



"Working together to create a safer and stronger community for all"

FORUM NEWS

JANUARY 2024

Newsletter for members of the San Francisco Police Department, LGBTQ+ Advisory Forum in San Francisco, California, USA.

FOUNDED IN 2010

LGBTQ.forum@sfgov.org

SFPD CO-CHAIR



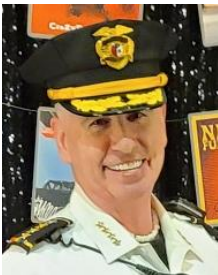
Captain Christopher Del Gandio

COMMUNITY CO-CHAIR



Greg Carey
(Castro Community On Patrol)

COMMUNITY CO-CHAIR



Ken Craig
(Community Patrol Service)

January 31 Forum Meeting At UCSF Campus

We hosted our latest Forum meeting #6 on Wednesday January 31st, 2024 at the UCSF campus in Mission Bay. Sincere thanks to forum member **Robert Mansfield** and **UCSF** for the space, carrot cake, and coffee.

Attending this meeting:

- **Captain Christopher Del Gandio**, SFPD
- **Ken Craig**, Community Patrol Service
- **Robert Mansfield**, UCSF
- **Gary Pegueros**, South Beach Rincon Mission Bay Neighborhood Association
- **Paul Allen**, Chiefs Community Police Advisory Forum Liaison
- **Omar Rincon**, Supervisor Wiener Liaison
- **Br. Synthetic Soul**, Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence
- **Cal Callahan**, Leather & LGBTQ Cultural District
- **Nguyen Pham**, SF PRIDE
- **Steven Bracco**, Hoodline reporter / SFFD
- **Kenneth Wright**, Individual member

Also in attendance as invited guests at this meeting were:

- **Supervisor Raphael Mandelman**, District 8
- **Sergeant Kathryn Winters**, SFPD Pride Alliance
- **Detective Suzanne Cunanan**, Pacifica Police Department

Captain Del Gandio opened the meeting with some general comments and turned the floor over to **Supervisor Raphael Mandelman** who made a brief statement about the challenges of making San Francisco residents "feel" safe even as violent crime numbers have dropped throughout the city.



Supervisor Mandelman

The perception for many is that the city is not safer with rampant crime and drug use. The difficulties of hiring new Police Officers and utilizing those currently available most efficiently and effectively are real.

The Supervisor also highlighted some board propositions that voters will have the opportunity to approve or reject in the upcoming local elections that

could reduce the paperwork and statutory requirements Officers must currently meet, taking them off the streets and leaving them unable to respond to calls for service.

Forum members were invited to pose questions to Supervisor Mandelman on a variety of topics which the Supervisor responded to.

Detective Suzanne Cunanan of the Pacifica Police Department joined us to get an idea of how our forum works. She is part of an effort to increase and enhance community outreach for the PPD and has been in communication with Captain Del Gandio who invited her to join our meeting.

Thank you to all who attended despite the wild and wet weather.

Our 2024 FORUM MEETING Dates

Mark your calendar:

Wednesday May 01, 2024

Wednesday Jul 31, 2024

Wednesday Nov 06, 2024

7 PM – 9 PM

[UCSF Mission Hall, 550 16th Street, San Francisco, CA](#)

SFPD Police Officers PRIDE Alliance



***Sergeant Kathryn Winters, SFPD
President of the SFPD Police Officers PRIDE Alliance***

Sergeant Kathryn Winters joined our meeting to provide an update on the Police Officers PRIDE Alliance group as she was recently elected President of the group.

Sgt. Winters commented that the turnout of PRIDE Alliance Officers at the last SF PRIDE Parade was lower than in prior events, largely due to the fact that many younger LGBTQ+ Police Officers are not currently members of the Alliance for a variety of reasons. As the new President of the group, Sgt. Winters is committed to growing the ranks of the Alliance and encouraging new LGBTQ+ Officers to become active participants in the Alliance.

Sgt. Winters also spoke of the desire for the Alliance to include all Emergency Responder personnel within San Francisco, including the San Francisco Fire Fighters and City Agencies who do not have their own LGBTQ+ focused employee groups. This would follow a similar model used by some other cities around the country, and would provide a stronger voice for the Alliance as well as a larger membership and greater outreach opportunities.

Sgt. Winters also promised greater support and participation with our Forum in our outreach and education efforts, especially around the SFPD SAFE PLACE program. Our Forum has been planning to work with the PRIDE Alliance and our Forum members to help conduct outreach to many neighborhoods around San Francisco, expanding the program and signing up new businesses to the effort. We had planned to begin this process in the Castro neighborhood with the collaboration of Castro Community On Patrol, but a number of factors contributed in delaying this effort. Our Forum is committed to promoting and expanding the program, and with the help of the PRIDE Alliance members we will certainly focus on doing this throughout 2024 with your help and assistance.

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Forum Supports The UCSF Pride Pin Pledge Program



In 2023, hundreds of anti-LGBTQ+ bills have advanced within state legislatures that seek to attack the civil rights of queer people, especially transgender youth. Within this socio-political landscape, many queer folks continue to face discrimination, particularly in healthcare and educational settings. Graham Hinchcliffe, an Academic Specialist with UCSF, created the [UCSF Pride Pin Pledge](#) to address this concern and offer a simple yet powerful way to send the message that UCSF provides an open and inclusive environment for all.

Graham explained the program to our Forum members in October of 2023 and provided each of us present with a UCSF Pride Pin shown above. The pledge, should you wish to take it yourself, is to show support, take action, and increase visibility.

[I pledge to:](#)

- Undertake the “Gender Recognition” e-course
- Familiarize myself with the “Pronouns Matter” campaign
- Explore further action; attend LGBTQ+ events, websites, volunteer & donate to LGBTQ+ organizations
- Wear my pin to increase visibility and show that I have taken action and training
- Show LGBTQ+ folks they are safe, respected, and listened to without judgement
- Spread kindness, show patience, and share knowledge as an ally or part of the LGBTQ+ community

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OUTREACH PROJECT



PROJECT: 2023-001
LEAD: Ken Craig
Gary Pegueros

Outreach to let members of the broader LGBTQ+ community know that our Forum exists and the work we do is a key objective.

SFPD is creating an official Forum page on their website, though this is delayed until the other Forums are up and running.

We strongly encourage all Forum members to attend their own District Police station Captains monthly meeting. This is a great opportunity to get to know your District station Captain and their staff, and to speak for a few moments during each meeting to promote our Forum.

We are actively reaching out to brother/sister LGBTQ+ programs and projects around the world to formally list them in our "Worldwide LGBTQ+ Law Enforcement Directory." We added Vancouver PD and GOAL of Central Florida during this period, and we reached out to multiple other programs by email.

If you are traveling around the country, or around the world, consider reaching out to the local Police Department and try to arrange a meeting with their LGBTQ+ Officers or liaison. This is a great way to build connections between our Forum and other LGBTQ+ focused entities. We can provide you with a Forum challenge coin and other items to provide as gifts when meeting other individuals or groups.

Sign up to assist on this PROJECT, by emailing us at
SFPD.LGBTQ.Forum@gmail.com

SFPD SAFE PLACE / ZONE PROJECT



PROJECT: 2023-002
LEAD: Greg Carey
Gary Pegueros

The "**SAFE PLACE**" program is a collaborative effort between the San Francisco Police Department and merchants to create safe places where victims of hate crimes, prejudice-based incidents, or other crimes can find refuge and be connected with law enforcement and other services.

The "**SAFE ZONE**" program was created as a project of our Forum to help persuade members of the LGBTQ+ community that SFPD Police Stations and Officers are safe places for them, and that they can report crimes and concerns to Police and they will be treated with RESPECT and COMPASSION.

We are working with Sgt. Winters, the SFPD LGBTQ+ Liaison to help promote and expand both programs to all areas of the city. Promotion will begin through Community Benefit District and cultural community organizations, as well as efforts to create more public awareness through print and television media resources. We will also reach out to City Supervisors to ask them to promote both programs to their own constituents through their newsletters etc.

This overall project is a broader citywide Safety collaboration with other departments that is being formed as an extension of the SF Police Officers PRIDE Alliance organization.

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LGBTQ+/SFPD HISTORY PROJECT



PROJECT: 2023-003

LEAD: Ken Craig

Robert Mansfield, Gary Pegueros

The history of the relationship between the San Francisco Police Department and the LGBTQ+ community is a long, complicated, and often misunderstood one. Many people within the Police Department and within the LGBTQ+ community may be largely unaware of that long and complicated history, and of the tremendous advances and progress that have been made over the decades. This project intends to create our own version of the history art piece shown above, produced by Tasmania Police.

We have started to build our “milestone events” lists and are seeking some SFPD resources to provide statements and memories for the project.

Our long-term goal is to create a finished art installation in the form of a large display which can be housed at the SFPD Training Academy, but also moved to other locations and events when appropriate.

We may be able to secure some funding and artistic assistance from the Police Foundation, and through some connections to similar art projects that are on-going in the Castro and will follow up on these options.

This is an exciting project which will hopefully produce an art piece that will remain interesting and viable for decades of San Franciscan and Police Officers to come.

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HATE CRIMES COMMUNITY MEETING PROJECT



PROJECT: 2023-006

LEAD: Ken Craig

Greg Carey

Following on from our very successful FBI Hate Crimes Symposium in October of 2023, we will now work to establish a similar meeting for the general LGBTQ+ community to provide information and answer questions.

Our goal will be to have representatives on a formal panel from:

- FBI
- Federal Prosecutors Office
- San Francisco District Attorney's Office
- San Francisco Police Department

We have not defined a date or location for this proposed meeting yet.

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SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT

LGBTQ+ Advisory Forum



The LGBTQ+ Advisory Forum is comprised of a broad diversity of LGBTQ+ members from around the city who meet regularly to discuss community needs and concerns, and to help influence SFPD procedure and policy.

Participation in the Forum is open to anyone within the LGBTQ+ community who lives, works, or attends school in San Francisco.

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION

LGBTQ.Forum@sfgov.org

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BEGINNERS COMMUNITY SELF-DEFENSE CLASS

Saturday 02/17/2024

1 PM - 4 PM

Open to anyone 18 years +

Only \$30 per attendee

In the Castro Neighborhood



Hosted by Castro Community On Patrol

Pre-registration is **REQUIRED**

Find out more and register at

www.CastroPatrol.org

