



FORUM NEWS

AUGUST 2023

Newsletter for the San Francisco Police Department, Chief's LGBTQ+ Community 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)

August 23 Forum Meeting At UCSF Campus



We hosted our latest Forum meeting on Wednesday August 23rd, 2023 at the UCSF campus in Mission Bay. Sincere thanks to forum member **Robert Mansfield** and **UCSF** for the space, donuts, and coffee.

- Attending this meeting:
- **Assistant Chief David Lazar**, SFPD
 - **Captain Christopher Del Gandio**, SFPD
 - **Greg Carey**, Castro Community On Patrol
 - **Ken Craig**, Community Patrol Service
 - **Robert Mansfield**, UCSF
 - **Gary Pegueros**, South Beach Rincon Mission Bay Neighborhood Association
 - **Paul Allen**, Corbett Heights Neighborhood Association
 - **Billy Lemon**, Castro Country Club
 - **Nguyen Pham**, SF Pride
 - **Desmond Morgan**, Castro CBD

Following general introductions **Assistant Chief David Lazar** discussed his role as second in command of the SFPD and some of the challenges facing the department in terms of finding new Officers and retaining existing Officers.

AC Lazar advised that the department is significantly understaffed right now, down about five-hundred Officers from the target number desired, but he is hopeful that some trends are moving in the right direction in terms of slowly rebuilding these numbers.

AC Lazar then responded to a number of Forum member questions in a short Q&A.

One item of "breaking news" AC Lazar imparted is that Chief Scott is considering forming a single Chief's advisory forum that would elicit one or two members from each existing forum to serve and meet regular directly with the Chief. The existing community forums would then convert to a Department Forum but we would still retain access to the Chief and command staff when necessary. This is not a finalized decision yet, but is under consideration.

Sharing Your Email and Phone Number, and a Photograph?

As the Forum matures, and as we begin to work on projects together, the ability to communicate with other Forum members will become more valuable. To this end, we want to ask if you would like to share your email and phone number/s with your fellow permanent Forum members? If so, please email us at LGBTQ.forum@sfgov.org and provide the email address and phone number/s you would like to be listed.

If you would like to change, or add, a photograph to our Forum Charter document, please send a good headshot in .JPG or similar format to the same email address.

Our Next FORUM MEETING

Our next Forum meeting is:

Wednesday October 25
7 PM – 9 PM
[UCSF Mission Hall,](#)
[Global Health & Clinical](#)
[Sciences Building,](#)
[550 16th Street,](#)
[San Francisco, CA](#)
<https://w3w.co/puns.bulb.gazed>

We hope to see you then!

Sign Up To Attend The FBI Hate Crimes Symposium

Civil Rights / Hate Crimes Symposium



Wednesday August 30, 2023

7 PM – 9 PM

The Academy SF



You are cordially invited to join a select group of community leaders and organizations for a special meeting with:

Special Agent In Charge Robert Tripp, F.B.I. San Francisco

Chief Bill Scott, San Francisco Police Department

Co-Chairs, SFPD Chief's LGBTQ+ Community Advisory Forum

Chief Greg Carey, Castro Community On Patrol

This meeting will provide a unique opportunity to hear from the FBI Civil Rights/Hate Crimes squad regarding their efforts to protect the public and investigate these crimes. After the FBI's presentation, there will be an open forum discussion on collaboration and cooperation in the hate crimes and Domestic Violent Extremist areas.

BY INVITATION ONLY - PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

<https://www.academy-sf.com/event-details/academy-forum-civil-rights-hate-crimes-symposium-with-the-fbi-and-sfpd>

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

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.

If you would like to assist on this PROJECT, please email 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.

If you would like to assist on this PROJECT, please email us at SFPD.LGBTQ.Forum@gmail.com

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

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.

If you would like to assist on this PROJECT,
please email us at
SFPD.LGBTQ.Forum@gmail.com

FBI HATE CRIMES SYMPOSIUM PROJECT



PROJECT: 2023-005

LEAD: Captain Del Gandio

Ken Craig, Greg Carey

Our Forum has hosted two previous "Hate Crime Symposium" meetings, though these were long-ago and well before the COVID-19 pandemic. Special Agent Michael Gimbel has requested that our Forum support and assist in hosting an FBI led "Hate Crimes Symposium" in San Francisco for the LGBTQ+ community on Wednesday August 30, 2023.

The Federal Hate Crime legislation is something that very few lay people really understand in any detail, and the complexities and requirements to bring hate crime charges are not always a simple matter. It is therefore valuable to really explore this topic and provide quality and accurate information to as many people as possible.

We have secured space at the Academy SF and have created an invitational poster (attached earlier in this newsletter) which has been emailed to all permanent Forum members and to select members of the LGBTQ+ community.

This will be a unique opportunity and a very interesting presentation. We strongly encourage all Forum members to register and attend.

Feel free to extend the invitation to anyone you believe would find value and use in this symposium, but please don't post the invitation on any social media or distribute it through general email lists.

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

SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief's LGBTQ+ Community Advisory Forum



The LGBTQ+ 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

“Working together to create a safer and stronger community for all”