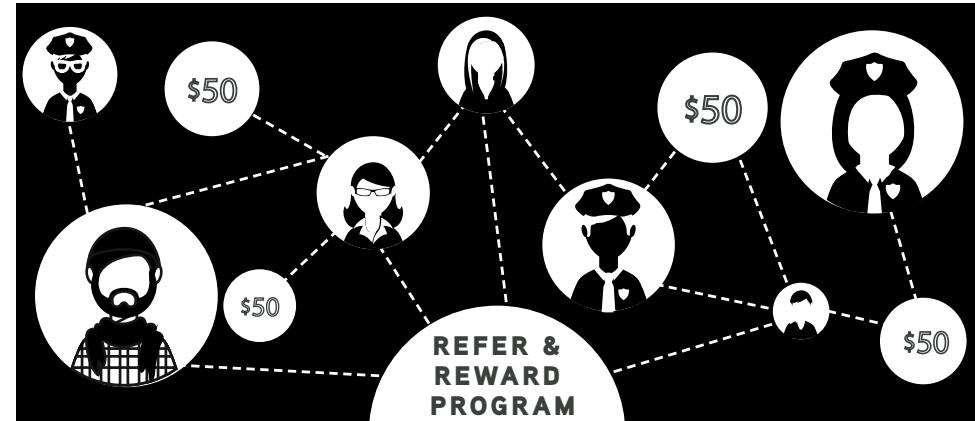
Tony Montoya
President

News Clips

ABC 7 Los Angeles (with response from Los Angeles Police Union Boardmember)

 **Steve R. Gordon**
[@SGORDONLAPPL](#)

Thanks for the warning SFPOA. Hey Gascon, stay away from LA.
There is no welcome mat waiting for you.
twitter.com/SanFranciscoPO...



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10/19

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*to reimburse appraisal by close of escrow

“ Ed and I have been helping police officers with their real estate and mortgage needs for over 12 years. We are known to be the industry experts who will take care of you whether you are a first time home buyer, seller or investor. The two of us help many clients build wealth in real estate and create a lifestyle that they aim for.

Ed and I would like to do the same for you. ”

Widows' and Orphans' Aid Association

P.O. Box 4247, San Rafael, CA 94913-4247 ◆ Telephone 415.681.3660 ◆ Established 1878

The Widows' and Orphans' Aid Association of the San Francisco Police Department held their monthly meeting for October of 2019. The meeting was held at the Traffic Bureau inside the Hall of Justice at 850 Bryant Street, room #150 in San Francisco, California. The meeting commenced at 1230 hours on Tuesday October 8, 2019.

Roll Call: President Ray Kane, Vice President Jim O'Meara, Secretary Mark McDonough, Treasurer Dean Taylor, Trustees Al Luenow, Rob Forneris, Lou Barberini, Ryan Walsh, and Leroy Lindo, and Administrative Assistant Sally Foster were present. President Kane opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Minutes: Trustee Al Luenow made a motion to accept the minutes from our September 2019 meeting. Trustee Leroy Lindo seconded the motion. The motion passed without objection.

Receiving Applications; Suspensions and Reinstatements: There were no new applications for membership, and no suspensions. Treasurer Taylor announced Bill Griffin for reinstatement after receiving Bill's dues and fines. Vice President Jim O'Meara made a motion to reinstate Bill Griffin. Trustee Rob Forneris seconded the motion. The motion passed without objection. Welcome back Bill Griffin!

Communications and Bills: Treasurer Dean Taylor read aloud our standard monthly bills (telephone, website, etc), our yearly audit bill of \$15,000 (significantly lower than the former Auditor bill), and one paid beneficiary for the passing of Jeffrey Brogan. Vice President Jim O'Meara made a motion to pay the monthly bills and the paid beneficiary claims. Rob Forneris seconded the motion. The motion passed without objection

Report of Visiting Committee: Trustee Ryan Walsh reported his attendance at the memorial service for fallen member David Vizcay. Ryan reported that the service was held at St. Ignatius Church in Antioch, California. Ryan stated that the service was very well attended with San Francisco Police Department Uniform Personnel and Various Command Staff Personnel including Chief William Scott, Assistant Chief Michael Redmond, Deputy Chiefs Greg McEachern, Gregory Yee and Commander Teresa Ewins.

Report of Trustees: The WOAA received the sad news of the following members who have recently passed:

Richard Janese, 68: Janese was born on January 18, 1951 in Nuremberg, Germany. He was a veteran of the United States Army, and a graduate of San Francisco State University, class of 1976. He was also a member of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. He is preceded in death by his mother Louise Martin Janese, sons Richard Joseph Janese and Daniel Karrigan Janese. Rich is survived by his wife Mary Ann Karrigan, his father LTC (retired) Richard P. Janese Sr., sisters Dawnelle (Robert) Maffei, and Daria (Theresa Johnson) Janese, and several nieces and nephews. Rich entered the San Francisco Police Department on September 28, 1981. Richard graduated from the Police Academy on January 24, 1982 wearing Star #1089. Rich worked the following assignments during his career: Mission Police Station (January 24, 1982), Southern Police Sta-

tion (May 2, 1982), Mission Police Station (November 3, 1982), Parking and Traffic DP (August 27, 1985), Muni Transit (September 9, 1985), Taraval Police Station (April 18, 1987), Records (November 18, 1989), Taraval Police Station (March 19, 1994). Richard Janese retired on with a service pension on January 28, 2005.

Richard was awarded a Bronze Medal of Valor for services rendered on December 10, 1982 at 0240 hours. Richard and Michael D. Becker were dispatched to a serious disturbance at 3050 24th street. The Officers observed a suspect fleeing the scene and gave chase. The Officers who ordered the suspect to stop, were able to reach him while in pursuit, and as they reached for him the suspect then swung a machete (with a 24" blade) at Officer Becker's neck. Becker ducked and struck the suspect with his knee knocking the suspect off balance. The suspect swung the machete again at the Officers who were able to take the suspect to the ground and disarm him. The Officers subsequently learned that the suspect was attempting to chop down the door to a Tavern and assault the owner. Rich was awarded with his second Bronze Medal of Valor for services rendered on January 25, 1985 at 1910 hours. Rich and his partner Michael D Becker responded to 1746 15th Street#140 on a call of a man creating a disturbance. The Officers arrived and spoke to a female while observing the male suspect to be seated in the front room. The disturbance was abated and the female did not wish to pursue the matter. The Officers and the male subject exited the building as another man ran up to the Officers and stated the male person who had just left threatened to "blow him away" as he brandished a gun. The Officers pursued the suspect and observed him to holding a gun in his right hand. The Officers notified Headquarters and repeatedly ordered the suspect to drop his revolver. The suspect refused and quickly turned pointed his firearm at Officer Becker and then at Officer Janese. The Officers drew their service weapons but were unable to fire due to a large crowd that had gathered. The Officers ordered the suspect to drop his firearm repeatedly until he finally complied. Janese and Becker took the suspect into custody and seized the firearm. Because they exhibited outstanding bravery in the face of a life threatening situation while choosing not to use deadly force, and accomplishing their objective without injuries to the parties involved, Janese and Becker were awarded the Bronze Medal of Valor.

Richard was awarded a Police Commission Commendation for services rendered on Tuesday May 30, 1989 at 1620 hours. Janese with Officers Juanita Stockwell, Brian Ogawa, Glenn Mori, and Inspector Pat White responded to 1910 48th Avenue on a call of Domestic Violence. Upon arrival the Victim displayed a fresh burn mark to his left shoulder and advised that his boyfriend had just thrown a pan of boiling water at him. The Victim's boyfriend had allegedly "gone crazy" and was attempting to burn down the residence. The Officers made their way through acrid smoke which was emanating from a pan of boiling substance held now by the suspect. The suspect cocked the pan to throw the substance at the Officers. The Officers drew their service weapons and ordered the suspect to drop the pan. The suspect responded by saying "go ahead and shoot, I want to die". The Officers

continued to talk the suspect in an effort to persuade him to drop the pan. The suspect finally complied and was placed under arrest. Rich was awarded his second Police Commission Commendation for services rendered on Monday April 10, 1989 at 1550 hours when he and Officer Tim Quan responded to a call of a suicidal male in possession of a weapon. The Officers arrived at 2212 21st Avenue and met the suspect's father. The suspect's father informed the Officers that his son was locked in the basement and was out of control on drugs and alcohol. The father, a neighbor, and the Officers attempted to talk to the suspect through a closed door. The suspect yelled "I have a gun, I'm coming out". Both Officers recognized the sound of a magazine catch on an automatic weapon. The Officers drew their service weapons and took a position of cover and called a "code 33". The suspect opened the door quickly and then shut it. After a tense armed standoff, the suspect exited the basement with hands held high and was taken into custody. The Officers seized a fully loaded .22 caliber Luger carbine and the nearby bed with a 30 round clip snapped into the firing position. A loaded .38 caliber handgun and two other firearms were also seized. Richard was awarded his third (and in the same year) Police Commission Commendation for services rendered on October 17, 1989. Rich and Officers Joseph Finigan, Juanita Stockwell, Hermann Chu, Wade Bailey, Andrew Rofles, Darcy Keller, and Tim Quan, and Lieutenant Ronny Rhodes responded to the Park Merced Towers area subsequent to the Loma Prieta Earthquake that struck earlier that day. Three of the buildings suffered severe damage and housed senior citizens, many who had sustained injuries. Lt. Rhodes set up a Command Post and the above Officers escorted and carried out several senior citizens to safety and treatment. Many of the injured persons were transported to the Emergency Evacuation Center that was set up at St. Ignatius College Prep. Rich Janese with Officers James Blanson, John Bourne, Toney Chaplin, Richard Dellagostino, James Jackson, John Lanfranchi, Tim Quan, Warren Yee, William Clinton, Robert Steger, and Sergeants Andrew Blackwell and James Speros were awarded a Police Commission Commendation for services rendered in February 1993. This group of Sergeants and Officers conducted team policing in the Oceanview area of Taraval District that resulted in the investigation and arrest of several Vietnamese suspects who were responsible for several armed crimes. Rich was awarded one more Police Commission Commendation for services rendered on June 27, 2000. Rich approached a suspicious and apparently vandalized vehicle in the Sunset Circle parking lot, adjacent to Lake Merced. A male and a female were standing next to the truck. Officer Janese conversed with the male. During the conversation the male became enraged and began yelling at Officer Janese. The man grabbed a knife and a cleaver from the truck and brandished them at Janese. Officer Janese, who was less than 10 feet away from the armed suspect, drew his service weapon and ordered the man to drop his weapons. The suspect responded by swinging his knife and cleaver at Janese numerous times and yelling "kill me, kill me, put one in me". Janese requested back up and continued to order the suspect to drop the weapons. The suspect moved toward Janese continuing

to swing the weapons and yelling for Janese to shoot him. Janese observed innocent bystanders nearby and did not use deadly force. After several orders to disarm, the suspect finally complied. Officer Ron Gehrke arrived and the suspect surrendered himself to the Officers.

David Vizcay, age 50: David V. Vizcay was born to Victorio and Patricia Vizcay on February 21, 1968. David entered the San Francisco Police Department on October 19, 2009 and was assigned to star #2394. David worked the following assignments during his career: Ingleside Police Station (May 1, 2010), Northern Police Station (February 5, 2011), Southern Police Station (November 10, 2012), D.O.C. (February 14, 2015), Southern Police Station (February 28, 2015), Tenderloin Police Station (December 19, 2015), C.S.I. (November 26, 2016), and finally to the Tenderloin Police Station (January 21, 2017). David retired on August 1, 2019 due to a terminal medical issue. David had a passion for woodwork and will be remembered for his many handcrafted designs. David is survived and dearly loved by his wife Liliana, sons Ian and Alex, mother Patricia, his brother Thomas (Alejandra), his sister Mary (Oscar), his nephew Gabriel, and nieces Amaia and Laura, and by his Tenderloin Police family. David was preceded in death by his father Victorio, and his sister Julie.

The WOAA sends our deepest condolences to the families of **James Kerrigan**, and **Will Scott**.

Report of Special Committee: No report this month.

Old Business: No report this month.

New Business: No report this month.

Good of the Order: No report this month.

Adjournment: President Kane led our Board in a moment of silence for all of our passed members. President Kane adjourned the meeting and scheduled our next meeting for Tuesday November 12, 2019. The meeting will be held at the Hall of Justice at 850 Bryant Street, room #150, in San Francisco, California. The meeting will commence at 1230 hours.

To All Members: Members can access our website at sfwidowsandorphans.org. To access a beneficiary form click on the Resources box on our face page and the link will appear. Please complete the form with all required information and obtain the signature of a Notary, or by one of our Board members. The SFPOA and the SFPUC (now the Police Credit Union) both have Notary service at no cost to the SFPD members. We give our monthly thank you and appreciation to those people who take time out of their life and/or career to assist our efforts in providing the finest customer service possible: Retired S.F.P.D. Captain and the long running SFPOA Defense Administrator Paul Chignell, Retired S.F.P.D. Lieutenant and the host of the Gold Country Reaper Website Rene LaPrevotte, Retired S.F.P.D. Sergeant and the long standing editor of the SFPOA Journal Ray Shine, Risa Tom of the Police Commission Office (by way of then ACTIVE and now RETIRED S.F.P.D. Sergeant Rachael Kilshaw), David Ng of Personnel, and finally to the entire S.F.P.D. Traffic Command and its' Officers who graciously afford us available space for our meetings and files.

Mark J. McDonough
WOAA Secretary

Condolences for El Dorado County Deputy

By Tony Montoya, President SFPOA

The San Francisco Police Officers Association extends its sympathy and condolences to the family, friends, and co-workers of slain El Dorado County Deputy Brian Ishmael. Deputy Ishmael was killed by gunfire just after midnight on Wednesday, October 23, 2019. He was 37 years of age, and had served four years with the sheriff's department following a two-year service with the Placerville Police Department. He leaves behind a wife and three children.

Deputy Ishmael was investigating a complaint near the rural town of Somerset along with a second deputy, an off-duty ride along from the San Joaquin S.O., when the gunfire erupted. The second deputy was also struck by gunfire, but is expected to recover. Two suspects have been arrested in connection to the shootings.

Donations can be made to Deputy Ishmael's family at this link: <https://cahpcu.org/DeputyBrianIshmaelMemorialFund>



Please Remember BALEAF During the Upcoming Combined Charities Drive

By Robin Matthews
BALEAF Vice President

Greetings one and all! I'd like to take this time to thank everyone who has supported the Bay Area Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (BALEAF) with your donations during in the 2018 City and County of San Francisco's Combined Charities Drive, and to encourage you to consider donating to BALEAF once again during this year's upcoming campaign.

BALEAF, as you may know, provides support to Bay Area law enforcement officers and their families, along with civilian members of those agencies, who have had members killed in the line of duty, who have suffered a serious injury, or who have suffered a catastrophic event.

BALEAF is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization that has been assisting Bay



Area law enforcement agencies since 1999. Annual Board member donations, and a few specifically earmarked annual donations, pay for all administrative costs of the organization. That means that 100% of your donations made to BALEAF go directly to assisting Bay Area law enforcement members and their families!

BALEAF has assisted San Francisco Police Department members at all stations and many of the units over the years, along with 58 other agencies. We hope that you never need us, but we're here if you ever do.

Thanks once again to everyone for your continued support of BALEAF! For those who don't participate in the Combined Charities Drive, but would like to support BALEAF, please send checks, made out to BALEAF, to P.O. Box 31764, San Francisco, CA 94131.

Taxes! Taxes! Taxes!

Tax law changes happen every year.

Are you sure you are getting the maximum benefit from your tax returns? **We can help!**

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Deaths

RICHARD JANESE
Age 68, Retired SFPD
Died October 2019
Notified by M. McDonough

DOROTHY SHUTLEFF
Age 73, Retired SFPD
Died September 23, 2019
Notified by C. Lucas

DENNIS V. O'CONNELL
Age 85, Retired SFPD
Died October 23, 2019
Notified by R. LaPrevotte

MICHAEL TOROPOVSKY
Age 62, Retired SFPD
Died October 28, 2019
Notified by R. LaPrevotte

WILLIAM H. SCOTT
Age 61, Retired SFPD
Died October 15, 2019
Notified by R. LaPrevotte

RICHARD WADER
Age 91, Retired SFPD
Died October 18, 2019
Notified by K. Webster (Daughter)

*Notifications are made by a POA member, family member, or other reliable source. The POA Journal believes the information to be true and correct, however the staff or employees of the SFPOA make no official confirmation.

Submitting Obituaries and Memorial Tributes

Any member may submit a separate memorial tribute to a deceased member. Any such piece will not appear in the matrix, but will be placed in the Mail section, or, with prior approval of the editor, as a sidebar piece. The Journal will also accept and publish in the Mail section short letters about a deceased member written by a person in the immediate family. However, the Journal will not reprint obituaries or photos that were published in any other print media, web site, or Internet blog.

In Memoriam...

The following San Francisco Police Officers were killed or died in the line of duty in the month of November of ...

- 1994: Officer James L. Guelff, shot by car-jacking suspect.
- 1989: Officer John Blessing, struck by vehicle while in foot pursuit of drug dealer.
- 1937: Officer Cornelius Brosnan, killed in vehicle collision.
- 1930: Officer Charles Rogerson, struck by vehicle while walking foot beat.
- 1928: Officer Frederick N. Spooncer, killed in vehicle collision.
- 1923: Officer Joseph G. Conroy, struck by vehicle while directing traffic.
- 1919: Detective Sergeant Antone Schoembs, shot while pursuing car theft suspect.
- 1915: Corporal Frederick H. Cook, shot by robbery suspect.
- 1911: Officer Thomas Finnelly, shot by murder fugitive.*
- 1911: Officer Charles F. Castor, shot by murder fugitive.*
- 1908: Chief of Police William J. Biggy, drowned after falling from Police Boat.
- 1906: Officer George P. O'Connell, shot by robbery suspect.

*The suspect was convicted of both officers' murder and hanged at San Quentin.

Learn more about San Francisco's Finest who died in the line of duty:

Visit the *Officer Down Memorial Page* at www.odmp.org/agency/3445-san-francisco-police-department-california

Read *Men of Courage*, by Captain Thomas G. Dempsey (retired)



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Retirements

The San Francisco Police Officers Association congratulates the following member on his recent retirement from the SFPD. This veteran will be difficult to replace, as he takes with him years of experience and job knowledge. The most recently retired member is:

- Sergeant Richard Ernst #1681 from Medical Liaison
- Officer Carlos Garate, Jr. #902 from Operations Center

All of the above listed on SFPD Personnel Order #21 (October 2, 2019) and #22 (October 16, 2019).

Retiring Soon? Read this information first

Retirement Check List

By Captain Al Casciato, Retired
Elected Retirement Board Commissioner

This year I have received an inordinate number of calls from members of all classifications (civilian and sworn) requesting advice on what pitfalls they should be aware of as they prepare to retire. The following is a synopsis of my response to those inquiries.

1. Schedule an appointment with the retirement staff for you and your spouse/significant other. During that appointment **make sure that your spouse/significant other is eligible for a pension continuation** should you predecease them. On several occasions it has been discovered that the spouse or significant other was never placed on file at the system. That is because members entering into the relationship registered at the Health Service System for medical coverage but failed to notify the Retirement System.

2. If you plan to move out of the area after retirement **I would strongly suggest that you rent out your home in the Bay Area and rent a home or apartment in the area you would like to move to.** Spend a year there so you can experience the **availability of medical services**, weather patterns, community and culture before you make a permanent move. I cannot count the number of calls I have received from those trying to move

- back to the Bay Area.
3. If you decide to rollover your deferred compensation monies to a new fund make sure you are very well informed. Once you are out of the system **you cannot redeposit**.
 4. Update **your beneficiary** at your Retirement interview. Most of us still have our parents, previous spouses and/or a friend we listed when we first entered City Service.
 5. At your retirement interview double check the salary numbers the system has on file for you by which your pension will be calculated. The departments forward the numbers to the system and **there have been many errors**. Examples such as not reporting longevity pay, hazard pay etc or having the wrong record of someone with the same name. I strongly suggest you bring a copy of your current payroll stub to review at your interview.
 6. If you are retiring on a disability or rating check with your worker's compensation attorney or Worker's Comp as to how retirement will affect your ongoing treatment. Especially if you have been promised "**Lifetime Medical**". This is an area of much consternation for many. Hope this helps. If you do have a further question don't hesitate to write me at crocecasciato@gmail.com

Altered Photo of Twin Falls Police Officer Circulating on Facebook

Police investigated the accused officer's computer and found out he was not browsing inappropriate content while on duty.

TWIN FALLS, Idaho — Two photographs were circulated on Facebook of a Twin Falls police officer surfing the web in a WinCo parking lot while on duty in his police car.

The original picture showed the officer viewing a video on YouTube.

In the second photograph the officer's computer screen's image was replaced with one that appears to show the officer viewing inappropriate content while in his car, according to the Twin Falls Police Department.

Both photographs were discovered by the police on Sept. 30, according to officials.

The officer in the photograph said he spent a couple of minutes looking on YouTube for a video to explain how to fix a key fob after receiving a call from his daughter asking for help because she was locked out of her car, according to authorities.

The police department performed an

investigation on the officer and searched his computer history, as well as the department's internal server records. The police confirmed the accused officer's explanation that he was viewing videos about repairing key fobs and not browsing inappropriate content.

There was no evidence found of the officer "attempting to access any inappropriate websites or images," according to the Twin Falls Police Department Facebook post.

The city of Twin Falls employee servers block access to many websites deemed inappropriate and all searches on employee devices are recorded.

"After reviewing the facts of this case, we do not find that the officer in question violated any of our policies. We, therefore, consider this matter resolved," the Twin Falls Police Department's Facebook post said.

From www.ktvb.com

From the Archive

Training SFPD in Handling Mental Health Issues Not New

Editor —

The more things change, the more they stay the same! I found this brochure that has a small section about the San Francisco Association for Mental Health giving classes to recruits at the Police Academy for more than 5 years.

John Ehrlich,
Retired SFPD

police training

"I am a member of the San Francisco Association for Mental Health, but I'm also a peace officer. How has the Association helped me?"

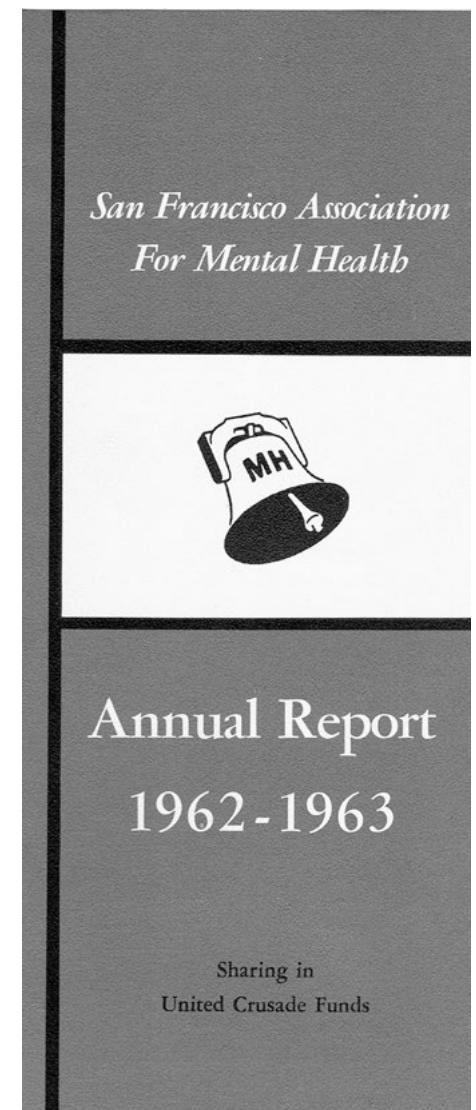
For the past five years the Association has helped to train each class of new policemen at the San Francisco Police Academy.

The education consists of lectures by psychiatrists, a training film, and four hours actually spent in the psychiatric section of San Francisco General Hospital. The police study methods of working with disturbed and abnormal people. And by talking individually with hospital patients the police gain personal knowledge that helps to ease their fears about people who are mentally ill.

San Francisco does not yet have adequate emergency psychiatric teams. Thus the Police must continue to help the mentally ill and disturbed. The training provided by the San Francisco Association for Mental Health permits the San Francisco Police Department to do a better job.

The course has earned considerable fame. Materials used in it have been distributed to every accredited police school in the State by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training. The San Francisco Police Department has been given an award from the Governor and the course has been honored by a resolution in the California Legislature.

This spring similar training was provided for Game Wardens from the California Department of Fish and Game. State officials, aware of the importance of the knowledge to be gained from the course, requested that it be provided for their men. It was enthusiastically received.



Who can name all four of these well-known — and maybe not-so-well-known — SFPD legends? This photo was snapped circa 1971 in the old SFPD Traffic Bureau. Names and photo credit will be published in the next issue. (Email responses to *SFPD Legends* at this email address: journal@sfpoa.org)

Police-Fire Post 456 News

By Greg Corrales
SFPD 1969-2014

On November 21 San Francisco Police-Fire Post 456 will be honoring seven heroes at our annual awards dinner. In this very difficult and challenging climate for the law enforcement community we believe that it is especially important to acknowledge the honorees and at the same time, support Police-Fire Post 456 by attending this important event. It will also give you the opportunity to see old friends. Details are in the flyer published in this edition of the Journal. We look forward to seeing you.

Pete Alonso, the New York Mets' rookie has donated the custom cleats and bat honoring first responders that he used in a game on the 18th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attack to the National September 11 Memorial & Museum. Alonso said "it means the world" that the memorial wanted the gear for its permanent collection. "Just being here in New York, I just wanted to show every bit of gratitude I could," Alonso said. "Not just for the first responders, but for the families as well who were directly impacted. You guys will not be forgotten."

A new special operations forces career-transition program in Florida is putting service members back in uniform



by turning former commandos into law enforcement officers. Run by the Pasco County Sheriff's Office, the program is part of the Law Enforcement Academy at Pasco-Hernando State College. Those completing the course become eligible to serve in law enforcement departments of any Florida county. The program was created to help special operations forces (SOF) troops, such as Green Berets, SEALs and Force Recon Marines transition into law enforcement.

The program exempts former SOF members from 60 hours of physical training and 44 hours of critical incidents training. "SOF members embody leadership skills that exceed the skills and abilities of the civilian population due to their unique training and years of extensive experience," said George McDonald, a retired Green Beret colonel and Pasco County Sheriff's Office Bureau Chief of Joint Operations. SOF veterans are less likely to crack under extreme pressure because they were trained to perform in austere environments under adverse conditions, he said. Prior SOF training enhances law enforcement's ability to appropriately react to crisis situations with poise and concerted effort to preserve the sanctity of life at all costs.

At 6:22 on Sunday morning Oct. 23,

1983, a 19-ton yellow Mercedes stake-bed truck entered a public parking lot at the heart of Beirut International Airport. The lot was adjacent to the headquarters of the U.S. 8th Marine Regiment's 1st Battalion, where some 350 American service members lay asleep in a four-story concrete aviation administration building. Marine sentries initially paid little attention to the Mercedes truck. Heavy vehicles were a common sight at the airport, and in fact the BLT was expecting one that day with a water delivery.

Suddenly, the vehicle veered left, plowed through the 5-foot-high wire barrier and rumbled between two guard posts. By then it was obvious the driver of the truck had hostile intentions, but there was no way to stop him. The Marines were operating under peacetime rules of engagement, and their weapons were not loaded. The truck then smashed through the entrance and came to a halt in the midst of the BLT barracks lobby. After an ominous pause of a second or two, the truck erupted in a massive explosion — so powerful that it lifted the building in the air, shearing off its steel-reinforced concrete support columns (each 15 feet in circumference) and collapsing the structure. Crushed to death within the resulting mountain of rubble were 241 U.S. military personnel — 220 Marines, 18 Navy sailors and three Army soldiers. More than 100 others were injured. It was worst single-day death toll for the Marines since the World War II Battle of Iwo Jima.

Across the Marine Corps, memorials and ceremonies were held to honor the 36th anniversary of the 1983 bombing

of the Marine Corps barracks in Beirut, Lebanon.

A black fighter pilot who fought for the French Foreign Legion during World War I was honored with a statue at Robins Air Force Base in Georgia. The bronze statue of Eugene Bullard was unveiled at the base in front of a crowd that included his descendants, U.S. troops and French officials, the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* reported. Bullard was from Georgia, but went to Europe in the early 20th century after his father was nearly lynched, the newspaper reported. He joined France's air service after fighting the Germans during World War I. The U.S. military was segregated at the time and would not accept him as a pilot because of his race. But Bullard in 1994 was posthumously commissioned second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force.

"To have the courage at age 19 to join the fabled French Foreign Legion and volunteer to fly at a time when aviation was far more dangerous and unproven, and frankly when pilots had an exceptionally short service life, this is nothing short of heroic," said Col. Brian Moore, commander of 78th Air Base Wing at Robins Air Force Base.

The San Francisco Police-Fire Post meets on the second Tuesday of every month. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 12, 2019. We meet at the Park Station community room. Meetings start at 1600 hours. All veterans with a law enforcement or firefighter background are welcome. Questions should be directed to Post Adjutant Greg Corrales at (415) 759-1076 or at gcl207@comcast.net.

SAN FRANCISCO POLICE-FIRE POST NO. 456 ANNUAL OFFICER AND FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARDS DINNER



HONORING



OFFICER KEVIN ENDO
OFFICER TESS CASEY
SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICERS OF THE YEAR FOR VALOR

OFFICER JOHN CATHEY
SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICER OF THE YEAR FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

BATTALION CHIEF FRANK CERCOS, IV
LIEUTENANT RONALD ROSSER
FIREFIGHTER JOSHUA EDELMAN
SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIREFIGHTERS OF THE YEAR FOR VALOR

FIREFIGHTER KIRK FORBES
SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

Thursday, November 21, 2019
Patio Español, 2850 Alemany Boulevard, San Francisco

Registration & No-Host Cocktails 6 PM / Dinner 7 PM
\$80 Per Person

Entrée Choices:

New York Steak, Breast of Chicken, or Vegetarian Pasta

Make checks payable to American Legion Post 456 and include entrée choice(s).
Mail checks to Greg Corrales, 2634-18th Avenue, SF 94116.
Any questions, email Greg at gcl207@comcast.net.



To All Police Officers
Who Have Generously
Contributed to
Ranchin' Vets
through the
Combined Charities
Program:

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your contributions to our Operation Hire A Vet Program. The support from each of you, and the POA has been overwhelming.

Through our relationship with the POA and the SFPD, we have witnessed the indescribable support that rallies together when one of their own is in need. It is truly a powerful bond! Through our experiences in working with transitioning veterans, we have realized that this same type of support is not always present. We have made it our goal to provide that foundation for our veterans as they transition from military to civilian life. Through your generous contributions to Ranchin' Vets in the Combined Charities Program, you are making it all possible, and for that, we are forever grateful.

In an effort to be accountable to those we serve and to our donors, we have adopted Seven Measures of Success. These measures help us serve the veterans in our program most effectively. As of 2018, we are proud to announce that 97% of the veterans we have served accomplished at least 5 of the 7 measures.

We encourage you to read more about our mission, those we serve, and our Measures of Success in more detail on our website: www.ranchinvets.org. If you would like to make a contribution to Ranchin' Vets through the Combined Charities Program in 2020, please be advised that our **Federal Tax ID number is 46-1168103**. We remain inspired by your service to the community, and your willingness to answer the call to give back and help us Serve Those Who Have Served Us.

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR VETERAN'S DAY BARBECUE:

Sunday, November 10th

VETERANS DAY BBQ AT STEMPLE CREEK RANCH

This will be our 7th Annual Veterans Day BBQ!

No better way to honor America's heroes.

There will be cold Lagunitas beer and delicious grass-fed burgers.

It's a perfect day for the whole family!

More details and ticket information can be found on our website:

ranchinvets.org

*The POA is generously helping coordinate tickets for our Veterans Day BBQ.
Please reserve your POA sponsored tickets through the POA Office"*

Contribute to the Journal; It's Your Paper.

Send us your stuff; unit news or events, good deeds, fundraisers, sports highlights, kudos, comments or invites.

The deadline for the December issue is Monday, November 25, 2019.

Contact journal@sfpoa.org or phone 415-861-5060 for more info.

Italian Heritage Parade — October 13, 2019



"Foothill Fuzz"

November 19, 2019 -- Retirement Luncheon

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Dear Retired SFPD Members,

The holidays are fast approaching and as your social calendars get booked up day by day, we were hoping that you would be able to join us for some holiday cheer in the tradition of "The Grim Reaper - AKA Rene LaPrevotte." (He may have moved to another State - but he still keeps in touch & cares about our Retirees!)

It would be great if you would give us a call or E-mail to give us an idea of the head count so we can determine whether or not we can reserve the private banquet room. We're looking forward to seeing you all soon! Safe journeys 'till then!

REDHAWK CASINO
Hwy. 50, 1 Red Hawk Pkwy, Placerville, CA 95667
Waterfall Buffet
Tuesday, November 19, 2019
No-Host Bar @ 11:30 AM – "Mahogany Bar" (2nd Floor)
Lunch @ 1:00 PM – "Waterfall Buffet" -- Cost: \$25.00 (Payable at Door -- Incl. Tax & Tip)
Please RSVP by Thursday, November 07, 2019:

- Jenny Forrester @ (415)828-3205, E-mail: jenny_forrester_sfpd@yahoo.com
- Joe Giacomini @ E-mail: joethejock612@sbcglobal.net
- Rene LaPrevotte @ Email: goldcountryreaper@comcast.net

CALIFORNIA COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION
&
INTERNATIONAL POLICE ASSOCIATION

CHRISTMAS DINNER

&

SPECIAL PRESENTATION HONORING

JAMES PERA

Retired SFPD Sergeant

Also recognizing Lorraine Lombardo (SFPD) and Christina Olivolo (Le Donne d'Italia) for special achievements and SFPD's Michael Favetti, Peter Busalacchi & Jerry DeFilippo for their years of service

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019

S.F. Italian Athletic Club, 1630 Stockton Street, San Francisco

No-host Bar 6:30 pm, Dinner 7:30 pm (Four Course Dinner with Wine, choice of Grilled Salmon, Chicken Piccata or Tri Tip)

\$70 per Person

Contact Sgt. Steve Smalley, Columbia Association Treasurer/Secretary, at columbiaca@yahoo.com to RSVP. Send checks (put selection of main course on check), payable to Columbia Association, to PO Box 330416, San Francisco, Ca 94133

RSVP by Tuesday, December 2. Parking is available at public garages on Vallejo, above and across the street from Company A

DPS Says the Policy is Meant to Tackle Health Conditions that are Prevalent in Law Enforcement Officers, but the Union Says the Measure is Discriminatory

AUSTIN — The Texas Department of Public Safety Officers Association filed a lawsuit Wednesday challenging a new addition to the agency's fitness assessments that requires officers to have their waistlines measured.

The lawsuit filed in Travis County court says the waistline requirement implemented last year — 40 inches for men and 35 inches for women — is discriminatory because troopers who do not meet the standards face termination, transfer or demotion, even if they pass all other required parts of the agency's physical fitness test. The officers could also lose out on overtime pay or the ability to work off-duty jobs if they do not meet the physical requirement.

A 6-2, 230-pound male trooper who has a 41-inch waist because of his "large build" could be removed from duty because of the "shortsighted directive," the group said in a news release.

"Not only is this policy demeaning, it is damaging to our troopers and to our citizens," Richard Jankovsky, the president of the officer's association said in a news release. "Not all physically fit troopers are of the same body type, the same height or the same genetic makeup."

In spring 2019, the lawsuit says, 594 of the 1,153 commissioned officers who took the fitness test did not meet the waistline requirements. The lawsuit says DPS has continued the fitness test this fall, placing hundreds of officers at risk of repercussions if they do not meet the requirements.

Katherine Cesinger, spokeswoman

for the Department of Public Safety, declined comment citing the department's policy of not commenting on pending litigation.

The lawsuit asks the court to block the policy's further implementation until its legality can be determined.

The officers association, which represents more than 3,400 members across Texas, alleges that the Department of Public Safety implemented the new measure without the help of an outside consultant as is required by state law. The lawsuit also says that the new waistline requirements violate state law because it bears no direct relation to whether an officer can perform their duties.

"The new standards have moved beyond testing for fitness needed to perform one's duty as an officer into an appearance policy that has little bearing on an officer's ability to keep Texans safe," Jankovsky said.

The lawsuit is the latest battle between DPS Director Steve McCraw and his rank-and-file over the department's physical fitness standards. Since 2010, the department has slowly increased its fitness standards with the goal of ensuring a physically fit and well-trained force that can respond to its law enforcement tasks.

Deputy Director Skylor Hearn said the agency enacted the waistline requirement to address health conditions like obesity and cardiovascular diseases, which were prevalent in law enforcement. The new policy would identify and support those at risk for those conditions and help the department "take

proactive steps to address this health and officer safety risk."

Officers are required to pass two physical fitness tests each fiscal year,

which the department says account for age and sex.

From www.dallasnews.com



"I KNOW I DON'T HAVE MUCH SAVED UP, BUT I REALLY NEED TO RETIRE BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH."



**Saturday, December 7, 2019, 8:00 a.m.
Aquatic Park, San Francisco**

Join us for a day of family fun at the iconic Brave the Bay challenge, where your bravery will help children with critical illnesses around the Greater Bay Area be brave!

Choose from three different athletic challenges or participate in all three.

**Walk for Wishes
9:00 a.m.**



Embark on an inspiring 5K Walk and Fun Run!

**Pull for Wishes
10:30 a.m.**



Test your strength in the legendary Cable Car Pull!

**Plunge for Wishes
11:00 a.m.**



Take a daring dip in the San Francisco Bay!

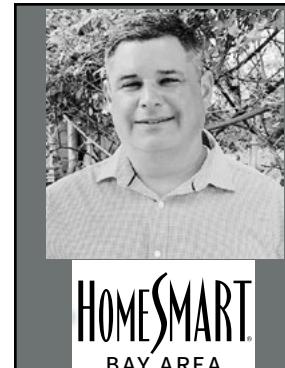
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benefiting:



For more information and to register, visit www.BraveTheBay.com. All proceeds benefit Make-A-Wish Greater Bay Area. Additional fundraising is encouraged.



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INGLESIDE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Ticket Price \$65.00

Sit Down Dinner Choice

Prime Rib w/ scalloped potatoes & vegetables

Salmon in champagne sauce w/ vegetables & rice

Chicken Breast in chasseur sauce w/ vegetables & rice

Vegetarian

Meals served with soup, salad, bread and butter. Ice Cream and coffee for dessert.

Tickets on sale until December 14th on a first come first serve basis
Pay via: Cash, or Check payable to Ingleside Floral Fund For purchases or questions contact

Krystle Guzman, Shawn Phillips, Tom Haucarriague, or Yesi Brandt

DJ for Dancing – Photo Booth – Full Bar!

December 21, 2019 6:00 pm - Midnight

Basque Cultural Center

599 Railroad Avenue SSF, 94880

How New COPA Law Will Affect San Francisco Multi-Unit Property Sales

By Keith Rockmael
POA Supporter

With San Francisco's housing crisis spiraling out of control, the City of San Francisco recently enacted a new ordinance significantly impacting owners of multi-unit buildings. More specifically, it will affect landlords of multi-unit buildings with 3 or more residential units (including TIC units) who wish to sell their property. This new law called the **Community Opportunity to Purchase Act "COPA"** gives qualified non-profit organizations the right to purchase the units.

San Francisco Supervisor Sandra Lee Fewer proposed this new legislation in December 2018 as a means of stabilizing communities by combating tenant displacement and preserving affordable housing. Supervisor Fewer's new legislation may be new to the Bay Area but not to other cities such as Washington DC, Boston, Chicago, and Seattle which have had similar ordinances for many years.

The impact of COPA will be significant. The specific guidelines give qualified nonprofit organization buyers 25 days to work with tenants and exercise their first right of first refusal offer and, if accepted by the seller, enter into a Purchase-Sale Agreement. Although sellers do not have to accept the non-profit offer, the non-profit would be granted a right of first refusal to match an existing offer.

If a non-profit succeeds in purchasing the building then deed restrictions would be placed on the building, re-

stricting the building to affordable housing "for the life of the building."

What will be the COPA impacts have on owners of multi-unit buildings here in San Francisco?

It may affect prices and values. Time will tell if certain buyers wish to enter the San Francisco market with these added restrictions. One issue for sellers looms in that they may not be able to work a 1031 exchange as efficiently.

The new COPA law will definitely slow down the selling process. Even if a non-profit decides not to purchase a building, the right of first refusal time will hamper any seller idea of a quick sale.

A final note — those building owners who willfully bypass the COPA option may find themselves in legal hot water. If an owner sells a multi-family residential building in violation of COPA, Qualified Nonprofits may bring legal action against the seller. Potential remedies include damages, attorneys' fees and, if the violation is knowing or willful, civil monetary penalties presumptively tied to the value of the property. These remedies are imposed *only* against the seller or a party that has willfully colluded with the seller to violate COPA.

Sellers seeking advice or having questions regarding COPA should engage a qualified San Francisco real estate attorney.

For real estate attorney referrals and further questions or information contact Keith Rockmael at Keith@Resourcerock.com

You are cordially invited to join us for a Retirement Party honoring



**Chief
Susan E.
Manheimer**

Celebrating her 35 year law enforcement career

Friday, December 6, 2019

5:30 pm No-host Bar • 6:30 pm Buffet Dinner

La Nueva School, 131 E. 28th Avenue, San Mateo

\$60 per person

Payable:

Online: <https://tinyurl.com/manheimer-party>

By mail: "SMPD Retirement". Send check to M. Nakamura, c/o SMPD, 200 Franklin Parkway, San Mateo CA 94403
City Credit Union: "SMPD Retirement" Account #8005

RSVP by November 22, 2019

Questions: mnakamura@cityofsanmateo.org

Dress: Business Casual

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BLESSING OF THE BADGE CEREMONY

All Law Enforcement Officers welcome to participate.
Bring your badges.
Light refreshments after service.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2019
11:00 AM SERVICE
PASTOR CW PARKER**

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1530 Foothill Boulevard, Oakland

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Mayor London Breed Signs Historic "Heart Trouble" Legislation

By Mike Hebel,
POA Welfare Officer

On October 7, 2019, Mayor London Breed, accompanied by SF supervisors Vallie Brown and Ahsha Safai, signed Ordinance No: 291-19 amending the SF Administrative Code to provide a comprehensive heart trouble and pneumonia presumption for SF firefighters and police officers seeking industrial disability retirements and death as a result of duty benefits.

Legislative Findings

The legislative findings accompanying this ordinance recognized, as stated, that "San Francisco firefighters and police officers are more susceptible to developing heart disease as well as suffering traumatic heart attacks due to the inherent nature of their job duties (including the very high physiological demands) as well as the myriad of chemical agents they are exposed to during the course of their work."

Recent scientific studies have demonstrated the association of heart disease with the occupations of police officers and firefighters showing an increased risk of cardiovascular disease due to their stressful and dangerous occupations.

California workers' compensation laws, which provide benefits to employees for job incurred injuries, include a heart trouble and pneumonia presumption for police officers and firefighters. Under those laws (California Labor Code sections 3212 and 3212.5) heart trouble and pneumonia are presumed industrial if either malady develops or manifests itself during a period in which the member is in the service of a fire or police department. This presumption is disputable and may be controverted by other evidence, but unless so controverted, the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board (WCAB) is bound to find in accordance with it. Additionally, the heart trouble for firefighters and police officers so developing or manifesting itself cannot be attributed to any disease existing prior to such development or manifestation – the anti-attribution clause. This presumption pertains to applications filed at the WCAB for disability pay (temporary and permanent) as well as for medical care. Since first enacted by the California legislature in 1939, it has been amended on several occasions making it easier for police officers and firefighters, who sustain heart trouble injuries, to obtain benefits.

In 1939 the SF Board of Supervisors enacted a heart trouble and pneumonia presumption for police officers and firefighters (Administrative Code, section 16.85). This presumption pertains to applications filed with the SF Retirement System for industrial disability retirement and death as a result of duty. This Administrative Code section did create a presumption that heart trouble which arises out of the course of a member's employment would be considered job incurred, unless there was evidence to the contrary – such as any disease existing prior to the development or manifestation of the heart trouble. Prior to the legislation just signed by Mayor Breed, it had never been amended.

The Problem: Contrary Findings at WCAB and Retirement System

The SF Administrative Code (section 16.85) sets a more difficult standard of proof for firefighters and police officers than is found in the Labor Code (sections



Supervisors Ahsha Safai (Dist. 11) and Vallie Brown (Dist. 5) with Mayor London Breed at SFFD station 21 (Baker & Grove) where the signing of the SF Administrative Code "heart trouble/pneumonia" legislation occurred. Along with these 3 city officials are members of the POA, Firefighters Union 798, SF Fire Chief, and ranking members of the SFPD. Supervisors Brown and Safai were the initial sponsors of the legislation and successfully obtained a unanimous vote at the Board of Supervisors.

3212 & 3212.5). The CCSF Retirement System's hearing officers may and often did attribute a prior disease to the heart trouble disability asserted by a firefighter or police officer leading to a denial of an industrial disability retirement or death as a result of duty application.

The Labor Code would provide disability benefits and medical care for a police officers and firefighters suffering from heart trouble injuries. Then if the same member became substantially incapacitated for the performance of his/her duty as a result of this same heart trouble injury, the Retirement System often sought a medical opinion which attributed the heart trouble to a prior disease leading to a denial of the application for industrial disability retirement or death as a result of duty.

The legislation signed by Mayor Breed now sets the same rebuttal and attribution standards, for heart trouble, in the SF Administrative Code as are currently found in the California Labor Code. There should no longer be denials of industrial disability retirements and death as a result of duty for heart trouble injuries which have met the test of compensability under the Labor Code.

This Administrative Code amendment now also creates an equal playing field for SF police officers and firefighters in the application of the heart trouble presumption in connection with retirement benefits. Firefighters and police officers whose retirement benefits are under CalPERS or a public pension under the County Employees Retirement Act of 1937 receive the benefit of the workers' compensation heart trouble presumption in connection with their retirement benefits, because the WCAB determination of industrial causation, based on the Labor Code, is determinative for the purposes of the retirement process. This ordinance will give SF firefighters and police officers the benefit of this workers' compensation presumption (now mirrored in the SF Administrative Code) in the retirement benefit process as is available to these other California firefighters and peace officers, as well as deputized members of the SF Sheriff's Department hired before January 7, 2012.

Thank you Board of Supervisors and Mayor Breed

The legislation was introduced at the Board by Supervisors Vallie Brown and

Ahsha Safai. It quickly found additional sponsors: Supervisors Stefani, Walton, Yee and Haney.

On September 5, 2019 the legislation was presented for public comment before the Board's Government Audit and Oversight Committee. Comment was provided by POA Welfare Officer Mike Hebel, president of SF Firefighters Union local 798 Shon Buford and the Union's immediate past president Tom O'Connor. By letter, Jay Huish, executive director of the SF Employees' Retirement System, presented cost estimates from the System's consulting actuary demonstrating that this Administrative Code change would have a small impact (\$350,000 to \$700,000) on the System's Trust Fund. This fiscal impact projected that an additional 5 to 8 industrial disability retirements/death as a result of duty would be granted. The Committee (Supervisors Gordon Mar, Vallie Brown, and Aaron Peskin) voted to recommend this legislation to the full Board of Supervisors.

At the Board's meeting of September 17, 2019 all 11 supervisors voted "aye"; the same vote occurred at its second reading on September 24. The legislation

was then forwarded to Mayor Breed for her signature.

On October 7, Mayor Breed, in a public ceremony at SFFD station 21, signed this historic legislation. At this ceremony Mayor Breed asked retired police officer Ferdinand "Dimo" Dimapason to explain how this legislation would affect him. "Dimo" spoke of his police service, his heart trouble injury, his workers' compensation award, and of his pending application for industrial disability retirement. Mayor Breed gave "Dimo" the pen she used to approve the legislation. It now takes effect on November 6, 2019.

Special Recognition and Thanks to Joe Moriarty

It was the persistence and perseverance of former Local 798 vice-president and retired SFFD battalion chief Joe Moriarty that was so important and critical to the passage of this legislation. I had worked with Joe for several years on this legislation — getting the language correct, finding the right sponsors (Supervisors Brown and Safai), and working with Supervisor Brown's legislative aide Derek Remski to successfully bring this legislation to the full Board and Mayor. Thanks Joe.



Mayor London Breed signs the SF Administrative Code "heart trouble/pneumonia" legislation on October 7, 2019 in front of SFFD Station 21. Along with the Mayor are Supervisors Vallie Brown (Dist.5) and Ahsha Safai (Dist. 11) who championed this legislation and successfully obtained a unanimous vote at the Board of Supervisors. Watching the Mayor sign this historic document are POA representatives Mike Hebel and Matt Lobre along with Firefighters Local 798 representatives Tom O'Connor and Shon Buford.

SF Dispatcher of the Month

London Breed
Mayor

Department of Emergency Management
1011 Turk Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
Division of Emergency Communications
Phone: (415) 558-3800 Fax: (415) 558-3843

Mary Ellen Carroll
Executive Director

Date: October 1, 2019
TO: Megan Boyle, Public Safety Dispatcher
FROM: Zoila Lechuga, Employee Recognition Coordinator
RE: Communications Dispatcher of the Month –October 2019

The Department of Emergency Management has selected you as **Communications Dispatcher of the Month** for **October 2019**.

During a shift in August 2019, at approximately 2200 hours, you received a call from San Francisco Suicide Prevention regarding a juvenile threatening to commit suicide by ingesting pills and drinking alcohol. The only information provided to you was a phone number and a first name.

Megan, although you had limited information, you used every resource to locate an address to which to send help. You used multiple CAD queries to no avail. You then attempted to get subscriber information, at which point you were advised it was a land line and an exigent request would be needed. However, further investigation showed that the land line was actually a VOIP line; this required even more digging. Through your persistent and dedicated approach, a viable address was obtained through the IP address associated with the VOIP line; this led to a call being sent to Dallas Fort Worth PD. Dallas Fort Worth PD called back later to advise the juvenile had actually planned on hanging herself but was found in time, unharmed.

Your actions are a representation of a true professional dispatcher. We are proud of you here at DEM. **Congratulations, Megan!**



You're invited to a holiday luxury shopping experience
at Macy's Union Square

Wednesday, December 4th

Hosted by Personal Stylist Regina Shapiro
IG: @styledbyreginashapiro

Find your unique fragrance combination
Get your holiday wishlist completed
Enjoy 15% off all beauty products
Enter to win surprises and more

Brand appearance:
Jo Malone London

Light bites and cocktails at the wine bar
3rd floor
5:00pm-8:00pm

Must RSVP
by Wednesday, November 30th:
Regina.shapiro@macy's.com
415-296-4607

POA Mail

Dear POA —

On behalf of the San Francisco Police Activities League, I would like to thank you for sponsoring our Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser. It is because of generous supporters like you that we can continue to strengthen and improve our community by providing athletic and educational programs to youth in need.

Sincerely,
Sergeant Laxman Dharmani,
Officer In Charge
San Francisco PAL

Dear SFPOA —

On behalf of the Crime Strategies and Community Engagement Divisions thank you for POA's sponsorship and support in our first Guns Down: Guns Violence Summit with a focus on the Bayview Community. The event hosted over 50 guests that included community service providers, officers, and City agencies. Without your help, the guests would not have had lunch on Tuesday. So again thank you.

Tiffany Sutton

Dear SF POA Attention: Holly Pera —

This letter is to acknowledge your generous donation to the San Francisco Foster Youth Fund, sponsoring our wine tasting fundraiser. Your support will enable us to help some of San Francisco's at-risk children.

Sincerely yours,
Eric G. Hoberg, Treasurer
Board of Directors
San Francisco Foster Youth Fund
(formerly Workers' Children's Fund)

Dear POA —

We wanted to thank you, and the rest of the membership, for your generous contribution to The Scotch Golf Tournament benefitting Save A Warrior.

Save a Warrior (SAW) is something incredibly near and dear to our hearts. Dollar for dollar it is benefiting first responders and veterans alike- actively saving their lives by helping them manage the post traumatic stress that oftentimes accompanies their careers. Having lost so many friends over the years to suicide, we knew we needed to become actively involved in changing the statistics- there are nearly 30 first responders and veterans taking their own lives **EVERY SINGLE DAY!**

When we found SAW, we knew we found something incredibly special. We are deeply grateful for the support, and we will continue to work to ensure it is always a resource and an option for anyone on the San Francisco police force. Should anyone be in need, they

can visit www.saveawarrior.org or they can speak directly with Steve to be put in contact with the right people.

With Gratitude
Jana Mannina

August 29, 2019

Chief William Scott
San Francisco Police Department 1245
3rd Street
San Francisco, CA 94158

Dear Chief Scott,

As a month has passed since the active shooter event at the Gilroy Garlic Festival we are finally starting to return to some sense of normalcy.

When the incident occurred and we called for help the response from law enforcement agencies in the region was nothing short of miraculous. After the initial event was brought under control we had the daunting task of investigating the crime and processing the scene. The FBI contributed over 100 crime scene investigators for over a week, (geographically the largest crime scene ever processed in FBI history), but our local law enforcement partners were needed to maintain the crime scene and help us handle our daily calls for service. This help came from 60 different law enforcement agencies.

I write to express my deepest appreciation for your agencies contribution to help Gilroy through this very difficult time. It is hard to put into words the pride and deep appreciation I feel for the

professionalism I witnessed throughout this event. We plan and train for events like this, but we never really expect they will happen to us. Well, it did happen to us and that training and professionalism was displayed in a very big way. We were all cast onto a national stage, and all of our staffs combined showed the nation how to do it right.

We are in the process of designing a challenge coin that will be distributed to every officer and department employee who helped us work through this event. I don't want to miss anyone that responded to the initial event, or supported us after the event. I would greatly appreciate your help in compiling an all-inclusive list of your staff that assisted us.

Please extend to your staff a heartfelt thank you from the Gilroy Police Department. We literally could not have handled this incident without their support.

Sincerely,
Scot Smithee, Chief of Police
Gilroy Police Department



Thank You, SFPD Members!

Thank you for your support of the SFPD/SFPOA Pink Patch Project. Every penny raised from your patches, pins, T-shirts and bracelets is going to support the services below. We are so grateful for this partnership and look forward to an ongoing relationship with the department.

Please visit our website to learn more about our organization and call us if you have any questions!

www.BayAreaCancer.org

PAL News & Updates

Greetings from the SFPAL team. Let's see what some of our programs have been up to this month.

On October 3rd and October 17th, the PAL Cadets held joint training with the SFPD Community Police Academy. It was a chance for our Cadets to interact with the Community Academy and to demonstrate to the public what our PAL Cadets do. Our Cadets started the month with a night of officer-involved shooting training with Sgt. Crudo, who hosted a fantastic night of informative training. The class was broken into different groups and it allowed our Cadets to see how fast things develop in Law Enforcement when officers respond to a situation. Sgt. Crudo's stories, along with his great videos made the class a huge success. Our Cadets already knew what a tough job Police Officers have, but this really brought it home for all of them. This is the second year we are offering this class and it's definitely a class favorite. The Cadets also enjoyed interacting with the Community Academy. It gave them a chance to hear the public's view on such a relevant and important topic. All in all, it was a great night and a big SFPAL Thank You to Sgt. Crudo for finding the time to train our Cadets.

On October 10th, our Cadets were treated to a tour of the Tactical building. The members of our Tactical team were gracious enough to host our group and to answer the many questions our Cadets had about their job. The Cadets were treated to a presentation and a hands-on demonstration of some of the equipment. This too was a huge hit last semester. Our new Cadets enjoyed seeing the different vehicles and tools that our Tactical team has at their disposal. One point was made very clear to our future crime fighters; it is very hard to make the Tactical team and police officers don't just graduate the Academy and become a member of their team- it takes years of training and experience. An officer has to complete a certain amount



of time doing other aspects of our job, before even qualifying to take the test. Our Cadets also learned that the officers had to pass a demanding physical fitness test before becoming a member of this unit. It was an eye-opening field trip for our Cadets. Now, they know that in order to be a part of this team someday, they have to push themselves past their comfort zone, which we know they are capable of. A big Thank you to all the members of the Tactical unit for allowing our Cadets to learn more about your job and for allowing them to visit.

Next month, we have updates for you from the Cadets narcotics training night and their night of PT/DT. We are hoping all their UPPER BODY REINFORCEMENTS will get them ready.

Also, our SFPAL Toy Drive is around the corner. This event has been supported by our Cadets in the past, and we are confident this class will carry on the excellent work of previous classes.

The SFPAL Jiu-Jitsu program continues to be a very hot ticket in this town. The program still has a very, very long waiting list and kids continue to have a blast every Monday and Wednesday night at the SF Police Academy. Like any great team, or organization, success has to start at the top. We are fortunate enough to have a very talented group of instructors who volunteer their time to support and mentor the youth in our community.

The SFPAL Football and Cheer regular season has concluded. The season was filled with challenges, fun, and newfound friendships. The 10U football team has conquered some of those challenges, by qualifying for the Pop Warner playoffs, which will take place later this



month. Officers and Coaches Warren Farinas, Ryan Jensen, and Michael Hill along with the valuable assistance of several volunteer coaches have contributed countless hours to the program and we could not be more grateful. Here is to finishing the postseason strong, Go SFPAL 49ers!

Our shining star this month is instructor Officer Dante Giovanelli. Dante is a firearms instructor for the San Francisco Police Department. He is also a husband and a father of three. As busy as he is, Dante still finds the time to help mentor our youth through our jiu-jitsu program. On October 19th, after ten years of training, Dante was promoted to the rank of Black Belt by Ralph Gracie.

What an achievement! Congrats and Thank You, Sensei Dante, for your



dedication to the youth of San Francisco and SFPAL.

That's all folks. Until next month,
Your SFPAL Team



Police Sergeant Facing Discipline Over Anti-Muslim Facebook Posts Launches Free-Speech Lawsuit

October 29, 2019

"To protect and to serve" has become the ubiquitous motto of law enforcement departments across America. But now a group of attorneys are questioning the boundaries of that creed — through a database exposing thousands of discriminatory and violent social media posts from police officers.

The database, called the Plain View Project, was launched by Philadelphia criminal defense attorney Emily Baker-White in June after she discovered violent and racist memes posted by an officer in one of her cases. Curious to see how widespread such rhetoric is among U.S. law enforcement, she enlisted the help of other attorneys and researchers to identify more than 3,500 personal Facebook accounts belonging to law enforcement officials.

The group scanned through posts to assess whether they could "undermine public trust and confidence in the police," and found more than 5,000 with the potential to do just that. The exposure of these posts — which included everything from memes discriminating against Muslims to blog posts promoting right-wing militias and police brutality — motivated police departments to take action and investigate officers within their own ranks.

But six months into the project, it's prompting something else — backlash from the officers whom the database has exposed. One of them, Phoenix Police Sgt. Juan Hernandez, says he is now suing his department for disciplining him, claiming his First Amendment rights are being violated.

Hernandez believes his department's social media policy is "unconstitutional"

Hernandez's story dates back to June, when 11 posts from his personal social media accounts were flagged by the Plain View Project. An over-30-year veteran of the department, Hernandez's posts touched on — or openly promoted — discrimination, including a link from a conservative blog that referred to immigrants as "illegal" and a meme that claimed the most common name for a convicted gang rapist in England is "Muhammad."

The Phoenix Police Department's Professional Standards Bureau found Hernandez's memes and links denigrating Muslims to be in violation of the department's social media policy, which states that officers are "free to express themselves as private citizens on social media sites" so long as their speech does not "impair working relationships," "undermine respect or public confidence in the Department" and more.

The department (which has not yet made a decision) says Hernandez could face a 40- to 240-hour suspension without pay, and demotion or termination, for his violation of the policy. But

Hernandez and his attorney, Steve Serbalik, disagree — and plan to fight back. In an interview with Yahoo Lifestyle, Serbalik says the department's social media policy is "unconstitutional" and has the potential to "punish officers for speaking out — even speaking out about public concern."

"A police officer, just like a teacher, or a firefighter, or you or me, can comment on issues that they see are being widely covered in the news," says Serbalik, who frequently represents Phoenix police officers and sits on the panel for the Arizona Conference of Police and Sheriffs (AZCOPS), a non-profit organization dedicated to advocating for police. "Police officers, just like other government employees, have the First Amendment right to be able to contribute to matters related to public concern."

Serbalik adds, "There's no allegation that Sgt. Hernandez has been biased or inappropriate in any of his on-duty activities. Sgt. Hernandez just reposted matters that he saw online that were in the news. They were basically topics of conversation at that point, and he wanted to talk about those issues with his friends and family."

Legal experts disagree, saying the government can "limit speech"

While the First Amendment prevents the U.S. government from depriving its citizens of free speech through suppression, punishment or censorship, legal experts tell Yahoo Lifestyle that employers can make hiring — and firing — decisions based on employee speech. Ken Paulson, the president of the First Amendment Center and dean of the College of Media and Entertainment at Middle Tennessee State University, says this is especially true for government employees.

"When you are an employee of a government institution, they can control many things about your free expression, if your expression is somehow a component of the job you do. So the courts have consistently upheld the right of government institutions to set standards of behavior and activities if those activities would undermine the ability to do the job well," Paulson tells Yahoo Lifestyle.

Paulson says it is part of a law enforcement officer's job not only to protect and serve everyone in the community, but to convey that in actions — and words. "If they engage in speech that makes police officers less trusted, the government has a right to limit that speech," says Paulson.

Paulson disagrees about the "privacy" of social media accounts, and says that while Hernandez could likely voice these opinions in the privacy of his home, there's "no reasonable expectation of privacy" online — meaning that social media posts can easily be found and shared. The department's policy even cautions personnel to "be mindful their speech becomes part of the worldwide

electronic domain" when using social media.

"Anyone that posts on a digital platform has to have the expectation in 2019 that those comments could be shared widely. Any employer in America can take steps to make sure their employees don't embarrass the business," says Paulson.

While Hernandez made no statements that explicitly encouraged or incited violence, executive director of the First Amendment Center Lata Nott says that the department would simply have to prove that their comments on social media undermined the department from doing their job effectively — and similar cases have typically sided with the government employer.

In July, a Louisiana police officer was fired for suggesting shots should be fired at Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.), a member of "the Squad" of progressive congresswomen of color who have become a frequent political target. Hernandez's job, she says, could be at risk, too. "[Previous cases] would indicate a certain bias that the police department doesn't want to be associated with. They can make the argument that this will make our job harder to police the community," Nott tells Yahoo Lifestyle.

Phoenix may become a battleground for police and censorship

The Plain View Project, which has spotlighted officers in eight cities thus far, hit the Phoenix Police Department particularly hard. The database implicated 97 former and current members of the Phoenix Police Department — which is no surprise, given that Phoenix is the largest city in America without independent police oversight.

For Phoenix Police Chief Jeri Williams, the discovery of the social media posts was hugely disappointing. In an interview with the Arizona Republic at the time, she called the posts "embarrassing" and "disturbing," adding that they "completely contradict how the Phoenix Police Department should speak about the members of our community or others."

Tommy Thompson, a spokesperson for the Phoenix PD, tells Yahoo Lifestyle that the Plain View Project "attracted wide-spread media attention, and rightfully, the public demanded answers."

Some of the officers included in the database are being investigated by the department's Professional Standards Bureau to evaluate any employee misconduct.

The Phoenix Police Department declined to comment on the pending litigation with Hernandez and the Disciplinary Review Board recommendations, besides describing the process and makeup of its board. As of now, the board has decided not to proceed any further with Hernandez' case until the judge in the lawsuit weighs in.

Can violent rhetoric lead to violence?

Hernandez's next court hearing, set to take place Nov. 19, could have major implications for the future — helping set a precedent for whether or not officers have free rein to post discriminatory things online.

For Serbalik, it's a no-brainer. He says police officers, just like civilians and suspects, are owed the right to free speech from the department. "We want a policy that respects officers' rights to contribute to matters of public concern, but also helps make sure that the department is being respectful of everyone's constitutional rights — not just suspects or civilians, but the officers that work there," says Serbalik.

On the other side, Plain View Project Baker-White argues that their statements and conversations aren't just upsetting, but potentially dangerous.

"There are a lot of posts that have eight comments underneath them, and three of those comments are by other police officers, and in those long comment threads, you often see a kind of piling on. If one guy makes a comment that's sort of violent, another guy will say, 'Oh, that's not enough, I would have hit him harder.' I would have shot him. I would have killed him,'" Baker-White told the New York Times.

While Baker-White acknowledges that "police officers have an incredibly hard job," she says she fears that the violent and discriminatory rhetoric online could influence how they act on the job. "It's not okay then to say, 'Let's go get these animals tonight,'" Baker-White said. "It creates a space where officers feel like this is what they should do or think, and I fear that leads more officers to do and think this stuff."

From www.yahoo.com

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Wednesday, November 13th, 2019

Cocktails at 5:30 pm

Dinner at 6:30 pm

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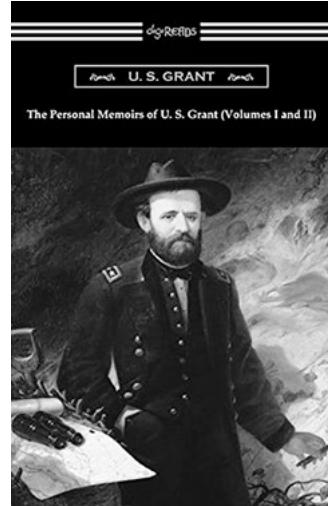
Book Review

Personal Memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant

By Ulysses S. Grant
Published by Mark Twain
Reviewed by Dennis Bianchi

Americans know Ulysses S. Grant best as the General who led the United States Union Army to victory over the Confederacy and, to whom Robert E. Lee surrendered. He also served as the 18th President of The United States from 1869 to 1877. During his years as President he led the efforts to remove secessionism and the vestiges of slavery, he formed the Department of Justice and pursued and prosecuted the original Ku Klux Klan.

I had suffered under the impression that historians had considered him an inferior President and an alcoholic. That opinion has been changed greatly, and not just my opinion but those of scholars as well. There is a huge biography of General Grant currently available in paperback (approximately 1,000 pages) written by Ron Chernow, a Pulitzer Prize winning author. My Kindle edition of his *Memoirs* is a mere 440 pages and, better yet, the words of General Grant himself, not the interpretation of an historian. Readers can make their own interpretations.



From his early childhood Grant had an affinity with horses. He discusses this with obvious pleasure. His ability to handle from the ground, from horseback or as a harnessed team was an asset admired by others his whole life. He attended West Point Academy at his father's insistence and the political influence of his father's friends. Upon graduation he had hoped to become a math teacher, or perhaps teach tacticians. Instead, he found himself engaged into

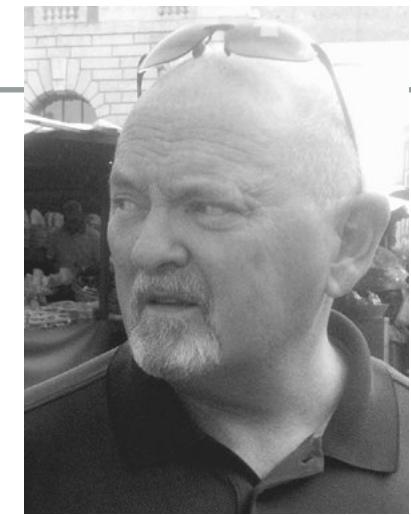
the American-Mexican war in 1846. He distinguished himself admirably but felt strongly that the war was morally unjust. "I was bitterly opposed to the measure ... and to this day, regard the war, which resulted, as one of the most unjust ever waged by a stronger against a weaker nation." Following the end of that war General Grant found himself assigned to diverse locations, including being sent to California to help deal with events surrounding the discovery of

gold. He arrived in San Francisco in August of 1849. He was then transferred to a barrack in the Oregon Territory. In 1854 he resigned from the army, moved to St. Louis where he was reunited with his wife and child. He spent the next seven

years struggling economically and not until 1860, when he accepted a position into his father's leather goods business, was he solvent and he able to pay off his old debts. In 1861, however, the Civil War erupted and Grant wanted to be re-commissioned. His early efforts to do so were not successful but he persevered and was eventually promoted to Colonel, in charge of a Volunteer Infantry Regiment from Illinois. He was shortly thereafter appointed Brigadier General.

Once the war was at full rage, Grant gives the reader in-depth insight of the war as he engaged it. He had an economical style of writing, which fits well with descriptions of battles and tactics. There are a few words that appear to reflect the era but there are no flowery or excessive passages. Without resorting to name-calling, he was critical of those who deserved it, as expressed in the section of the book when clearly disapproved of Major General Benjamin Prentiss but defended his actions at the Battle of Shiloh. General Grant exhibits a dry sense of humor from time to time.

There are important facets of his life that are missing from this memoir. He very minimally describes his time as President and there is no mention of his sometimes heavy consumption of alcohol. For that the reader should consult the biography mentioned above by Ron Chernow. After Grant's terms as President he became entangled with an unscrupulous entrepreneur and was



barely eking by, living on borrowed money. He met Samuel Clemens, alias Mark Twain. Twain was interested in having Grant submit his memoirs for publication. Grant had obviously kept a running account of his life. Following an accident with a horse, and suffering from throat cancer, he gathered up his papers and applied himself to the writing that we are fortunate to have today. The memoirs were a huge success upon their publication. Some people have made conjectures that Mark Twain rewrote much of this work, but Twain denied it, saying he had carefully read it and found it exactly as it should be. He stated his only regret was not pushing Grant to discuss his drinking. For that, again, read Mr. Chernow. But, Ulysses S. Grant has given us a memorable work. In his closing statement to his introduction he writes: "With these remarks I present these volumes to the public, asking no favor but hoping they will meet the approval of the reader."

First Responders Struggle with PTSD Caused by the Emergencies, Deaths, Tragedies They Face Every Day

October 28, 2019

Certain smells can put Ken Dillon in a dark hole. When Dillon, a Connecticut state trooper, smells pizza, for example, his mind rewinds to Dec. 14, 2012 — pizza Friday — at Sandy Hook Elementary School, where 26 people, including 20 first-graders, were shot dead by a young man who then took his own life.

"When everything happened, big trays of pizza were left out on the counter in the cafeteria," Dillon explained. "Over the next week while we processed the scene it began to rot and smell really bad, and it blended with the other unfortunate smells, like blood just down the hallway — the smell of evil. After that, anytime I'd smell pizza, it would take me back to that time."

During a 30-year career as a volunteer firefighter and emergency medical technician, paramedic and police officer, Dillon had seen "the worst of the worst — plane crashes, burned bodies, terrible car accidents," he said. "Sandy Hook was the straw that broke the camel's back."

Plagued by anger, disbelief, sadness and flashbacks, Dillon withdrew from everyone. He carried his gun all the time so that he would be prepared if there was another attack. His world started to unravel. He began drinking too much. He and his wife divorced. After being arrested for driving while intoxicated, Dillon realized he needed help. He was suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), a mental illness associated with anxiety, agitation, fear, nightmares and the feeling of another tragedy looming everywhere.

"We rush into burning fires or deal with the worst injuries — that's our job, it's what we're trained to do," Dillon said. "But we're also human, and sometimes

our brains can't compute the horrible things we see."

According to a 2015 national survey of over 4,000 police officers, paramedics, emergency medical technicians and firefighters, emergency workers are 10 times more likely to attempt suicide on average than another person — roughly 6 percent of those surveyed had tried to take their lives.

A growing number of states, including Colorado, Texas, Vermont, Louisiana, Minnesota and Connecticut, have recently passed legislation to provide workers' compensation for first responders suffering from PTSD.

While the bills offering benefits have been heralded as victories for responders, they have also been criticized for being too restrictive, denying benefits to some vulnerable medical service personnel. For example, a bill passed in Connecticut in May provides benefits to police, fire and parole officers, but it excludes coverage for EMTs, paramedics and dispatchers. Critics of the bill say it also failed to consider the cumulative effect of tragedies to which the first responders were exposed. As the bill stands, a mental health professional must conclude that PTSD is the direct result of a certain qualifying event. For example, viewing a deceased minor, experiencing the death of a person, or witnessing a traumatic injury that causes the loss of a body part or vital body function.

Psychologists define a traumatic event as a situation in which a person experiences or perceives a threat of death or injury for themselves or others, causing stress and feelings of fear, helplessness and hyper-vigilance.

Jill Barron, a Yale University psychiatrist, has worked with first responders

after both 9/11 and the Sandy Hook massacre. She said first responders work in a hero culture, where broken bones and scars are considered battle wounds, while mental injuries are a sign of weakness. "They're dealing with trauma after trauma after trauma while being told to suck it up, toughen up," she said. "The attitude is push it down and move on."

In a 2017 University of Phoenix survey of 2,000 first responders, nearly 40 percent said they would face negative repercussions at work for seeking mental health services.

Gerry Realin, a retired Florida police officer, said he has experienced such repercussions firsthand. Realin worked on the hazmat team that responded on June 12, 2016, to the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, where 49 people were fatally shot and 53 others were injured. After spending nearly five hours inside the club identifying, moving and body-bagging the bullet-riddled slain victims, Realin couldn't stop having nightmares and flashbacks. The sight of a white sheet, used at the scene to cover the corpses, still takes him back to the scene. "My wife doesn't buy white anymore," Realin said. "All our blankets are blue."

Realin retired on disability but is locked in a legal battle with the city of Orlando over health costs related to his treatment. (Orlando city public information officer Karyn Barber said the city "is committed to the health and well-being of our first responders" and that Realin "is receiving all benefits for which he is eligible.")

At the time of the Pulse shooting, Florida did not provide workers' compensation for such mental health injuries as PTSD without an accompanying physical injury, though it does now, spurred in part by the Marjory Stone-

man Douglas High School shooting in February 2018, in which 17 students and staff were killed.

Troy Anderson, a former Connecticut state police sergeant who responded to the Sandy Hook shooting and subsequently led the effort to create Connecticut's State Troopers Offering Peer Support (STOPs) program providing officers with confidential peer counseling services, said new laws in Florida, Connecticut and elsewhere that provide benefits to first responders suffering from PTSD will help a lot of people.

However, he said he thinks there needs to be a cultural shift to provide emergency workers support long before they're exposed to traumas that can cause PTSD. "At the [police] academy, you spend forever learning how to make your bed and do a hundred pushups, but there needs to be training for how to take care of your mental health, because tragedy is going to happen," he said. "If you are educated ahead of time, you're going to say, I know what this is — it's post traumatic stress — and I know what to do, and I know it's okay to get help."

Dillon credits his recovery from PTSD to self-awareness, professional help from doctors, and support from his peers and his agency. "You can't delete PTSD, you're never completely cured, but you can learn to combat the symptoms and the triggers in a healthy way," he said. "The old me would have a beer. Now I talk it out with somebody, or go for a hike."

It's important for first responders to remember that it's normal to have a mental response to tragedies, he said. "We're all human. We all have emotions. And we can smash the stigma so people aren't afraid to talk about it."

From www.washingtonpost.com

From www.city-journal.org

San Francisco, Hostage to the Homeless

Failure to enforce basic standards of public behavior has made one of America's great cities increasingly unlivable.

By Heather MacDonald
Published in the Autumn 2019 issue of *City Journal*
Forwarded to the *POA Journal*
by Tony Montoya

Everyone's on drugs here . . . and stealing," an ex-felon named Shaku explains as he rips open a blue Popsicle wrapper with his teeth. Shaku is standing in an encampment of tents, trash, and bicycles, across from San Francisco's Glide Memorial Church. Another encampment-dweller lights a green crack pipe and passes it around. A few paces down the street, a gaunt man swipes a credit card through a series of parking meters to see if it has been reported stolen yet.

For the last three decades, San Francisco has conducted a real-life experiment in what happens when a society stops enforcing bourgeois norms of behavior. The city has done so in the name of compassion toward the homeless. The results have been the opposite: street squalor and misery have increased, even as government expenditures have ballooned. Yet the principles that have guided the city's homelessness policy remain inviolate: homelessness is a housing problem; it is involuntary; and its persistence is the result of inadequate public spending. These propositions are readily disproved by talking to people living on the streets.

Shaku's assessment of drug use among the homeless is widely shared. Asked if she does drugs, a formerly homeless woman, just placed in a city-subsidized single-room-occupancy (SRO) hotel, responds incredulously: "Is that a trick question?" A 33-year-old woman from Alabama, who now lives in a tent in an industrial area outside downtown, says: "Everyone out here has done something—drugs, you name it." On Sutter Avenue, a wizened 50-year-old named Jeff slumps over his coffee cup at 7:30 AM, one hand holding a sweet roll, the other playing with his beard. A half-eaten muffin sits next to him on a filthy blanket. "I use drugs, alcohol, all of it," he tells me, his eyes closed, as a pair of smiling German tourists deposit a peach on his blanket. Last night it was speed, he says, which has left him just a "little bit high" this morning. "The whole Tenderloin is for drugs," Jeff observes, before nodding off again.

An inadequate supply of affordable housing is not the first thing that comes to mind when conversing with San Francisco's street denizens. Their behavioral problems—above all, addiction and mental illness—are too obvious. Forty-two percent of respondents in the city's 2019 street poll of the homeless reported chronic drug or alcohol use; the actual percentage is likely higher.

The city relentlessly sends the message that drug use is not only acceptable but fully expected. Users dig for veins in plain view on the sidewalk; health authorities distribute more than 4.5 million syringes a year, along with Vitamin C to dissolve heroin and crack, alcohol swabs, and instructions on how to best tie one's arm for a "hit." Needle disposal boxes have been erected outside the city's public toilets, signaling to children that drug use is a normal part of adult life. Only 60 percent of the city's free needles get returned; many of the rest litter the sidewalks and streets or are flushed down toilets.

to draw blood into the syringe, marking a vein. I asked him to verify that I was indeed sold fentanyl. Was I a cop? he asked, accepting my response at face value. He would have to taste my purchase to confirm its authenticity, he said, honorably breaking off just a few grains rather than popping the whole pill in his mouth. (His forbearance was wise: at two grams, the pellet could have been lethal if ingested all at once, depending on its purity.) "Can I ask you how much you paid?" the addict asked groggily. "Motherfucker!" he burst out when told. "You'd ordinarily get much less than that for 20 fucking dollars. It's because you're

serve: "We don't have so many problems in Greece."

Mental illness is not always so overt. A man in a Stanford University sweatshirt is lying on a grimy apricot-colored blanket on Van Ness Avenue, eyes closed, mechanically putting pieces of muffin into his mouth. Realizing that he is being observed, he sits up, centers his sunglasses on his head, and reaches for a pack of Pall Malls. Timothy, 47, says he served time in a Texas hospital for the criminally insane, following a domestic violence incident. He has been banned for life from banking with Wells Fargo after getting into a "disagreement" with a teller; Bank of America is also off limits, after he got into a "disagreement" with a manager who insulted him in Hebrew, he says. He is barred from a local shelter for getting into yet another "disagreement," this one with someone who stole his diver's watch. He is on probation for attacking a health worker in the San Francisco Veterans Administration hospital. He was recently in jail for brandishing a loaded BB gun in a Red Lobster restaurant. At present, however, he is affable and well-spoken. Asked why he doesn't move to a cheaper housing market, where his \$1,100 monthly VA benefits and eligibility for a large VA home loan would go far, he responds: "Because I love this place! San Francisco is an international, tolerant, peace-loving community that is often imitated but never duplicated." He appreciates the leeway given him for his lifestyle. "If I lay down like this in Fremont?" he asks rhetorically, referring to a city across the East Bay. It is questionable whether Timothy's presence on the streets is conducive to public safety.

When the mentally ill abuse drugs, their risk of violence increases. But assault seems to have been normalized in San Francisco, at least when committed by the homeless. Wallace Lee is part of a neighborhood coalition trying to stop the placement of a shelter on the Embarcadero, the city's tourist-friendly waterfront. "Anyone who has lived in San Francisco for five years has either been attacked by a homeless person or has a friend who has been attacked," he says. Members of his protest group have stopped mentioning such assaults in public hearings, however, since doing so brings on accusations that they are "criminalizing homelessness."

In October 2015, three gutter punks—youth who roam up and down the West Coast colonizing the sidewalks and panhandling—robbed and shot to death a 23-year-old Canadian woman in Golden Gate Park and killed a 67-year-old man a few days later after stealing his car. They were high on meth. The incident appears to have produced no perturbations in San Francisco's thinking or policy. In August 2019, a 25-year-old homeless addict viciously attacked a woman entering her Embarcadero apartment, after demanding that she let him inside so that he could kill the "robot"—a female concierge—at the reception desk. The presiding judge initially refused repeated requests to hold the suspect in pretrial detention. The San Francisco supervisors may be unwilling to back policies that would help prevent such

The brazenness of the narcotics scene has worsened since the passage of Proposition 47, another milestone in the ongoing effort to decriminalize attacks on civilized order.

Drug sellers are as shameless as drug users. Hondurans have dominated the drug trade in the Tenderloin and around Civic Center Plaza and Union Square since the 1990s. They congregate up to a dozen a corner, openly counting and recounting large wads of cash, completing transactions with no attempt at concealment. Most of the dealers are illegal aliens. One might think that city leaders would be only too happy to hand them off to federal immigration authorities, but the political imperative to safeguard illegal aliens against deportation takes precedence over public order. Local law enforcement greets any announced federal crackdown on criminal aliens with alarm.

Curious to test the Hondurans' threshold of suspicion, I made repeated inquiries along Hyde Street about the going rate for a dose of fentanyl, the city's up-and-coming drug of choice. To get a quote, I would have to show the money, I was told. I offered \$8, not wanting to overpay, and was directed down the block. At the corner of Hyde and Golden Gate, steps away from the UC Hastings law school, I struck a deal at \$16. The seller took the cash halfway up the block and exchanged it with a skinny, bare-chested man covered with tattoos, who handed him a small Ziploc bag containing a crumbly white pellet. "Hey, baby, remember me!" my seller crooned as he handed me the packet.

Further down Hyde, a 36-year-old man in a plaid shirt, with sandy hair and blue eyes, sat on the sidewalk slouched against a car as he searched unsuccessfully for a vein in his right wrist. Switching to his left hand, he managed

new." The junkie, originally from Seattle, begged for my stash so he could sell it to his own customers or take it himself. "If I was sober, I wouldn't want you to give it to me," he said, "but my problem now is that I only have five fucking dollars and I want to go to Big 5 [a sporting-goods store] because someone stole my backpack."

The brazenness of the narcotics scene has worsened since the passage of Proposition 47, another milestone in the ongoing effort to decriminalize attacks on civilized order. The 2014 state ballot initiative downgraded a host of drug and property crimes from felonies to misdemeanors. (See "The Decriminalization Delusion," Autumn 2015.) Local prosecutors and judges, already disinclined to penalize the drug trade so as to avoid contributing to "mass incarceration," are even less willing to initiate a case or see it through when it is presented as a misdemeanor rather than a felony. San Francisco officers complain that drug dealers are getting neither jail time nor probation. Drug courts have closed in some California cities, reports the *Washington Post*, because police have lost the threat of prison time to induce addicted sellers like the Seattle man into treatment. The number of clients in San Francisco drug court dropped from 296 in 2014 to 185 in 2018, a decline of over 37 percent.

Mental illness is the other obvious condition afflicting the homeless that makes the question of affordable housing secondary. Thirty-nine percent of the homeless polled in the 2019 street survey said that they suffered from psychiatric conditions; the actual percentage is probably higher. Outside the Red Coach Motor Hotel on Eddy Street, a small, dusty man in a white T-shirt is waving his arms in the middle of the street, his pants hanging down, smartphone in hand. He yells at passersby: "I'm too fucking polite, fuck you, you take my kindness for weakness. I don't know why you're laughing at me. I don't feel that way about women, but I'm the bitch!" After lunging toward me, he wheels around and continues up Polk Street, screaming and gesticulating. Two male tourists from Greece, who landed in San Francisco just hours before, ob-

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violence, but they have found time to ban city agencies from stigmatizing the perpetrators of such violence by using words like "felon" or "offender." Under language guidelines passed in August 2019, criminals and ex-cons will henceforth be known as "justice-involved" persons or "returning residents."

The elderly poor, in particular, suffer from the city's surrender to street lawlessness. Crescent Manor is a beautifully restored Beaux-Arts SRO for seniors and the mentally disabled; murals of bathing beauties, flying ducks, and fish grace its lobby. The residence lies across from the headquarters of the Coalition on Homelessness, San Francisco's most fearsome advocacy group. Say this for the Coalition: it lives by its principles. Outside its red door is a rancid encampment of umbrellas, lawn chairs, tarps, and backpacks. An obese woman sits on an overturned bucket, her bare buttocks hanging over the side; other women lean against the building's wall, nodding off; a man walks by with his pants falling off. Someone spits on the sidewalk. The Crescent Manor day clerk gestures toward the throng. "See these dudes out here shooting up without a care in world? Our elderly are scared to go out. They don't know what kind of drugs these people are on. They don't like people leaning up against our building. Our seniors pay rent. It doesn't matter how much they pay—they pay rent." But elderly tenants apparently have less clout than street vagrants in San Francisco. (In August 2019, the Coalition announced that it had lost its lease and would be moving a few blocks down Turk Street, where it will undoubtedly attract another encampment.)

The city enables the entire homeless lifestyle, not just drug use. Free food is everywhere. Outreach workers roam the city, handing out beef jerky, crackers, and other snacks. At the encampment across from Glide Memorial Church, a wiry man in a blue denim jacket announces that day's lunch selection at the church's feeding line, to general approbation: fried chicken. He triumphantly brandishes a half-eaten leg before tossing it into the street. Susan, a 57-year-old Canadian who lives in an encampment on Willow Alley, itemizes the available bounty while rolling a cigarette: free dinners and movies; the microwave ovens at Whole Foods; free water at Starbucks. The homeless position themselves outside coffee shops in the morning for handouts of pastries and java. If those handouts don't materialize, there's always theft. A barista at the Bush and Van Ness Starbucks says that someone steals food and coffee at least every other day. "We are not allowed to do anything about it," she says. "The policy is we can't chase them."

The city's biannual homeless survey claims that "food insecurity" is a pressing problem, but the homeless don't act like food-deprived people. Uneaten comestibles litter the sidewalks and gutters. A typical deposit of detritus outside an office building on Turk and Market includes an unopened one-pound bag of California walnuts, a box of uneaten pastries, an empty brandy bottle, a huge black lace bra, a dirty yellow teddy bear, one high-heeled red suede boot, and a brown suede jacket. A dapper man named Ralph has appointed himself the unofficial cleaner of the block where Glide Memorial Church sits. He has never seen anyone throw something in the trash, rather than toss it on the ground. "They're not interested in doing anything for themselves," he says.

The homeless are also wired. Most vagrants have smartphones, which they use to barter goods. They use free Wi-Fi or steal passcodes. In the entrance to San Francisco's central library on Civic Center Plaza, a bent man with a bike repeatedly tries to plug his phone into an outlet while muttering incoherently. A sign announces that the outlet is not working. Two patrol guards politely try to direct him inside the library, but he wanders off, still muttering. "I offered to have him use an outlet inside; his time could have been better spent finding one that works," one of the guards sighs.

The combination of maximal tolerance for antisocial behavior, on the one hand, and free services and food, on the other, acts as a magnet. "San Francisco is the place to go if you live on the streets," observes Jeff, the 50-year-old wino and drug addict. "There are more resources—showers, yeah, and housing." A 31-year-old named Rose arrived in San Francisco from Martinez, northeast of the city, four years ago, trailing a long criminal record. She came for the benefits, including Vivitrol to dull the effect of opiates, she says woozily, standing outside a huge green tent and pink bike at Golden Gate and Hyde, surrounded by the Hondurans.

Suggesting that some of the homeless are making a choice is heresy in official circles. Longtime San Francisco pol Bevan Dufty, formerly director of the Mayor's Office of Housing Opportunities, Partnerships and Engagement, now president of the BART board of directors, says that it is "B.S." to call people service-resistant. "The lies that people tell are disgusting—'people don't want services,' 'they come here to be homeless.' These lies are to make you blame the victim."

Actually, it's the homeless themselves who suggest that their condition has a large voluntary component. Jeff has been offered housing by numerous outreach workers and could come off the streets if he wanted to, he says. A man standing outside the city's latest shelter prototype, known as a Navigation Center, says that he was offered housing four times but always turned it down. "I don't know if I didn't want to give up drugs, but I could've went in way before now." Vanessa, a heavily mascaraed trans woman, came from Denver a year ago at the invitation of a friend because "everyone comes here," she says. Though she has been attacked and her tents burned, she still lives at the Willow Alley encampment rather than accepting housing. Her fellow camper Susan explains: "Teams come to talk to us, but they can only do so much." Susan has been taken to a Navigation Center, but it felt like a jail, she says: "I'm claustrophobic." In fact, the Navigation Centers are designed to be maximally accommodating. Residents can come and go as they please, order meals at any time of the day, and bring their pets, partners, and possessions (known in shelter parlance as the Three Ps).

A bike patrol officer in Union Square confirms the challenge of persuading people to get off the streets. Belying the advocates' characterization of the police as oppressors, he approaches an encampment on Powell Street as a supplicant. "Good morning, ma'am. It's 8:45 AM. Rise and shine! Y'all need any resources from me?" Doris, a short 51-year-old with greasy gray hair, a leather jacket, and white sneakers, asks in blurred syllables for a few more minutes to sleep, which the officer grants. "You try to help, but the majority of time, people refuse,"

he says. As Doris stuffs dirty comforters, cell-phone chargers, and cookies into a stolen trash bin, she observes: "I'm going to be honest: some of us are so addicted, we are so into our addictions, that we end up being comfortable being homeless." Doris estimates that she spends \$40 a day on crack, vodka, and other substances. She adds penitently: "But we need to start respecting our neighbors and stop littering."

Elevating the alleged rights of the homeless over those of the working public has cost billions in government outlays, with nothing to show for it.

The advocates' fallback position to their "service resistance is a lie" conceit is that services have to be "relevant to where people are," which means that services should come with no rules or restrictions. It is not for the people destroying the social compact, however, to decide whether they will deign to accept the help that taxpayers are offering, when refusing that help destroys everyone else's quality of life. Up and down the West Coast, Third World diseases associated with lack of sanitation—including typhoid, typhus, and hepatitis A—are breaking out in and around encampments. In 2018, San Francisco officials received more than 80 calls a day reporting human feces on sidewalks and thoroughfares. The city's encampments generate up to six tons of trash daily, including needles still loaded with heroin and blood. The stench of the streets lingers in the nostrils for hours.

Elevating the alleged rights of the homeless over those of the working public has cost billions in government outlays, with nothing to show for it. Mayors have come and gone; agencies have been renamed, task forces convened, ten-year plans rolled out, and section chiefs, liaison officers, and operations-support teams added to existing bureaucracies and seeded into new ones, while the "unsheltered" count continues to rise—up 17 percent from 2017 to 2019 alone, to 8,011. San Francisco continues to puzzle over the reason. Is it lack of city-created affordable housing, as the advocates and politicians maintain? No other American city has built as much affordable housing per capita, according to the Bay Area Council Economic Institute. From 2004 to 2014, the city spent \$2 billion on nearly 3,000 new units of permanent supportive housing, which comes with drug counseling and social workers. More have been constructed since then, and thousands more are in the works, along with more shelter beds.

Is San Francisco not spending enough generally, as the advocates and politicians maintain? Its main homelessness agency—currently dubbed the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing and dedicated to an allegedly novel mission: "helping homeless residents permanently exit the streets"—commands a \$285 million budget. Add health services and sanitation, and you get a \$380 million annual tab for homelessness, according to the city's budget analyst. That figure is wildly under

the mark, leaving out criminal-justice costs, welfare payments, and repairing infrastructure deterioration, among other expenditures. But even assuming the conservative \$380 million, that works out to \$47,500 a year per homeless person.

So what have been the missing elements in this flood of spending? A commitment to a single standard of behavior for all and an insistence that rights carry with them reciprocal responsibilities. San Francisco's response to crimes against the public order has been fleeting, at best. The most sustained period of enforcement came under Mayor Frank Jordan, a former city police chief, in the early 1990s. (See "San Francisco Gets Tough with the Homeless," Autumn 1994.) An initiative called Matrix paired police officers with social workers to try to coax the homeless into shelter and housing; the police enforced 18 quality-of-life laws against such behaviors as aggressive panhandling, loitering, and public drug sales. Matrix initially targeted a large encampment in Civic Center Plaza, but the public response was so positive that the program spread citywide. Shelter- and service-resistance were already evident, however; only a small fraction of the homeless accepted shelter or remained housed.

San Francisco's progressive self-image soon trumped common sense, and in 1996, at the urging of the Coalition on Homelessness, voters turned Jordan out of city hall in favor of former state assembly speaker Willie Brown. Brown had run on a compassion platform, but he soon came to repudiate it, observing with amazement that many of the homeless didn't actually want to come off the streets. Since then, most enforcement initiatives have proved abortive. In 2010, voters passed an ordinance allowing police officers to cite people on their own recognizance for blocking sidewalks and streets. It has rarely been used. (See "The Sidewalks of San Francisco," Autumn 2010.)

In 2016, voters defied the Coalition on Homelessness again and approved Proposition Q, which allowed sanitation workers to clear encampments after a 24-hour notice and an offer of shelter. It, too, went largely unused until supervisor Mark Farrell, installed as an interim mayor in January 2018, vowed to start applying it. "You can offer services, you can offer shelter and housing to people and at a certain point, as a city we need to draw the line and say 'this is a service-resistant population, we need to take down those tent encampments because they are unhealthy for the entire city of San Francisco,'" he said in 2018. Farrell was succeeded as mayor by London Breed in July 2018, however, and the Prop. Q power returned to limbo status.

Yet evidence has been abundant that law enforcement restores civic order. Before the 2016 Super Bowl, then-mayor Ed Lee announced that the homeless were simply "going to have to leave. . . . We'll give you an alternative. We are always going to be supportive. But you are going to have to leave the streets." And for the relevant period, the streets downtown were markedly cleaner. In spring 2018, a viral video of flagrant drug use in the Powell Street subway station prompted the authorities to increase police patrols there. The monthly tally of needles picked up by BART cleaners in the station dropped from 1,519 in July 2018 to 166 in May 2019, according to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and the drug scene there has abated. (Part of the drop in the needle count may be due to the increasing popularity of fentanyl, which can be smoked.) In April 2019, BART be-

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gan posting more officers inside transit stations to deter the rampant farebeating that was costing taxpayers \$25 million to \$35 million annually and enabling a large homeless population in the subway system. Ticket sales rose 10 percent, police calls fell 50 percent, and 30 percent more riders put value on their existing cards, belying the claim that beleaguered turnstile jumpers are simply too poor to pay. Areas of new development in San Francisco, like Mission Bay, home to several new hospitals, have not had a vagrancy problem because vagrancy has not been tolerated there.

San Francisco is not going to solve its street squalor unless it commits to a foundational principle: street living is not allowed, period. Set up camp, conduct your bodily functions in public, litter, loiter, use and sell drugs—all these illegal behaviors will result in a law-enforcement response, if only just moving someone along. Establishing that principle focuses the mind, bringing urgency to the task of creating places where people can get the help they need. The chimerical goal of building more affordable housing in the city for the “unsheltered” population would have to be discarded; its primary usefulness was to guarantee that the homeless remain on the streets, serving as a fund-raising bonanza for the activists and as a tool of the political Left. A unit of affordable housing in San Francisco costs between \$600,000 and \$800,000, depending on the materials used; building housing for all 8,000 homeless individuals would cost up to \$6.4 billion, a third of the city’s budget. Permanent supportive housing for the entire homeless population would cost another \$200 million annually. Yet according to a 2018 study by the National Academy of Sciences, such service-rich housing decreases the time that recipients spend homeless by only one to two months a year.

No one has an entitlement to live in the most expensive real-estate market in the country, certainly not on the public dime. It is not even clear why any given city is morally obligated to provide housing to someone who starts living on its streets, even if that city’s culture of permissiveness led to the vagrant’s decision to camp there. But assuming such an obligation, the money that San Francisco spends trying to house the homeless locally could go much further outside its boundaries; the millions saved could go to mental health and addiction services. Clean-and-sober campuses, serving an entire region, could be built on abandoned or undeveloped land in industrial zones and rural areas. California’s cities and counties should pool resources for these facilities, since the vagrancy problem is fluid. The bare-bones campuses must be immaculately maintained, safe, and disciplined, so that residents learn habits of self-control. Everyone should work.

Even if it were possible to slash local housing costs—one developer has proposed factory-constructed, modular micro-units at a still-pricey \$240,000 a unit—keeping people who should be striving for sobriety in easy proximity to drugs is no recipe for rehabilitation. Shaku, the ex-con camping across from Glide Memorial Church, notes that “San Francisco offers a lot of resources. If you’re serious, you can get help. But when you get out of prison, you’re right in the middle of the drug markets.”

Residential neighborhoods should not have to accept the risk of shelters. People who have worked their way up

the housing ladder have a right to expect stable neighbors. In San Francisco, however, openly opposing such facilities unleashes a torrent of abuse from the advocates and their political allies. At a hearing in April 2019, a member of the residents’ group opposing a new Navigation Center on the Embarcadero said that he decided to speak at the hearing only after being called “a racist, a bigot, [and] class elitist” for not wanting to give up his backyard to the drug trade and untreated mental illness. The advocates’ insistence on larding homeless housing through every part of a city, no matter the real-estate costs, is their revenge on the bourgeois values that they despise.

cited for a public-disorder misdemeanor skips a court date. Such enforcement, according to court personnel, criminalizes poverty. But the rule of law does not have an income threshold; its application should be universal. The enforcement or nonenforcement of norms sends important signals to individuals about what society expects of them.

The litigation onslaught from the homeless-industrial complex in every city with a significant street-anarchy problem is endless. But a 2018 ruling from the Ninth Circuit—comprising the Western states—was particularly crippling to order maintenance. The Ninth Circuit panel ruled that jurisdictions could not enforce anti-camping ordinances at night if they did not provide enough shelter beds for their entire street population. The panel drew on a pair of Supreme Court cases from the 1960s

ington lawyer best known for his work on the 2000 electoral case of *Bush v. Gore*, announced that his firm, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, was seeking Supreme Court review of *Boise v. Martin*. If the Court grants review, Olson should challenge not just the specific holding banning encampment ordinances but the constitutional jurisprudence underlying the decision as well. The Eighth Amendment speaks only of punishment; it is a mistake to use it as a restriction on the substantive criminal law. Moreover, the conduct versus status distinction that grew out of that mistake is, in many instances, philosophically incoherent.

If San Francisco wanted to give its homeless addicts their best shot at stability, it would go after the open-air drug trade with every possible tool, including immigration law, however unlikely such a change of course is. The San Francisco Police Department should send information regarding drug-trafficking suspects to Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents, so that ICE can arrest illegal-alien dealers for deportation. Proving illegal status is easier than busting a drug-trafficking operation. Though California law bans state law-enforcement officials from honoring ICE requests to deliver illegal-alien convicts to ICE custody, the Los Angeles and Orange County Sheriff Departments have created workarounds that San Francisco should use. If advocates insist that the main driver of homelessness is insufficient housing, they should stop trying to increase the state’s huge illegal-alien population—currently somewhere between 2.2 million and 2.6 million—which competes for housing and drives up costs. At a Board of Supervisor hearing in June 2019, single mothers organized by the Coalition on Homelessness demanded in Spanish that they be given federal Section 8 housing vouchers, rather than the shelter apartments they were currently occupying. Some of those single mothers were undoubtedly in the country illegally. Taxpayer subsidies should go to citizens, not individuals who are defying the rule of law.

The stories that the homeless tell about their lives reveal that something far more complex than a housing shortage is at work. The tales veer from one confused and improbable situation to the next, against a backdrop of drug use, petty crime, and chaotic child-rearing. Behind this chaos lies the dissolution of those traditional social structures that once gave individuals across the economic spectrum the ability to withstand setbacks and lead sober, self-disciplined lives: marriage, parents who know how to parent, and conventional life scripts that create purpose and meaning. There are few policy levers to change this crisis of meaning in American culture. What is certain is that the ongoing crusade to normalize drug use, along with the absence of any public encouragement of temperance, will further handicap this unmoored population.

The viability of cities should not be held hostage to solving social breakdown. Carving out a zone of immunity from the law and bourgeois norms for a perceived victim class destroys the quality of urban existence. As important, that immunity consigns its alleged beneficiaries to lives of self-abasement and marginality. Tolerating street vagrancy is a choice that cities make; for the public good, in San Francisco and elsewhere, that choice should be unmade.

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Proposition 47 should be amended or repealed to restore to police the ability to make arrests for most property crimes and for what used to be drug felonies.

The homelessness industry loudly protests any abandonment of the local housing ideal. “San Francisco must invest fully in housing that keeps impoverished families in our city,” Jennifer Friedenbach, executive director of the Coalition on Homelessness, said in 2018, objecting to a program that subsidizes apartments for single mothers outside the city. Impoverished families are the “city’s lifeblood,” according to Friedenbach. That is a disputable proposition. The advocates’ fallback position is that moving people outside the place where they currently claim homelessness severs the ties that can get them back on their feet. There is no evidence supporting this proposition. (San Francisco also provides bus tickets to about 800 individuals a year to rejoin family or friends elsewhere, an initiative that should be expanded as much as possible.)

Providing the mentally ill with the “liberty” to decompose on the streets is cruelty, not compassion. Several California state legislators have introduced legislation to make involuntary treatment and commitment easier. Yet the draft law is estimated to cover a mere eight individuals in San Francisco, by requiring, over the previous year, eight previous emergency visits to a hospital, as well as the patient’s refusal of voluntary outpatient services. Another proposed bill that dispenses with the voluntary-outpatient service requirement would cover only 35 individuals. The standard for getting the mentally ill into treatment must be rationally related to the need. More facilities for reinstitutionalization should be constructed; they, too, should be built where land is cheapest and taxpayer resources can provide the most care for the dollar.

The legal framework for responding to crime and vagrancy must also change. Proposition 47 should be amended or repealed to restore to police the ability to make arrests for most property crimes and for what used to be drug felonies. Reinstituting the severely mentally ill would free up jail space for ordinary criminals; at present, many of the untreated mentally ill end up in county jails after committing crimes, where they fail to receive needed long-term assistance. The city’s prosecutors and judges also must start taking low-level offenses seriously. Since 2016, judges in the San Francisco Superior Court have stopped issuing warrants when someone

that held that government could not criminalize a status—such as the status of being a drug addict—without running afoul of the Constitution’s Eighth Amendment ban on cruel and unusual punishment. Criminal statutes must instead target voluntary acts, such as using or selling narcotics, the Supreme Court ruled in those 1960s cases. The 2018 Ninth Circuit decision, *Boise v. Martin*, extended this reasoning to protect public encampments. (An earlier Ninth Circuit case, *Jones v. Los Angeles*, had reached the same result, but that decision lost its precedential value when the parties settled.) Being homeless was a status or involuntary condition over which a person has no control, the *Boise v. Martin* panel held. If the state cannot criminalize homelessness (because homelessness is an involuntary condition), the state also cannot criminalize the inevitable consequences of that condition. Sleeping in public is one of those inevitable (and uncriminalizable) consequences, since sleep is a biological necessity. Only if a municipality has available shelter capacity for everyone on the street may that municipality cite someone for occupying a public sidewalk or thoroughfare in the evening. The *Boise* ruling triggered an increase in encampments across the Ninth Circuit, as officers backed off of enforcement.

Boise v. Martin was a patent case of judicial activism in the pursuit of a favored policy agenda. The decision discounted facts that stood in the way of its desired conclusion. But the ruling’s most serious problem was the declaration that homelessness is an involuntary condition that the sufferer has no capacity to control or change. Numerous personal decisions go into being homeless, such as not moving to a cheaper housing market, refusing offered services, or breaking ties with friends or family members who might be able to provide accommodation. The concept of agency is already under assault in the legal academy; should more courts pick up on this trend, much of the criminal law would have to be discarded. A dissenting Ninth Circuit judge in a subsequent appeal of the case noted that if cities cannot ban sleeping in public, because sleeping is an inevitable concomitant of being human, they also cannot ban defecating in public. The majority chose not to respond to this logical inference.

In July 2019, Theodore Olson, a Wash-

Huge “Police Lives Matter” Facebook Page Run from Kosovo, Pushed Misinformation about U.S. Cops

October 6, 2019

The “Police Lives Matter” Facebook page accumulated over 170,000 fans, with viral content that reached more Facebook users than some of the largest media outlets. The page purported to be run by U.S. police officers, with cops posting about the “first dayshift of my career with a K9” or being “brand new dad.” Other posts contained more generic pro-police messaging.

What these posts did not mention is that the page was operated by three people from Kosovo. It was part of a complex network of pro-police pages based out of Kosovo. One such page run by Kosovars, Pro Police Officer, falsely listed a physical address in New York City.

These pages used blatant misinformation to provoke an emotional response from Facebook users. For example, on August 19, 2019, the Police Lives Matter page posted that “a little under three weeks ago” Deputy Farrah Turner had been shot and had just died of gunshot wounds. Turner was actually shot on October 3, 2018, and died on October 24, 2018.

This tactic of misrepresenting and exploiting a police officer’s death for shares and likes was used repeatedly throughout the network.

The pages sought to exploit the right-wing backlash against the “Black Lives Matter” movement, which protests the killing of African-Americans by police officers. Pages in the network, all run by managers in Kosovo, included “All Lives Matter,” “I Support The Police US not Criminals,” and “Blue Lives Matter USA.” This right-wing movement has been embraced by Trump, and the Police Lives Matter page included some explicitly pro-Trump messaging.

But the motivation behind the page is not promoting Trump, but exploiting the emotions of Americans for profit. Several of the pages contained links to the English language version of Korrespondenti, an Albanian website laden with low-quality programmatic ads.

Ben Nimmo, Director of Investiga-

tions at Graphika, told Popular Information that the pages make him concerned “about the information environment” as America approaches another presidential election. “It’s clear that the idea that political spam is a good money-maker hasn’t gone away since 2016. Pages like this add confusion and polarization to the online debate,” Nimmo said.

Popular Information alerted Facebook to the Kosovo-based Facebook network and its practices on the morning of September 27. A few hours later, Facebook took down every page Popular Information flagged.

“We’ve invested in transparency features so that people can flag potentially suspicious activity for us to investigate and take action when we find violations. We’ve removed the Pages that violate our policies and will continue enforcing when we determine misuse,” Facebook spokesperson Joe Osborne told Popular Information.

The existence of the Kosovan Facebook network was discovered by Renee DiResta, the technical research manager at the Stanford Internet Observatory, while she was investigating a Ukrainian network of pro-Trump Facebook pages at the request of Popular Information. Facebook removed the Ukrainian network after the publication of the Popular Information report last week.

The extraordinary reach of “Police Lives Matter”

To bolster the audience of its police pages, the Kosovan network also ran several pages that focused on cute animals, including “Happy Animal Club” and “3-Minute Animal Stories.” The power of the network gave the “Police Lives Matter” a reach on Facebook that far exceeded its raw number of followers.

According to Crowdtangle, a social analytics company owned by Facebook, “Police Lives Matter” had as much engagement—likes, shares, and comments—over the last 30 days than HuffPost Politics (2.1 million followers), Vox (2.4 million followers), Bloomberg (2.9 mil-

lion followers) combined. “Police Lives Matter” dwarfed major digitally-native publications like BuzzFeed News (3 million followers) and Quartz (2.4 million followers). More engagement on Facebook corresponds directly to a bigger reach, and more people seeing the content.

This data only captures the activity on the pages themselves. Several pages in the Kosovan network, including “Police Lives Matter,” used closed Facebook groups to amplify their content. This kind of activity is even more difficult to detect because journalists and others do not have access to the content in groups unless approved by a group administrator.

The massive reach of “Police Lives Matter” shows just how easily Facebook’s algorithm can be still exploited by unscrupulous actors. This is a tactic that can be used by profiteers or foreign governments seeking to interfere in the 2020 election.

The link between Ukraine and Kosovo

There are some commonalities between the Kosovan Facebook network and the Ukrainian network that Popular Information exposed last week. Several pages in the Kosovan network, including “Pro Police Officer” and “All Lives Matter,” used memes that were used by “I Love America,” the largest page in the Ukrainian network.

This might be a sign that the people operating these pages are connected. It also could just be indicative of a common technique used to build the pages. In an interview last week, the man behind the Ukrainian network, Andriy Tkachenko, explained he was able to run a huge network of pages with just a few people because he developed a system of identifying popular memes from other pages and just reusing them with minimal changes.

Facebook’s army

In a speech last week, Facebook’s Vice President of Global Affairs and Commu-

nations, Nick Clegg acknowledged the company “made mistakes in 2016” that allowed foreigners to interfere with the election by spreading division and misinformation. But Clegg said that Facebook had “learned the lessons of 2016” and “spent the three years since building its defenses to stop that happening again.”

He did not acknowledge that there are still large Facebook pages, run from abroad, that are pushing misinformation onto unsuspecting American voters.

Remarkably, he claimed that Facebook has 30,000 people working “to take down harmful content.” It’s unclear what those people are doing.

Clegg also touted Facebook’s team of “independent fact-checkers to verify content.” But the “independent fact-checkers” include the rabidly right-wing Daily Caller, the website found by Fox News host Tucker Carlson. Popular Information reported that the Daily Caller fact-checked a post from the Facebook page “Rowdy Republican” that contained dangerous misinformation about diabetes and rated it true.

Clegg said the company had “stringent rules on advertising” by politicians. But Popular Information has documented numerous cases where the Trump campaign has run ads on Facebook that are false and misleading, which is prohibited by Facebook rules. For example, the Trump campaign has repeatedly run an ad claiming Democrats are advocating a repeal of the 2nd Amendment. Facebook has not enforced these rules by the Trump campaign.

There are other reasons to be skeptical of Facebook’s public statements regarding disinformation on the platform. In April 2018, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg promised “to share huge amounts of posts, links and other user data with researchers around the world so that they could study and flag disinformation on the site.” Eighteen months later, “much of the data remains unavailable.”

From www.popular.info

Police Union: New Bedford Officers Shouldn’t Have To Pay For Bulletproof Vests

October 29, 2019

NEW BEDFORD — The president of the New Bedford police union says officers should not have to pay for their own bulletproof vests out of their \$1,000 annual clothing allowance.

Union president Hank Turgeon told The Standard-Times that the New Bedford Police Department has failed to secure a grant for bulletproof vests, even though the last police contract stipulated that the department would buy the vests if it could get a grant.

The union has been working without a contract since June of 2018, and union leaders voted last month to oppose Chief Joseph Cordeiro’s leadership of the department.

In fiscal year 2019, 181 law enforcement jurisdictions in Massachusetts received money for vests from the U.S. Department of Justice Bulletproof Vest Partnership, according to the program’s website. New Bedford did not.

Meanwhile, the New Bedford Police Department bought new Chevrolet Tahoes for Chief Joseph Cordeiro and Deputy Chief Paul Oliveira, and Cordeiro traveled internationally twice, Turgeon said.

“He’s living a luxurious lifestyle” on the taxpayers’ dime, the union president charged.

Jonathan Carvalho, a spokesman for

Mayor Jon Mitchell, said none of those expenses were actually grant-funded. The city bought the two Tahoes with money that flows to the department normally from the federal and state emergency management agencies, not grants.

As for the travel, Carvalho said the chief attended two policing conferences for which the hosts paid his expenses. The Anti-Defamation League sponsored one in Israel on security and policing, and the federal government sponsored one in Mexico on drug enforcement, according to Carvalho.

The Police Department is still seeking funding for bulletproof vests, he said.

Chief Cordeiro did not respond to a reporter’s request for comment.

Turgeon said the vests last for five years and cost between \$800 and \$1,500, depending on the model. Officers’ uniforms are expensive, he said: Pants cost \$120, shirts \$80 to \$110, boots \$120, and a rain coat with winter liner \$400.

At an Oct. 16 candidates’ night at Alma del Mar school, Ward 3 Councilor Hugh Dunn said that officers are buying their own protective gear and this year bought themselves Vector shields, a lightweight shield that protects against gun shots.

Turgeon, however, said that within the last few months, the department

bought active-shooter kits for the cruisers that include a Vector shield worn on the arm, a protective garment (not the everyday vest), a medical kit and a helmet. The Vector shield can block all rifle arms and protect an officer from a dog bite, Turgeon said.

“From a union standpoint, we’re extremely happy that the mayor and chief did see the importance of these and purchase them,” he said.

Dunn later said he had not been aware the Vector shields had been included the active-shooter kits. He said the union had been pushing for Vector shields for two years and was getting ready to ask for business sponsors when the department bought them.

Turgeon acknowledged that the city also recently bought new cruisers for front-line officers.

In May, Mitchell announced that New Bedford had purchased 11 new police cruisers at a cost of about \$566,000. The city has essentially replaced its fleet since 2014, Mitchell said at the time.

The city has also upgraded the booking and parking areas at headquarters, and broke ground last month on the new \$19 million South End Public Safety Center, that will include police, fire and administrative functions.

Councilor Hugh Dunn said he has called on the department for two years

in a row to allocate money for vests and has been told they will pursue them.

“It’s an inherently dangerous job, and the officers are putting themselves at risk,” he said.

SWAT teams do receive vests, according to Dunn.

The New Bedford police union has about 240 members.

Dartmouth provides vests for its full complement of 65 to 70 officers with help from federal and state grants, according to Dartmouth Police Detective Kyle Costa.

Sgt. Kevin Medeiros of the Fall River Police Department said officers in his city receive vests with federal and state funding as well.

“In my 25-year career, I’ve never bought a vest,” he said.

But Medeiros said he can see why some officers might prefer to buy their own, because they have more options about what kind of vest they buy and how it fits. In the federal program, officers have fewer options, and wearing vests is mandatory, he said.

“In the end, it’s six of one, half dozen of another,” he said.

Fall River police no longer get a clothing allowance. The money was rolled into their base pay several years ago, he said.

From www.southcoasttoday.com

Florida Senate Votes to Remove Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel from office

By Elliott C. McLaughlin, Dianne Gallagher and Angela Barajas, CNN

Tallahassee, Florida (CNN)The Florida Senate on Wednesday voted to officially remove Scott Israel from his elected position as the Broward County sheriff.

The 25-15 vote finalizes Gov. Ron DeSantis' executive order suspending Israel from the position due to allegations of neglect of duty and failures in his department's responses to mass shootings in 2017 at the Fort Lauderdale airport and in 2018 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland.

Wednesday's vote agrees with a recommendation by the Senate Rules Committee, which voted narrowly Monday night to support DeSantis' decision to suspend Israel. That was despite a Senate-appointed special master recommending Israel be reinstated.

The five state senators representing portions of Broward County voted to reinstate the former sheriff.

Families of some of the victims in the Parkland shooting, who attended proceedings on Monday and Wednesday, praised the decision.

Andrew Pollack, whose daughter, Meadow, was killed in the shooting, said families worked tirelessly over the past week to make sure the ex-sheriff wouldn't be reinstated.

"We did it for everyone in the community and for the thousands of kids that attend school in Broward," he told CNN after the vote. "They could be rest assured now that that county will be a lot safer without ... this failed sheriff in Broward County," Pollack said.

He said Israel "has to be judged by his systematic failures and the failures of individuals because that's what leadership is."

'Politics won the day,' the ex-sheriff says

Israel, a Democrat, has said he believes the Republican governor had political motives for removing him.

In a statement posted on Twitter on Wednesday, Israel said he was "sad to report that politics won the day."

'Cowardly' Ex-school Cop Scot Peterson Faces 97 Years in Jail for Doing 'Absolutely Nothing' to Stop Parkland Shooting

Tribune News Service

- Security officer faces 11 criminal charges, including child neglect, culpable negligence and perjury
- Investigation shows Peterson refused to investigate and instead retreated as 17 students and staff were gunned down at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School

Scot Peterson, the school security officer branded a coward for his inaction during the massacre at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, has been arrested for neglect of duty, Broward County Sheriff Gregory Tony announced on Tuesday.

Peterson, 56, had been nationally heckled and vilified for failing to confront the former student who gunned down and killed 17 students and staff at the Parkland school on February 14, 2018. His arrest comes after a 15-month investigation by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the Broward state attorney's office.

"Your vote has been stolen and the results of our 2016 election have been overturned. From 450 miles away, the Governor substituted his judgement for yours and installed his own sheriff in Broward County," he said addressing voters.

Israel, who was elected sheriff in 2012 and 2016, has said he will run again in 2020.

If Israel is re-elected in 2020, DeSantis says he "will not suspend him for previous actions of neglect of duty and incompetence," spokeswoman Helen Aguirre Ferre told CNN.

Israel's attorney, Ben Kuehne, told CNN they are evaluating the next step.

"This was a result that was not based on evidence. It was not based on law. It was based on something else that was not what the constitution provides," he said.

"And that's a tragedy for all the people, not just of Broward County, but for all the people of Florida."

Israel's ouster ignited divisions

DeSantis said in a statement, "I hope the outcome provides some measure of relief to the Parkland families that have been doggedly pursuing accountability."

Senators on both sides of the aisle expressed concern about the specter of the state's chief executive removing a locally elected official, and Israel's supporters showed up at the Capitol in Tallahassee wearing "The People's Sheriff" buttons. They told the committee Monday it should be voters who elected Israel deciding his fate, not the governor.

"We put him in," one woman said. "It we want him out, we will vote him out."

Israel's critics, including some family members of those killed in the February 14, 2018, shooting in Parkland, contend the blame falls on Israel.

Ryan Petty, whose daughter, Alaina, was killed, told Israel he was rekindling parents' pain and pleaded with the ex-lawman to stop fighting for his job.

Before Wednesday's vote, Republican Sen. Tom Lee argued Israel was unpopular but is entitled to due process by the Senate and the special master.

"Nikolas Cruz is going to be afforded that process -- why should we not also give it to the sheriff?" Lee said, referring to the Parkland shooter.

Lee, the only Republican to vote to reinstate Israel, said the emotion of parents of the Parkland victims can't "trump the fact that we are setting a new precedent here."

Sen. Darryl Ervin Rouson, a Democrat, said his vote to remove Israel is a vote of his conscience.

"We can't reinstate the lives of those lost on February 14 but we can choose to not reinstate a man who oversaw the development of policies, procedures and training that failed to protect those lives," he said before the vote.

Sen. Annette Taddeo, a Democrat, said lawmakers didn't listen to Parkland parents when they urged them not to arm teachers and ban assault weapons. She told a story of getting a call from a Parkland parent as she packed Sunday to travel to the capitol. Taddeo said she didn't have time to take the call, which would have made her late.

She recalled her daughter telling her: "Mommy, if I would've died in Parkland, you would want them to take that call."

"So, I am taking the call of the parents. I understand, and I will vote to recommend the suspension of Sheriff Israel," she said.

Rouson and Taddeo were among three Democrats who voted to remove Israel.

DeSantis suspended Israel for his response to the Parkland shooting, which left 17 people dead, and the Fort Lauderdale airport attack the year before, in which five were killed, leaving deep scars on the community.

Florida law allows DeSantis to suspend a sheriff for malfeasance or neglect of duty. It also allows him to appoint an interim sheriff, but the Senate wields the power to determine whether the governor's rationale for suspension is legitimate.

In his executive order, the governor alleged Israel was incompetent and negligent in his duties related to the shootings.

cipline hearing at the sheriff's office headquarters on Broward Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale.

If convicted as charged, Peterson could face a maximum of nearly 97 years in state prison. His bond has been set at US\$102,000.

"We cannot fulfil our commitment to always protect the security and safety of our Broward County community without doing a thorough assessment of what went wrong that day," Tony said.

"I am committed to address deficiencies and improving the Broward Sheriff's Office."

Peterson is facing seven felony counts of child neglect, three misdemeanour counts of culpable negligence and one misdemeanour count of perjury, according to the Broward state attorney's office.

The investigation included 184 witness interviews, review of countless hours of video surveillance and resulted in 212 investigative reports and more than 800 hours of investigation, Cary said.

In Monday's vote, Israel's fellow Democrats, including the four senators representing Broward County, supported his reinstatement.

One of the Broward lawmakers, Sen. Lauren Book, said her decision was not about politics. It's about holding the school resource officer, Deputy Scot Peterson, accountable for his alleged inaction, she said.

Peterson retired from his position and faces charges of culpable negligence, perjury and seven counts of felony neglect of a child. His attorney said in June the charges are politically motivated.

Book said she understands Stoneman Douglas parents and others in the community want Israel to face consequences, "but the thing that has always, always eaten me up inside is that one deputy didn't move for 48 minutes -- 48 minutes, while gunshots were going off, while you could hear them. He knew where they were. He was dropped off at the front door of that building."

"I believe that if we do not reinstate Mr. Israel that Deputy Peterson walks, because you can't have it both ways," Book said. "For me, the thing that I weigh the most is the fact that I want to hold this coward accountable."

Book's argument echoed that of the appointed special master, attorney and former GOP lawmaker J. Dudley Goodlette, who recommended the Senate reinstate Israel.

In his 34-page report last month, Goodlette wrote that the sheriff and his office are not blameless in the Parkland response, but "the evidence offered has not demonstrated that Sheriff Israel should be removed from office based on this incident."

The blame falls on multiple people, most notably on Peterson, he said.

"While the governor has offered a plethora of criticism, he has not shown that Sheriff Israel's policies, procedures or trainings on active shooter situations are inconsistent with Florida law enforcement standards," Goodlette said.

A lawyer representing DeSantis said the governor has considered multiple factors, including the sheriff's department's improper response to reports about the Parkland shooter prior to the massacre and deputies' failure to engage the shooter once the massacre began.

Israel also knew of problems with his department's response to the January 2017 Fort Lauderdale airport shooting and did nothing to rectify them in the 13 months preceding the Stoneman Douglas attack, attorney George Levesque said.

"The law makes him responsible for the acts of his deputies," Levesque said. "It is generally held that a sheriff and his deputy are one and the same person, and the acts of the deputy may be imputed to the sheriff."

Kuehne had argued that DeSantis had failed to provide sufficient evidence to support Israel's removal. That alone should be cause for reinstatement, he said.

"Sheriff Israel has never, never taken the position that anybody, including himself, acted perfectly," the lawyer said. "He does, however, assert the position that officers were trained and knew their responsibility and had to act based on knowledge and information they had."

CNN's Dianne Gallagher and Angela Barajas reported from Tallahassee and Elliott C. McLaughlin wrote and reported from Atlanta. Madeline Holcombe contributed to this report.

Police Suicide Epidemic Spurs Soul-Searching: 'You May Love the Job ... the Job Will Never Love You'

October 22, 2019

The suicide of a police officer in Montgomery County, Maryland, this week is part of a surge in law enforcers across the country taking their lives, prompting police departments to address concerns about the mental health of their members.

Psychologists and police officials say a number of factors — such as increased scrutiny, mandatory overtime, perceived hostility and physical danger — contribute to the daily stress on officers.

"I have been in law enforcement 23 years myself. I can't recall a time ever that it's has been so stressful and difficult to be a law enforcement officer," said Officer Sherri Martin of the Enfield, Connecticut, police department and chair of the national officer wellness committee of the Fraternal Order of Police.

Among the police officers who have ended their lives in recent weeks:

- Montgomery County Police Officer Thomas Bomba, 38, requested backup Monday for a report of disorderly conduct at a parking garage in Silver Spring, Maryland. When officers arrived, they found Officer Bomba suffering from a gunshot wound. He died later at the MedStar Washington Hospital Center.

The chief medical examiner for the District of Columbia announced Tuesday that the 13-year veteran of the Montgomery County force died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

- An off-duty sergeant for the New York City Police Department fatally shot himself in his home in the

Fresh Meadows neighborhood of Queens on Tuesday. He was the 10th officer the department lost this year to suicide.

"We vow to keep fighting this fight, to do better on these and many other fronts, and to put a stop to this epidemic once and for all," said NYPD Commissioner James O'Neil.

- An off-duty Chicago police officer was found dead last month in a forest in an apparent suicide, the Chicago Tribune reported.

The newspaper said the officer's death was the fourth suicide by a Chicago officer this year and the eighth since July 2018. Days later, a retired Chicago police officer fatally shot himself in his home, the Tribune reported.

'A sense of hopelessness'

Thomas Coghlan is a retired NYPD police detective who served for 21 years on the force before becoming a clinical psychologist specializing in assessments and therapy for first responders. He identified four types of stressors that can affect a police officer's mental health:

- Operational: responding to traumatic incidents such as a fatal wreck, homicide or domestic violence.
- Occupational: such as mandatory overtime, scheduling or missing family time.
- Organizational: an agency's punitive policies against officers or treating them as liabilities rather than assets.
- Situational: such as a divorce or an illness in the family.

Mr. Coghlan said a lack of reciprocity on the job can contribute to hopelessness, a "key contributing factor to suicidal thinking."

"You may love the job, but the job will never love you, and that's absolutely true," he said.

Officers can become disillusioned by the job and how their department treats them, which can begin a downward turn

toward hopelessness, he said.

As officers work in the department for years, they begin to realize how the agency treats them doesn't improve, Mr. Coghlan said.

"If today is the best there is, and it will never get better — in fact it will always get worse — it can develop into a sense of hopelessness," Mr. Coghlan said. "Hopelessness informs suicidal thinking."

Terrence Cunningham, deputy executive director of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, compared the stress that officers experience to carrying a heavy load without assistance.

"It's like putting bricks in a backpack and at some point, the backpack gets too heavy and it needs help," said Mr. Cunningham, a former police chief in Wellesley, Massachusetts.

Helping police officers

The Fraternal Order of Police conducted a national study on the emotional health of 8,000 officers across the country. It found that 79% reported experiencing critical stress at some point during their career, which they defined as "a strong emotional reaction that overwhelms usually effective coping abilities." Of that, 69% said it caused lingering emotional issues.

A fifth of the respondents said they use counseling through their agencies' employee assistance program.

The survey found that a significant number use coping mechanisms like talking with friends and family, exercising, or picking up a hobby for distraction, but many resort to self-medication with alcohol or substances or doing nothing at all.

"When they are undiagnosed and untreated, and very frequently self-medicating, they represent a very high level of risk, and when they are treated represent a low level of risk," Mr. Coghlan said.

Officer Martin of the FOP's wellness committee noted that police officers' schedules often don't promote healthy habits. When officers work late-night

shifts, for example, the only dining options available are often fast food.

She said officers monitor one another when someone on the force is unwell, but an officer's mental health rarely poses a threat to the public.

Mr. Cunningham of the International Association of Chiefs of Police said "people are finally starting to realize we have got to knock down the stigma and change the entire culture. The whole profession has to be healthier."

In Montgomery County, the police department "has a Crisis Response and Support Unit that provides peer support to both sworn and professional staff," county council President Nancy Navarro's office said in an email. "Stress counseling services are also offered to the police through the County's Office of Human Resources to provide appropriate confidentiality."

In New York, Commissioner O'Neill established a health and wellness task force, whose initiatives include health and wellness training for command-level officers and a peer support program.

Additionally, the FOP is developing a nationwide program to train officers to be peer support counselors, which survey respondents said is the most helpful. It also is creating a directory of counseling providers who are familiar with the work of first responders.

Officer Martin said some legislatures have passed measures to allow for post-traumatic stress disorder to be included in workers' compensation policies.

She said some departments require every officer to have a yearly check-in with a mental health professional, which reduces the stigma and helps officers build trust with counselors.

Mr. Coghlan said that in many cases, an agency's discipline policy mimics its mental health policy, so they revisit how they treat people who seek help.

"I believe you need to address the issue of stigma and why officers are so resistant to voluntarily seeking treatment," Mr. Coghlan said.

From www.washingtontimes.com

Rochester Police Union President Concerned About Officer Safety

October 24, 2019

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (WROC) — The president of Rochester's police union, the Rochester Locust Club, says his officers aren't safe on the street.

Mike Mazzeo says 100 officers have been injured over the past ten months.

Mazzeo tells News 8 that officers are being injured while trying to get people to follow verbal commands. Usually, he says, these things occur when officers are

"When we look at what's occurring, the number of officers being hurt that's where city council, city hall, and the chief's office should be looking into with concern," said Mazzeo.

Mazzeo says the attack on Officer Denny Wright could have been prevented. The 23-year police veteran was stabbed multiple times in the head and face. He responded to a 9-1-1 call alone.

"There's a need to have two officers in a car," said Mazzeo. "There's the ability for officers to be able to assess as well. When one person is directly dealing with someone. To have a second officer to watch, look, assess, while one officer is engaging."

The RPD adopted a "two officers to a patrol car" policy nine days after the attack on Officer Wright. Last week another RPD officer was assaulted on First Street.

The assault came two days after the policy was stopped. A move Mazzeo doesn't understand.

"So I can't understand any logic that

will say for a period of time it makes sense to have two officers in a car," said Mazzeo. "Now it's okay to have one. What has changed?"

Mazzeo says RPD can fix the problem by reinstating the policy. He says officers need extra protection.

"We have to ensure that these officers are safe," said Mazzeo. If they are not safe no one is safe in this community."

In a statement Chief La'ron Singletary said, "*In law enforcement there are always safety issues and challenges that an agency must contend with. Law enforcement agencies do their best to mitigate those challenges as they present themselves. The RPD typically operates in a single person patrol capacity and there are times when two person patrols occur (e.g., special details, the tactical unit which predominately does proactive police work). There are a number of factors that go into a police department choosing to operate in a certain capacity (single person or two person). The policy for two officers to respond to a priority one call has not changed, whether we operate in a two person patrol car response or a single person patrol car response. I can assure you, if there was a 100% for sure way to guarantee that an officer would not get hurt in the course of their duties, we would be doing it. It is unfortunate that people continue to choose to resist arrest by fighting with police officers; officers who are trying to do a dangerous job.*"

According to police the unidentified officer was taken to Highland Hospital and treated for minor bruises.

From www.rochesterfirst.com

LAS VEGAS (KTNV) — The largest police union in Nevada is vowing to fight the latest terms of a contract for rank-and-file officers at Las Vegas Metropolitan Police after a last minute contract maneuver by department leadership.

"It's starting to get into union busting," said Las Vegas Police Protective Association President Steve Grammas. "When you start stripping away rights from the contract, you're starting to get in there," added Grammas.

The union and the department were unable to come to an agreement on the contract and the process ended up in arbitration.

Grammas says an arbitrator decided on less-than-desired raises for officers at 2.25% next year and 2.5% the year after, but it's what happened afterward that has him and his membership seeing red.

"It's hurtful to our people that risk their lives everyday," said Grammas.

According to the LVPPA, Metro Police leadership eliminated several job protections for officers including notice for sudden work schedules, a rebuttal

process for performance appraisals, and the right for officers to review their own personnel files.

In all, six protections were removed from the current form of the contract.

"The biggest thing is it's tax dollars and it also impacts public safety because of the players involved," said Michael Schaus with the Nevada Policy Research Institute.

Schaus says any contract negotiation with public labor unions and government agencies should be as open and transparent as possible.

"We just saw this with CCSD, with them going back-and-forth with the district, it seems like this is a reoccurring theme throughout government at pretty much every level," added Schaus.

13 Investigates reached out to the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department for comment but a request was not returned.

The contract will go before the Fiscal Affairs Committee on Monday at 9 a.m. at Metro Police Headquarters where the contract will be considered for approval.

From www.ktnv.com

November Word Find

Created by Officer Michelangelo Apodaca,
Airport Bureau

Enjoy this relaxing and fun-to-solve puzzle! If you've never solved a puzzle like these before, it's a good idea to read this before you begin.

Each puzzle has a grid of letters that conceals words reading in different directions — forward, backward, up, down, or diagonally — but always in a straight line. The words, abbreviations, or phrases one must find and circle are listed below the grid in capital letters. That's all you need to know before you sharpen your pencil and begin your search!

November brings about all kinds of familiar words. See if you can find many of them here! Happy Thanksgiving.

AUTUMN	LEAVES	VETERANS
ACORNS	DESSERT	PIE
FALL	NOVEMBER	
BAKE	GOBBLE	VOTING
FAMILY	PILGRIMS	PUMPKIN
CARVE	GRAVY	
FEAST	TURKEY	WINDY
CIDER	NATIVE	YAMS

E	I	P	P	I	L	G	R	I	M	S	V	G	L	H
V	B	D	E	S	S	E	R	T	T	N	N	P	X	E
R	E	E	L	B	B	O	G	T	E	I	U	Q	D	G
A	U	T	U	M	N	Q	S	V	T	M	F	A	F	V
C	I	D	E	R	L	A	I	O	P	A	T	G	T	P
O	L	V	K	R	E	T	V	K	L	M	V	L	X	I
R	O	S	A	F	A	M	I	L	Y	Q	E	I	G	P
N	P	G	B	N	V	N	F	N	G	D	K	R	S	C
S	T	U	R	K	E	Y	S	X	J	H	N	V	S	A
H	H	H	H	Y	A	S	C	K	O	S	H	O	I	D
T	F	L	M	Z	V	I	X	Z	J	R	B	X	W	S
R	G	G	F	U	L	Y	A	M	S	J	Z	L	W	Z
W	W	O	C	W	X	O	F	Q	K	U	Q	J	S	U
C	S	L	H	U	K	M	E	I	N	H	R	G	M	I
X	R	D	Y	M	B	B	H	L	M	C	Q	O	Z	E

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- A member may run only one classified ad per issue. However, a member may repeat the same ad in three consecutive issues. An ad may run for three additional issues upon request of advertiser.
- Ads must be typewritten and submitted to the POA, attn: Journal Advertising in any of the following ways: US Mail, to the POA office; Interdepartmental mail, to the POA office, Email to journal@sfpoa.org

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Sports



Stewart, Ray Biagini, Eric Barreneche, Tim Brophy Jr, Dennis Tupper, Pat Cummins, Mitch Rowan, Paul McIntosh, Will Palladino, Luis Guitron, Nelson Ramos, myself, and there was a guest appearance by Capt. Joe Engler. The group enjoyed a nice reception at the downtown Olympic Club that evening with Navy personnel and O-Club members present; otherwise, congrats to The Seals on their second place finish, and thanks to the Olympic Club for doing a great job sponsoring the event.

Fleet Week Pistol Competition

Also part of the Fleet Week activities was the Nimitz Match which the SFPD competed in with a team assembled by Jason Kirchner. This was the 54th annual Nimitz Match and it took place at the Richmond Rod and Gun Club. This competition would consist of a "bulls eye" pistol match which is what it was last year (2017 was a "high powered rifle" shoot). The match combines the individual shooters scores from the 50 yard line with slow fire, from the 25 yard line with timed fire, and again from the 25 yard line with rapid fire. The SFPD team besides Kirchner consisted of: Warren Lee, Marc Marquez, Jeff Cuenca, Lyn O'Connor, Ed Gaffud and Ali Misagli.

When it was all said and done, SFPD would take 4th place behind great teams such as the 1st place US Coast Guard, 2nd place MCRD (Marines) and 3rd place SF Sheriffs shooting team. They did end up beating great shooters from the Olympic Club, Alameda County SO, Richmond PD and US Navy shooting teams. Talking with team captain Kirchner, he told me how very proud he was of everyone's performance especially considering some last minute equipment issues. All I have to say is kudos to Kirchner and his team for representing the department well.

Stick Ball in North Beach

On Sunday, October 20th, the SF Firefighters 1st Annual Stickball Tournament was put on by their Local 798 and the games were played out on the street like they're supposed to be (at Grant and Green Sts in The City). It was a fun fundraiser to collect proceeds for the SF



2019 Fleet Week Nimitz Shooting Match. Kneeling (l to r): Warren Lee and Ed Gaffud. Standing (l to r): Ali Misagli, Marc Marquez, Jason Kirchner, Lyn O'Connor, and Jeff Cuenca.

Firefighters Cancer Prevention Foundation. Stickball uses a rubber ball where one bounces a pitch to his own teammate. Usually a broom handle is used as a bat but in this case Birdman Bat Co. provided the thin wooden sticks used as bats. The games lasted 30 minutes and eight players would play the field when they weren't batting.

Kevin Worrell put a team together to compete in this event and they fared pretty well that day. Out of 12 teams, Worrell's Walloppers took 2nd place losing to San Mateo Fire in the final. Besides Worrell, the team had Eric Barreneche,

Jesse Montero, Steve Filippi, Tim Brophy Jr, Greg Latus, Mike Francheschi, Manny Serrano and four Biaginis on it as well (Ray Sr, Ray Jr, Dante and Devin). Little Nico Worrell helped out as an awesome bat boy to complete the mix. Overall, everyone had a blast that day and I imagine that those who participated can hardly wait until next year's event; otherwise, congrats to the SFFD Local 798 for doing a great job with this first time tournament.

That's it for now....Stay well and safe this Thanksgiving Holiday and So See Ya next month....



The Seals "Stickball" Team in North Beach.



The Seals Softball Team at the Fleet Week Softball Tourney posing with their favorite City League umpire: Dave Mitchell (back row 2nd from right) and favorite City League ball players: Jamie Diamond (middle row far right) and Manny Guevara (back row 3rd from right).

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Hoops Update

By Steve Coleman
Bayview Station

On October 9th, the Olympic Club hosted a Fleet Week basketball tournament at their downtown location for first responders and military. The San Francisco Police Department, San Francisco Fire Department, Oakland Police Department, Oakland Fire Department, Marines, and Coast Guard were invited to participate in this tournament. Rodney Freeman, Julian Lofton, Marcus Holyfield, Declan Maher, Jermaine Washington, Mike Hill, Ryan Jones, Pat Cummins, Franky Olcomendy, and Tom Sweeney represented the SFPD in this tourney.

The first round featured a matchup between rivals SFPD and SFFD. The



SFFD flying the American flag.

Fire Department got off to a hot start, scoring nine straight points. Our squad was able to fight back and close the gap to five points at the half. Julian Lofton led the way for us connecting on four three pointers in the first half. What can I say, the man was on fire! The Fire squad ultimately pulled out the game, defeating SFPD 73-68.

In game two, SFPD jumped out to a 20-0 lead over the Marines. Marcus



Rodney Freeman throwing it down on a lob from Julian Lofton.

Holyfield shined in this matchup as he grabbed rebounds and drove strong to the basket. The highlight of the game was Lofton throwing an alley-oop lob to Rodney Freeman, who threw down a thunderous dunk which got everyone's attention. SFPD pulled out a 100-30 victory over the Marines. During our game with the Marines, members of the Coast Guard continually good naturedly razed our team.

In the third place game, the Coast Guard and SFPD were set to square off. With all the razzing the Coast Guard gave us during our second game, both

squads and fans looked forward this matchup. Mike Hill led the team in steals as SFPD pulled out a 78-65 victory to take third place in the tournament. The Olympic Club, featuring a starting lineup averaging 6'6, ended up winning their own tournament. Players and coaches were invited to stick around after the tournament to mingle and eat dinner. Kudos to the Olympic Club for supporting the military and first responders during this Fleet Week event. Thank you very much to the Olympic Club for treating us all so well and hope to participate again next year.



SFPD Basketball team.



Tipping off with SFFD



Post Turney Event at O-Club: (l to r) Rodney Freeman, well regarded SFPD Chief Greg Suhr, Ronnie Freedman, Brent Sullivan, and Steve Coleman.



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SFPD Soccer Update

By Kerry Mullins
Tenderloin Station

The San Francisco Police Soccer Club traveled to the outskirts of Toronto to participate in the 2019 North American Police Soccer Tournament. This is how they did:

Game 1: SFPD VS York Police Department

In the first game of the tournament the SFPD team faced the York Bisons. The York Bisons were a young and athletic team that liked to warm up to music by Justin Bieber. You can't make this stuff up. Anyway, in the 7th minute of the match, Franco Ragusa was fouled at the half-way line when a York mid-fielder tackled him from behind. Cullen Roche took the set piece and played a perfect ball to Danny Solorzano's head. Solorzano predictably headed the ball directly at the York keeper. The York keeper easily rejected the shot back into the box and Alex Gutierrez retrieved the rebound. Gutierrez banked a shot off the post into the net to give SFPD the lead.

Near the end of the first half, Sean "Machine Gun Coos" Cody blazed past York defenders with the ball. The York Keeper came charging toward Cody. Out of the corner of Cody's eye, Cody observed Gutierrez streaking toward the goal. Cody slid a pass by the charging keeper to a wide-open Gutierrez. Cody flipped in the air over the Keeper as Gutierrez walked the ball into the goal to give SFPD the 2-0 lead.

In the second half, York answered back with a goal of their own. With ten minutes left in the game, Cullen Roche hit Thomas Murphy with a deep pass on the left side of the field. Murphy crossed the ball toward the penalty box to Gutierrez. Gutierrez flipped the ball into the goal to complete his hat trick and gave SFPD 3-1 lead.

SFPD won the First Game 3-1.

Game 2: SFPD VS Royal Canadian Mounted Police "The Mounties"

In the second game of the tourna-

ment, SFPD dominated on both ends of the field. SFPD's defense, led by Jose Andrade and Brett Bruneman, gave up only one shot all game. The shot they gave up was an absolute fire cracker into the top corner that Giovanny Leyva swallowed up with ease. SFPD's goals came often and frequent versus the Mounties. In the fifth minute of the game, Paul "The Caballo" Chavarin was fouled inside of the Mounties box. Chavarin finished the penalty kick into the Mounties net to give SFPD the lead. Four minutes later, Danny Solorzano dished Chavarin the ball and he doubled SFPD'S lead. In the 20th minute of the game, David Raney found Alex Gutierrez for his fourth goal of the tournament. In the 29th minute, Brian Alston made the score 4-0.

In the second half, Kevin Lynch linked up with fellow Irish Dancer, Cullen Roche, with a perfectly played through ball. Roche beat the keeper and celebrated with Lynch after the game by Frolicking to some music from the old country. Thomas Murphy sliced a shot into the goal that Peter Van Zandt Assisted. Chris Anderson fed Brian Alston for another goal added to SFPD'S total. The Mounties were a team filled with great men and they were very welcoming. After the game, the Mounties let some of the SFPD players ride their horses around the field for a few laps. David Raney even did some Aerobics on the horse as he was riding. Luckily none of the horses were hurt during this time.

Game 3: SFPD VS Calgary Police

SFPD faced off against Calgary in the quarter finals. SFPD knew this was going to be their toughest match yet. SFPD and Calgary were tied going into the last minute of the first half, when Danny Solorzano stole a pass heading toward a Calgary mid-fielder. Solorzano pinged a pass to Paul "The Caballo" Chavarin at the right side of the box. Chavarin ripped a shot into the goal to give SFPD the 1-0 advantage heading into half time.

In the second half, SFPD'S defense played tough and limited Calgary's op-



The SFPD Soccer Club at Niagra Falls

portunities. Goalee Justin Erb played lights out and repeatedly sent each Calgary shot away. Erb made three "Sports Center" worthy saves to prevent Calgary from evening the score. In the 62nd minute SFPD put the game away for good; Brett Bruneman passed to John Manning up along the left sideline. Manning gathered the ball and whipped a perfect cross to Brian Alston's head. Alston hammered the ball into the goal with his head and gave SFPD the 2-0 lead, and they went on to win the Game 2-0

Game 4: SFPD VS New Jersey PD

New Jersey and SFPD played a nail biter from start to finish. SFPD had a terrible turnover in the 10th minute that led to an easy goal for NYPD. SFPD almost evened the score two minutes later when Cullen Roche smoked a wicked shot that the New Jersey's keeper barely tipped away. In the 25th minute, David Raney tied the game with a majestic strike from 22 yards out. Raney later celebrated by informing his coach, Kerry Mullins, that he made his goal quota in the last two tournaments. SFPD later made another detrimental mistake that led to New Jersey's second goal. New Jersey went on to win the game 2-1. SFPD dominated the stat line and time of possession, however New Jersey scored on their only two shots/opportunities of the game. SFPD

took 18 shots and New Jersey's Keeper swallowed up 17 of them. SFPD played a dominating style of soccer throughout the tournament and were unlucky on the way to their 3rd place finish.

Brief Summary of SFPD'S Soccer Season:

- SFPD finished with an overall record of 11-3-1
- SFPD Finished Gold in the 2019 Night League San Francisco League
- SFPD Finished Silver in the 2019 Western Police and Fire Department Games(ahead of the likes of SB Sheriffs, Chicago PD, LAPD, and more).
- SFPD Finished Bronze in the 2019 North American Police Soccer Tournament.

The San Francisco Police Soccer Club would like to thank the support of the best pub in San Francisco, "Shannon Arms", and the most dependable construction company, "Lynch Construction", for their support this year. The San Francisco Police Soccer Club would also like to thank the SFPOA for their dedication to help San Francisco officers every day. The San Francisco Police Soccer Club would like to also thank their fans and family for their support in another amazing season.



The SFPD Soccer Club



The SFPD Soccer Club with the Calgary PD Soccer Team

Journal End Point: November 2019

***Thank you US Navy and the Blue Angels
— That was a great show!***



These photos, snapped by SFMTA Investigator Kailey Wong, were taken during San Francisco's annual Fleet Week tributes, October 7 through 13.