

From: [Andary, Sophia \(HRC\)](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Crayton, Monique \(BOS\)](#); [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Chen, Chyanne \(BOS\)](#); [Prager, Jackie \(BOS\)](#); [Gallardo, Tracy \(BOS\)](#); [Waltonstaff \(BOS\)](#); [Blakely, Dominique \(HRC\)](#); [Andary, Sophia \(HRC\)](#)
Subject: Letter of Support for Strong Oversight and Protections for Women in San Francisco Jails
Date: Monday, March 9, 2026 3:12:34 PM

March 9, 2026

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett Pl.
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Letter of Support for Strong Oversight and Protections for Women in San Francisco Jails for the March 12, 2026, hearing on the Conditions for Women in Custody at Local Jails - Sheriff's Department Oversight, Policies and Procedures.

The allegations involving illegal strip searches of women held pretrial in San Francisco's county jail are deeply disturbing and require serious attention. Women in custody must be treated with dignity and respect, and any violation of their rights must be addressed with transparency, accountability, and meaningful reform.

San Francisco has clear policies governing strip searches: they must be conducted privately, using the least intrusive methods possible, and must never be recorded. Reports that women detained in B-Pod were subjected to or forced to witness mass strip searches raise serious concerns about whether these policies were followed. Allegations that women were mocked or filmed during these searches are particularly troubling and must be investigated thoroughly. If verified, such conduct would represent a serious breach of policy and basic human dignity.

Women who report abuse, harassment, or intimidation must be protected from retaliation and must have confidence that their concerns will be investigated fairly. Grievance systems and investigative processes must be transparent, independent, and effective so that people in custody can report misconduct without fear.

These allegations underscore the need for a **fully independent and community-informed investigation** into the reported mass strip searches and the broader conditions faced by women in custody. An internal review alone is not sufficient to restore public trust.

Policy reforms should also be considered. Organizations such as Legal Services for Prisoners with Children have proposed improvements to strip search procedures following legal visits that could reduce harm and better ensure compliance with legal standards and basic respect for human dignity.

Women affected by these events must also receive support. Advocates report that many survivors are experiencing significant trauma, and **access to independent, community-based counseling services should be made available immediately.**

Broader jail conditions also deserve attention. Women in custody have reported extremely limited access to outdoor space and sunlight, as well as inconsistent access to basic necessities such as hot water, sanitary facilities, and cleaning supplies. These are fundamental health and safety requirements in any detention setting.

Meaningful programming and rehabilitation opportunities are also critical. Women and transgender people in custody benefit from in-person educational, vocational, and supportive programming, along with fair access to milestone credits tied to participation. Expanding these opportunities supports rehabilitation and successful reentry.

San Francisco must also maintain strong oversight of its detention facilities. Independent oversight bodies play a critical role in ensuring accountability and building public trust. The city should **support and**

strengthen oversight mechanisms, including the Sheriff's Department Oversight Board and the Commission on the Status of Women, and ensure they are adequately funded and resourced, including the hiring of an **Independent Inspector General**.

Protecting the rights and safety of women in custody is a fundamental responsibility of government and essential to maintaining public trust in our justice system.

Thank you,

Sophia Andary

Commissioner, San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women*

*Speaking in my own capacity as a commissioner and not on behalf of the full Commission.

From: [Tyler McDaniel](#)
To: [Crayton, Monique \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public comment for Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee 3/12/2026
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 8:55:51 AM

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Dear Monique,

I would like to submit a public comment for yesterday's public safety and neighborhood services committee meeting. I was in attendance yesterday and in line to speak; unfortunately I had to leave before I had a chance to go to the mic. My comment is below.

Many thanks for your time!

Tyler

Hello supervisors. My name is Tyler, and I am a D9 resident.

I am here with teachers from the Stanford Jail and Prison Education Project. For the past seven years, I have taught classes in jails across the Bay Area, including in CJ2 and CJ3.

Through these classes, I have seen our incarcerated students recite poems, reflect on their lives, learn new skills, teach new skills, and share joy. Many students have prior experience with trauma. Almost everyone that I've worked with has expressed desires of healing from past harms, making their time productive, bettering themselves, and supporting their loved ones - I think desires we can all relate to.

That is why it is concerning when the jail not only is not a place where healing does not occur, but is a place where new traumas are inflicted on these people. Of course, many were subjected to the mass strip search on May 22, and may have experienced retaliation or harassment since. This is not an isolated incident: Our students experience regular lockdowns, limited sunlight, and solitary confinement. One of our students - who asked repeatedly for diversion - even died here in CJ2.

People in jails deserve safety, justice, accountability, and a chance at healing. That is why I join CCWP in calling for removal of the staff involved, an independent investigation, and the other demands outlined. Thank you.



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WOMEN'S POLITICAL COMMITTEE

SFWPC Statement on the Treatment of Women and Gender-Diverse People in San Francisco County Jail

March 12, 2026

Public Safety & Neighbourhood Services Committee
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett Pl, #244,
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Statement on the Treatment of Women and Gender-Diverse People in San Francisco County Jail

Dear Supervisor Mandelman and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

The San Francisco Women's Political Committee (SFWPC) strongly condemns reports that nearly two dozen incarcerated women in San Francisco County Jail were subjected to mass strip searches in May 2025, during which Sheriff's deputies required women to disrobe while being filmed on body-worn cameras.

This conduct violates basic human dignity. San Francisco must make clear that practices that degrade, humiliate, or retraumatize individuals in custody have no place in our public safety system.

Many of the women held in San Francisco County Jail are survivors of violence, and the majority are in pretrial detention and have not been convicted of a crime. Non-individualized strip searches and the recording of individuals in states of forced nudity compound trauma, worsen mental health outcomes, and erode public trust in the institutions meant to keep our communities safe.

San Francisco's commitment to gender equity and human dignity must extend to every person in this city's custody. With a hearing before the San Francisco Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee, SFWPC urges the Board of Supervisors to adopt the following community demands:

- Suspension and removal of deputies and supervisors involved in the reported abuses



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- A fully independent, community-informed investigation with transparent reporting of findings
- Protections against retaliation and harassment toward individuals in custody who report abuse
- Policies limiting strip searches strictly to circumstances involving individualized reasonable suspicion
- Immediate securing and preservation of body-camera footage related to the reported incidents for investigation purposes, barring access by involved personnel, with footage deletion upon completion of all investigations and litigation
- Access to independent, community-based counseling and support services for impacted individuals

These immediate steps must also be part of a broader reckoning with how San Francisco funds and oversees public safety. Full funding of the Sheriff's Department Oversight Board and the hiring of an Independent Inspector General are foundations for meaningful accountability and future Sheriff's Office funding should reflect whether those standards are being met.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

SFWPC Board of Directors