



City and County of San Francisco
Department on the Status of Women

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San Francisco's Safer Schools Sexual Assault Task Force Issues Final Report

Today, the San Francisco Safer Schools Sexual Assault Task Force releases its final report, after a year of convening to address sexual assault on campus in San Francisco. "We need to create environments where everyone can feel safe, comfortable and secure," said Mayor Edwin M. Lee. "This report establishes a framework for how we can ensure that individuals live without fear of sexual assault, whether it is in their communities, homes or college campuses."

The Safer Schools Sexual Assault Task Force was created by local ordinance, and was set up to meet for one year, monthly, from November 2016-October 2017. The final report summarizes existing laws regarding campus sexual assault, and contains **47 recommendations** for how campuses, city agencies and service providers can best prevent and respond to sexual assault. The two overarching recommendations in the report are to 1) create an on-going Sexual Assault Task Force to address all sexual assault in San Francisco; and 2) to fully implement state and federal laws to prevent sexual assault on campus and respond effectively, in an era of potential federal roll backs.

"As the national conversation on sexual harassment has exposed, we need to be sure that our systems that respond to all forms of sexual assault, including sexual assault on campus, treat victims with concern and respect and hold offenders accountable," said Debbie Mesloh, President of the Commission on the Status of Women.

"Thanks to the work of the members of this task force, all fierce advocates in their own right, San Francisco can continue being the vanguard of setting survivor-centered policies and procedures in the areas of sexual assault as we have in the areas of domestic violence and human trafficking, and setting an example for the rest of the country," said Supervisor Jane Kim who sponsored the legislation creating the Task Force.

"This report is a call to action. It is critical that resources be provided to implement each recommendation," commented Amelia Gilbert, Task Force Member, survivor, and CEO of Vivifi.

Task Force member Leslie Simon of City College of San Francisco, noted, "This work is rooted in an anti-oppression framework that acknowledges the connections among all forms of power and abuse. It is work that must continue if we are to make our way out of these troubling times."

"This is a ground-breaking report with recommendations that have the potential to make San Francisco a leader in using a trauma-informed, survivor-centered approach to the many facets of sexual assault prevention and response in our city," said Task Force member Stacey Wiggall, Technical Assistance Coordinator at the UCSF Trauma Recovery Center.

The Task Force was composed of ten members, representing various educational institutions, government agencies, advocacy groups and survivor perspectives. A list of Task Force members and the full report is available at <http://sfgov.org/dosw/safer-schools-sexual-assault-task-force>.

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Safer Schools Sexual Assault Task Force Report Highlights

- Safer Schools Sexual Assault Task Force, created by local ordinance sponsored by Supervisor Jane Kim, met from November 2016-October 2017.
- Staffed by Department on the Status of Women consultant Julia Weber.



San Francisco has 23 colleges and universities;

Estimates of > 105,000 college students in San Francisco;

10,500 female students and **3,281** male students may be sexually assaulted while in college in San Francisco. (Assuming a 50/50 split between women and men attending school.)

47 Recommendations / 6 categories

1. Coordinated Campus and Community Response;
2. Prevention and Education;
3. Policy Development and Implementation;
4. Reporting Options, Advocacy, and Support Services;
5. Climate Surveys, Performance Measurement, Evaluation, and Transparency;
6. Additional

Overarching Recommendations:

#1: A Coordinated Community Response

Create on-going, staffed Task Force to continue work to improve San Francisco's response to sexual assault

#2: Managing Changes in Federal Enforcement of Title IX

At the state and local level, legislative policy efforts be undertaken to counteract any rollback of Title IX.

Other significant recommendations:

Better Coordination Between Campuses and Community Institutions/organizations

- # 2: Support ongoing implementation of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) between educational institutions, law enforcement and community based organizations.
- # 25: Support ongoing policy and procedure development efforts to improve coordination between public health services, criminal justice procedures, and civil court processes.

Prevention & Education

- ##3,11: Provide annual citywide training events, as well as campus-specific training.
- # 4: Develop a citywide public service announcement campaign addressing sexual assault on and off campus.
- #9: Ensure services and outreach are relevant to all of San Francisco's students who may experience sexual assault: LGBTQ community, immigrants (including those who may be undocumented and particularly vulnerable), people with disabilities, and members of all racial and ethnic groups;
- #13: Adopt and promote bystander amnesty policies.
- #14: Support efforts to provide increased, effective prevention education to K-12 students in San Francisco.

Services for Survivors

- #35: Schools should provide access to free legal services during campus disciplinary proceedings when one side is represented by an attorney.
- # 42: Consider methods for collecting and earmarking funding for sexual assault services.


Data Collection

- #38: Educational institutions should publish aggregate statistics on the number of incidents of sexual misconduct, the outcomes of campus disciplinary proceedings, and findings from evaluations and audits of policy reviews and programs.

Task Force Members:

Una Bailey, Captain, Special Victims Unit, San Francisco Police Department
Denise Caramagno, Director, Care Program, University of California at San Francisco
Amelia Gilbert, Survivor and CEO of Vivifi
LuoLuo Hong, Vice President of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management, SF State University
J. Ocean Mottley, Attorney representing survivors of sexual assault
Gena Castro Rodriguez, Chief of Victim Services, San Francisco District Attorney
Leslie Simon, founder of Project Survive, City College of San Francisco
Janelle White, Executive Director, San Francisco Women Against Rape
Stacey Wiggall, Technical Assistance Coordinator, UCSF Trauma Recovery Center
Denise Sicut Wong, Youth Outreach Coordinator, Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach (former)

Coordinated Citywide and Campus Efforts

Rec. #	Recommendation	Description	Critical Resources
1.	<p>Support ongoing Task Force and dedicated staff to increase and improve coordination between campus & community efforts to prevent and respond to sexual assault.</p> <p>Estimate cost: \$157,000 for one FTE.</p>	<p>Ongoing support for a Task Force or similar body that meets monthly and is staffed with a full-time employee so that the coordination and communication that has been developed this year may continue. The White House Task Force Report also specifically calls on communities to establish a dedicated community/campus task force. San Francisco's size and the importance of this issue require ongoing, focused attention to better prevent and respond to sexual assault on campus and in the community. The value of having a dedicated staff person who can convene meetings, make connections between professionals and organizations, draft MOUs and policies, and follow up on identifying and implementing promising practices, cannot be overstated. Additionally, that staff person could assist the SART members with coordination and follow-up to ensure those efforts are effectively implemented and coordinated.</p> <p>Over the course of doing this work, members found that their jobs keep them focused on the important tasks within their specific organizations and that there was enormous value in meeting with others, recognizing that victims/survivors end up having contact with multiple agencies and individuals, and that resources can be more effectively leveraged and applied when there is ongoing coordination and more accountability for communication and cooperation. The Task Force should publish periodic updates on campus prevention efforts, resources allocated to addressing sexual assault, and</p>	<p>Critical Resources</p> 

Rec. #	Recommendation	Description	Critical Resources
		<p>how SFPD, DA, and SFGH are working with CBOs and campuses to improve the handling of sexual assault cases.</p> <p>The Task Force also found that not all institutions are keeping websites up to date with respect to Title IX information or always making it easy for the campus community to have access to resources in this area. To most effectively build on work done thus far, and continue established efforts to provide safe and fair campuses, all San Francisco institutions must have a Title IX coordinator, and the city and county need to continue to expand the number of Memoranda of Understanding between schools and governmental and community-based agencies. Establishing a standing committee/task force will provide an entity with responsibility to track policies and procedures, identify gaps, and support full implementation around prevention and response in San Francisco.</p> <p>The City should provide funding to support this Task Force's work on an ongoing basis and build on the work accomplished thus far.</p>	
2.	Support ongoing implementation of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) between educational institutions, law enforcement and community-based organizations.	In San Francisco, the eight largest institutions out of a total of 23 colleges and universities have established MOUs. This is an area in which San Francisco has excelled and should build on that success to ensure that each school has an MOU in place and is aware of the details within the MOU so that full and ongoing implementation may be reached. An established Task Force would be able to track MOU development and assist with implementation.	