

[Administrative Code - Community Policing Policy]

Ordinance amending the Community Policing Policy to highlight the role of civilian Police Department personnel in effective community policing and community-based crime prevention programs, including programs inclusive of seniors and individuals with limited English proficiency.

NOTE: **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain Arial font.
Additions to Codes are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.
Deletions to Codes are in ~~*strikethrough italics Times New Roman font*~~.
Board amendment additions are in double-underlined Arial font.
Board amendment deletions are in ~~strikethrough Arial font~~.
Asterisks (* * * *) indicate the omission of unchanged Code subsections or parts of tables.

Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

Section 1. Background and Findings.

(a) In 2011, with the passage of Ordinance No. 210-11, the Board of Supervisors created the Community Policing Policy for the City and County of San Francisco.

(b) This policy was designed to provide guidance to the San Francisco Police Department for building and maintaining trust with community members and community-based organizations.

(c) The definition of Community Policing includes five key components: the structure and philosophy of the Police Department, formal partnerships with community members, community communication and relations, officer accountability, and community-based violence prevention programs.

(d) Over the past 14 years, the role of civilian staff has become increasingly important in community policing, particularly the role of the public or community safety liaison.

1 Civilian staff contribute to non-law enforcement duties, increasing the efficiency and
2 effectiveness of the Police Department, especially with respect to community engagement.

3 (e) The purpose of this ordinance is to update the Community Policing Policy to
4 highlight the significant contributions of civilian staff within the Police Department in
5 community policing, and emphasize the importance of community-based crime prevention
6 programs inclusive of seniors and individuals with limited English proficiency to ensure safety
7 for all community members.

8 (f) Fourteen years after the passage of the Community Policing Policy, it is crucial
9 to recognize the importance of the contributions of civilian staff and of crime prevention
10 programs, which have proven successful. This refinement and improvement of the policy will
11 better serve the community and enhance public safety.

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13 Section 2. Chapter 2A, Article IV, of the Administrative Code is hereby amended by
14 revising Section 2A.83, to read as follows:

15 **SEC. 2A.83. COMMUNITY POLICING POLICY.**

16 (a) **Policy.** It shall be the policy of the City and County of San Francisco to engage
17 in community policing.

18 (b) **Definition.** Community policing is a philosophy and organizational strategy that
19 includes community members in many aspects of police work and relies on partnerships and
20 mutual trust between the San Francisco Police Department and community-based
21 organizations, as well as city agencies and other public entities, including but not limited to the
22 Department of Public Health, the Department of Children, Youth, and their Families, and the
23 San Francisco Unified School District, in order to create safer communities, address the root
24 causes of violence, and preserve healthy and vibrant neighborhoods in San Francisco.
25 Community policing involves police officers and civilian staff working in collaboration with

1 community leaders, residents, and local businesses ~~to in~~ proactively ~~ways to~~ identify public
2 safety concerns, develop community-based crime prevention programs, and create inclusive
3 solutions to community problems. Community policing depends on deep, transparent, and
4 mutually-respectful relationships between police personnel, including police officers and civilian
5 staff, and community members to sustain cooperative working relationships. ~~An important~~
6 ~~element in e~~Effective community policing relies on open communications and established
7 relationships between ~~is that~~ police personnel, including police officers and civilian staff, and
8 community members familiar with the needs and strengths of a particular community ~~play an~~
9 ~~important policing role within that community and be allowed~~ in order to develop their own
10 innovative solutions to problems.

11 Community policing is not an abstract ideal; rather, it requires that the San
12 Francisco Police Department commit to a departmental structure and philosophy that supports
13 community policing. ~~It that it~~ requires the ~~create~~ ion of strong partnerships and trusted relationships
14 ~~structures for partnership~~ with community members, sustained efforts to ~~that it~~ maintain ~~strong~~
15 programs and robust communication mechanisms to connect with and build relationships with
16 the broader community, and ~~that it sustain~~ effective systems to hold police officers
17 accountable. In addition to the work of the San Francisco Police Department, community
18 policing requires the existence of and resource allocation towards independent community-
19 based violence prevention programs in order to prevent and reduce crime, including violent
20 crime.

21 In the City and County of San Francisco, community policing may include the
22 following:

23 (1) **Structure and Philosophy of the San Francisco Police Department.**

24 (A) An organizational structure that supports community policing, which may
25 include a high-ranking Department member in charge of monitoring, evaluating, and

continually improving the Police Department's community policing activities and strategies, community policing lieutenants designated at each district station, civilian staff dedicated to community policing and consideration of community policing skills, including community feedback, in assignment or promotion decisions as permitted by Civil Service, Memorandum of Understanding, and other applicable requirements;

(B) Officer foot patrols;

(C) Officers with advanced training in de-escalating dangerous situations including but not limited to those situations involving individuals in mental health crisis; and

(D) Ongoing training at all levels (academy, field, and in-services) in community policing for officers throughout their careers.

(2) Structures for Formal Partnerships Between the San Francisco Police Department and Community Members.

(A) Formal processes by which community members can interact and work with police personnel to discuss and problem-solve neighborhood policing, community, and public safety concerns, for example, working groups, the existing Citizen Police Advisory Boards, or other advisory committees or boards;

(B) Training in community policing for community members on any advisory committees, boards, or working groups; and

(C) Mechanisms for annual review by civilian advisory committees, boards, or working groups, of adherence to this community policing policy and efficacy of the Department's community policing program.

(3) Community Relations.

(A) Community building activities such as Police Department sponsored mentorship programs for children and crime prevention events for seniors, and police participation in neighborhood and holiday celebratory events, town hall meetings, and community policing

1 and violence prevention summits to explore issues and problems in particular communities or
2 with particular people in the same demographic (e.g., youth, LGBT community, seniors,
3 African-American community, Latino community, Native American community, Asian/Pacific
4 Islander community, Middle Eastern community, homeless residents of San Francisco, and
5 individuals with limited English proficiency); and

6 (B) Regular two-way communication between personnel at the district stations
7 and the community through police officers and civilian staff within the Department, which may
8 include technological mechanisms to receive community feedback, district station newsletters,
9 and use of social network tools.

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12 Section 3. Scope of Ordinance. In enacting this ordinance, the Board of Supervisors
13 intends to amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs, subsections, sections, articles,
14 numbers, punctuation marks, charts, diagrams, or any other constituent parts of the Municipal
15 Code that are explicitly shown in this ordinance as additions, deletions, Board amendment
16 additions, and Board amendment deletions in accordance with the “Note” that appears under
17 the official title of the ordinance.

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1 Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after
2 enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the
3 ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board
4 of Supervisors overrides the Mayor's veto of the ordinance.

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6 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
7 DAVID CHIU, City Attorney

8 By: /s/ Jen Huber
9 JEN HUBER
Deputy City Attorney

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