June 10, 2025

San Francisco Board of Supervisors City Hall, Room 244 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102

## **RE:** Community Support for Pratibha Tekkey's Appointment to the SF Police Commission

Dear Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors:

As a coalition of institutions, residents, and neighborhood stakeholders, we write to express our unified and enthusiastic support for the appointment of Pratibha Tekkey to the San Francisco Police Commission. Pratibha has dedicated over 16 years of frontline service in San Francisco, with a specific emphasis on the Tenderloin neighborhood, bringing together tenants, small businesses, families, and City agencies to address public safety, housing justice, and equitable neighborhood development.

Through her leadership at the Central City SRO Collaborative, she has played a pivotal role in facilitating trust, accountability, and constructive collaboration between residents and the San Francisco Police Department. From organizing *Take Back the Block* and *Take Back the Park* initiatives, to co-developing the Tenderloin Store Hours legislation, and advocating for pedestrian safety infrastructure, Pratibha has demonstrated a deep, practical understanding of what community-centered public safety can look like. She has repeatedly shown the ability to listen with empathy, mediate across sectors, and elevate community voice into meaningful, systemic action.

Her lived experience as an immigrant woman of color, her long-standing relationships with working-class and underrepresented communities, and her commitment to integrity, accountability, transparency, and collaboration uniquely position her to serve effectively and with integrity on the Police Commission. She brings not only policy experience, but also relational trust built through decades of grassroots organizing. We believe that her presence on the Police Commission would be a powerful step toward inclusive governance, equitable policing, and stronger ties between law enforcement and the neighborhoods they serve. We urge you to support her appointment and ensure that this vital seat reflects the voices of those most impacted by public safety decisions.

We thank you for your leadership and consideration.

In solidarity,

Community Institutions, Residents, and Neighborhood Stakeholders of San Francisco







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## O'Farrell Neighbors Group (ONG)

## **Individual Support**

Peter Gallotta, Board member, Lower Nob Hill Neighborhood Alliance\* Kim Hopper, Board member, Lower Nob Hill Neighborhood Alliance\* Rachel Johnson, Board member, Lower Nob Hill Neighborhood Alliance\* Barbara Swan, Board member, Lower Nob Hill Neighborhood Alliance\* Rudy Corpuz Jane Weil Chris Schulman Shakirah Smiley Calen McEndowny Helene Sautou **Bayron Wilson** 

<sup>\*</sup>Organization included for identification purposes only

Supervisor Shamann Walton 1 Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102 Room 244

Dear Supervisor Walton - I am writing today on behalf of and in support of a good friend of mine, Pratibha Tekkey, who has submitted her name for consideration as Police Commissioner. I've known Pratibha since 2009, when we met as union activists in SEIU Local 1021 working to democratize our union and empower rank and file members. Pratibha never looked back, and has continued her advocacy for working people and communities in the Tenderloin.

I believe that Pratibha is an applicant that deserves serious consideration. I'm sure that many of the other applicants have good qualifications - but not all. Some are motivated to seek political advancement. Some are interested in pleasing the Mayor. Some are advancing the interests of the POA. I can say, without hesitation, that Pratibha's motivations are not related to self-interest or currying favor with anyone.

Like many public servants - Pratibha is one of those people who, when she sees an opportunity to represent the needs of those who are under-represented – she raises her hand – not because she is seeking her own advancement – but because she understands that bodies like the police commission need Commissioners who are in touch with and part of the community, and she knows that she can do the job. In the case of the Tenderloin – where Pratibha has worked for 16 years – these are communities who are impacted every day in significant ways by policing and SFPD policies.

While I don't believe Pratibha has ever held public office, she has, for many years, in her own way, been a public servant. She has spent 16 years working in the Tenderloin as a community organizer for the Tenderloin Housing Clinic (THC). She has built relationships with hundreds of Tenderloin residents and with members of SFPD. She has facilitated meetings and worked on projects that brought the community and law enforcement together in cooperative ways. Several examples of her work in this area are detailed in a document that Pratibha has already submitted to you. Those accomplishments speak for themselves. Pratibha walks the walk.

I believe the Police Commission needs a representative like Pratibha. The Commission will be a better and more successful body if she is on it. And the residents of the Tenderloin and the City will have someone who will work hard to improve public safety in San Francisco. I hope you will support her candidacy. Let me know if there is anything else I can do to push this forward. Sincerely, Jonathan Meade 650 492 1662



SAN FRANCISCO POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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May 27, 2025

TRACY MCCRAY President

KEVIN WORRELL Vice President

LOUIS WONG Secretary

DAN KELLY Treasurer

GAETANO ACERRA Sergeant At Arms

President Rafael Mandelman San Francisco Board of Supervisors 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place City Hall, Room 244 San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Support for Marjan Philhour for San Francisco Police Commission

Dear President Mandelman,

I write on behalf of the San Francisco Police Officers Association (SFPOA) to express our strong support for the appointment of Marjan Philhour to the San Francisco Police Commission.

Over the past decade, the SFPOA has developed a respectful and collaborative relationship with Marjan. She has consistently approached issues of public safety with integrity, clarity, and a willingness to engage with all sides—qualities that are critical for any member of the Police Commission. Her ability to build trust between law enforcement and the communities we serve has never been in doubt.

San Francisco continues to face serious and persistent public safety challenges. From organized retail theft and repeat offenders to open-air drug markets and community violence, many residents feel less safe than ever. In this climate, it's essential that appointments to the Police Commission reflect a commitment to both accountability and public safety. Marjan Philhour brings that balance.

As the daughter of immigrants from the Philippines and Iran, a small business owner, and a working mother raising three children in the Richmond District, she offers a lived experience that resonates with families across this city. She understands the fear parents feel when their children don't feel safe walking to school, and she understands the real limitations facing a police department that is significantly understaffed.

Marjan brings a thoughtful, measured approach to public service. She believes—as we do—that reform and safety are not competing values, but shared goals. She has consistently advocated for transparency and accountability while never losing sight of the fundamental role that officers play in ensuring San Francisco works for everyone.

At a time when consensus and steady leadership are needed, her appointment would offer balance, professionalism, and perspective. The Police Commission will soon undertake the important task of selecting a new Chief of Police. We are confident Marjan would approach that responsibility with fairness, rigor, and a deep respect for the process.

We urge you and your colleagues on the Board of Supervisors to give her candidacy your full and fair consideration. Her presence on the Commission would be a meaningful step toward restoring public confidence and ensuring a safer, more unified San Francisco.

Sincerely,

Tracy McCray

President

San Francisco Police Officers Association

cc: Supervisor Shamann Walton, Chair, Rules Committee

Supervisor Stephen Sherrill, Member, Rules Committee