

1 [Establishing Advisory Committee on Merging the Sheriff’s and Police Departments]

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3 **Resolution establishing a committee to make specific recommendations for amending**
4 **the City Charter to merge the Sheriffs and Police Departments under the Sheriffs**
5 **Department.**

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7 WHEREAS, A report from the 1999-2000 San Francisco Civil Grand Jury found that
8 “combining the San Francisco Police and Sheriff’s departments could yield some benefits”;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The Civil Grand Jury recommended that San Francisco convene an
11 advisory committee to perform a detailed, in depth study of the benefits of a merger between
12 the San Francisco Police Department and the San Francisco Sheriff’s Department; and

13 WHEREAS, According to the report several large cities have derived substantial
14 benefits from such a consolidation; and

15 WHEREAS, Among other findings the Grand Jury reported these benefits could
16 include a lower drop out rate, greater economies of scale, possible reduction in duplicative
17 administrative functions, coordination of departmental policies, lower personnel turnover,
18 increased training and orientation opportunities, and more efficient hiring; and,

19 WHEREAS, The Police Department has increasingly run up higher and higher
20 operation costs including overtime costs; and,

21 WHEREAS, The Police Department has shown a pattern of excessive force as
22 evidenced in such events as their violent and heavy handed response with 60 officers in riot
23 gear to a fistfight at the Thurgood Marshall High School on October 11, 2002; numerous
24 shootings and killings of suspects by police officers including Camerin Boyd, Sheila Detoy,

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1 Idriss Stelley, Asa Sullivan, and Oliver Lefiti to name a few, where the Police's rationale for
2 the appropriate use of firearms was either completely baseless or dubious at best; and

3 WHEREAS, Many Police Officers at the Bayview Station had recently become
4 embroiled in a shameful controversy as it was revealed that officers had used staff time,
5 Police vehicles and equipment to make distasteful, and to many obscene and offensive,
6 videos parodying police activities; and

7 WHEREAS, Many Police Officers have shown little accountability to the public
8 expectations to fulfill their duties in preventing frequent incidents of drug dealing and related
9 violence in neighborhoods across the City; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the creation
11 of an advisory committee to perform a detailed, in depth study on merging the San Francisco
12 Police Department and the San Francisco Sheriff's Department under the Sheriffs
13 Department and to make specific recommendations for amending the City Charter to achieve
14 such a merger; and, be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That advisory committee report its findings to the Board of
16 Supervisors by April 30, 2007.

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