

1 [Calling for the creation of an interagency task force to investigate and prosecute fraud crime.]

2

3 **Resolution calling for the creation of an interagency task force of local authorities,**
4 **federal authorities and businesses to investigate and prosecute fraud crime.**

5

6 WHEREAS, The Fraud Section of the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) is
7 charged with investigating cases of fraud including, but not limited to check fraud, theft by
8 access card, theft by deception, forgery, counterfeit merchandise, counterfeit currency, real
9 estate fraud, embezzlement, financial elder abuse; and

10 WHEREAS, The Fraud Section prior to 1991 had over twenty investigators and now
11 has eight, leaving the Section underresourced to effectively investigate its 5,000-6,000 annual
12 caseload; and

13 WHEREAS, The backlog at the Fraud Section is so great that it can take many months
14 or even a year for cases to be investigated; and

15 WHEREAS, Many fraud crimes involve the use of the Internet, the United States Mail,
16 interstate commerce, checks or other methods that bring the crime under the jurisdiction of
17 the United States Secret Service and/or the United States Postal Inspection Service; and

18 WHEREAS, The Fraud Section of SFPD currently has a backlog of cases to be
19 forwarded to the Office of the District Attorney; and

20 WHEREAS, Commerce and justice benefit from the speedy investigation and
21 prosecution of criminal fraud cases; and

22 WHEREAS, An essential function of government is to provide for the safety and to
23 protect the property rights and financial rights of citizens; and

24

25

1 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco calls for the formation of an
2 interagency task force charged with the short-term investigation and prosecution of fraud
3 cases; and be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the task force should include, or consult with, the United
5 States Secret Service, the United States Postal Inspection Service, the San Francisco Office
6 of the District Attorney, the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, financial institutions and
7 the San Francisco Police Department; and be it

8 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall forward a copy of this
9 resolution to the Chief of Police of the San Francisco Police Department, the District Attorney
10 of San Francisco, the San Francisco Police Commission, the Special Agent in Charge of the
11 San Francisco Office of the United States Secret Service and the Special Agent in Charge of
12 the San Francisco Office of the United States Postal Inspection Service; and be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Chief of Police should detail necessary police
14 personnel in order to address this backlog and restore faith with the public that their reported
15 cases are important.