

1 [Affirming Due Process Rights and Community Partnerships for Public Safety, and Urging
2 Training and Protocols for Law Enforcement Given Recent Federal Immigration Enforcement
3 Actions and Law Enforcement Impersonations]

4 **Resolution affirming the due process rights of San Franciscans, the essential role of**
5 **community partnership with local law enforcement to maintain public safety, and**
6 **urging that the Police Department and Sheriff's Department update and communicate**
7 **to community members policies, procedures, and training considering recent federal**
8 **immigration enforcement actions and fraudulent impersonations of law enforcement in**
9 **order to safeguard public safety for all.**

10
11 WHEREAS, San Francisco is experiencing one of the lowest crime rates, with overall
12 crime down 28%, including the fewest homicides in more than 60 years in 2024, a 29%
13 decrease in property crime, a 20% drop in violent crime, and a 22-year low in auto burglaries;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, The increase in public safety is due to decades of building relationships
16 between police officers, sheriff deputies, neighborhood and community leaders, direct service
17 providers, public health workers, residents, workers, members of different faith communities,
18 and more; and

19 WHEREAS, The increase in public safety was also achieved because of an overall
20 emphasis on community policing and the strengthening of accountability, oversight, and
21 transparency through the San Francisco Police Department's collaborative reform efforts in
22 partnership with the California Department of Justice which were successfully completed in
23 2024 and the existence of independent oversight bodies such as the Department of Police
24 Accountability, the Sheriff's Department Oversight Board, and the civilian-led Police
25 Commission; and

1 WHEREAS, Community engagement is a best practice in the public safety realm to
2 build trust between law enforcement and the populations that they serve, with the International
3 Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) asserting that “Trust and transparency between law
4 enforcement agencies and the people they serve is vital to community stability, officer safety,
5 and effective policing,” which is strengthened when San Francisco police officers uphold the
6 highest standards of conduct while performing their duties and dedicate themselves to serving
7 the people of San Francisco with respect for all; and

8 WHEREAS, San Francisco police officers and Sheriff deputies wear badges, uniforms,
9 follow due process in conducting enforcement activities, do not routinely hide their faces with
10 masks or refuse to identify and provide verification of their bona fide status as peace officers
11 or refuse to provide proof of the legality of the enforcement action(s) being conducted; and

12 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco and our local law enforcement
13 agencies comply with all federal, state, and local laws, and do not obstruct or interfere with
14 federal officials in the performance of their duties; and

15 WHEREAS, In recent months, there have been numerous reports of federal
16 immigration enforcement activity within the City and County of San Francisco, including
17 allegations of conduct by alleged federal law enforcement officers that has caused fear and
18 undermined San Francisco’s public safety, including but not limited to alleged federal officers
19 seizing, arresting, and detaining individuals without affording due process rights; appearing in
20 masks covering their faces and in plain clothes without any official identifiable agency;
21 refusing to provide proof of a lawful enforcement action or proof of identity or verification of
22 status as a legitimate law enforcement officer; and

23 WHEREAS, Residents in the city have reported to the City and County of San
24 Francisco being contacted by individuals purporting to be federal agents, but been unable to
25 verify this as fact, making it virtually impossible for the public or city officials to distinguish

1 between legitimate government actions or potentially fraudulent or even deadly
2 impersonations; and

3 WHEREAS, Without necessary information being provided in a timely manner, the
4 public safety, wellbeing, economic health, and social networks of San Francisco and San
5 Franciscans are threatened; and

6 WHEREAS, These enforcement actions may increase in number and frequency with
7 the July 4, 2025 signing of the 2025 budget package that sets aside about \$170 billion dollars
8 to support the federal administration's border and immigration goals, which includes detaining
9 and deporting a record number of people from the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, It is critical under these conditions for the operations of the San Francisco
11 Police Department to be transparent, consistent, and understood by San Franciscans in order
12 to preserve and continue to build trust between local law enforcement and the people entitled
13 to be protected by them; and

14 WHEREAS, There is precedent for from the City of Los Angeles to verify the identity of
15 federal agents at the scene of suspected immigration enforcement actions and can help to
16 address increasing community concerns about unidentified, masked, and armed individuals
17 who may or may not be legitimate law enforcement officers; and

18 WHEREAS, The Los Angeles Police Department recently issued a policy directing Los
19 Angeles police officers responding to suspected federal immigration enforcement to request a
20 supervisor if one is not present, verify the credentials of the lead agent or supervisor if agents
21 are not clearly identified, and capture the verification process on body-worn camera to ensure
22 transparency; and

23 WHEREAS, The policy also authorizes officers to take enforcement action if they
24 determine someone is impersonating a federal officer, which may include detention or arrest;
25 now, therefore, be it;

1 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco, including this Board of
2 Supervisors, hereby reiterates the City's commitment to the due process rights of all San
3 Franciscans; and, be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors recognizes that it benefits
5 officer safety to have the trust and partnership of the people that they serve and that they
6 must have clear information and direction to be able to effectively communicate their duties
7 and responses when dispatched to respond to calls for service, including when other law
8 enforcement agency personnel may be involved; and, be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the San Francisco Police
10 Department and the Sheriff's Department to swiftly act to develop and implement clear
11 operational protocols and training for officers who may respond to calls for service involving a
12 public safety concern where the incident involves suspected federal immigration enforcement
13 and consider including the following: to request a supervisor if one is not present, verify the
14 credentials of the lead agent or supervisor if agents are not clearly identified, capture the
15 verification process on body-worn camera to ensure transparency, and authorize officers to
16 take enforcement action if they determine someone is impersonating a federal officer, which
17 may include detention or arrest; and, be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby directs
19 the Clerk of the Board to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the San Francisco Police
20 Commission, the San Francisco Police Department Chief of Police, the San Francisco Sheriff
21 Oversight Board, and the San Francisco Sheriff.