

1 [Use Agreement - Topspin Content - Documentary Series “Real Streets of San Francisco”]

2 **Resolution authorizing the San Francisco Police Department (“SFPD”) to enter into a**
3 **Use Agreement with Topspin Content (“Producer”) to develop and produce a**
4 **documentary series, entitled “Real Streets of San Francisco,” about the day-to-day**
5 **challenges and opportunities of 21st century policing, granting all necessary trademark**
6 **licenses and rights to traditional and digital networks.**
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9 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) is charged under Charter,
10 Section 4.127, with the duty to “preserve the public peace, prevent and detect crime, and
11 protect the rights of persons and property by enforcing the laws of the United States, the State
12 of California, and the City and County;” and

13 WHEREAS, SFPD was founded in 1849, and as the nation’s third-oldest Police
14 Department, it has been among American popular culture’s most immediately recognizable
15 law enforcement agencies, storied in fictional and nonfictional depictions alike in books,
16 periodicals, films, television programming and more throughout its history; and

17 WHEREAS, SFPD has been hailed by the New York Times as a major City department
18 “where police reform has worked,” making strides over the last five years in its aspirations to
19 be a national model of 21st century policing, with its voluntary Collaborative Reform Initiative
20 partnership with the California Department of Justice since 2018, and its work since 2020 on
21 Mayor London Breed’s ambitious roadmap for police reforms; and

22 WHEREAS, Today’s San Francisco police officers are sworn to safeguard an iconic
23 and globally admired city, navigating difficult and often novel challenges that include high
24 profile incidents of brazen property crimes; COVID-19; rising rates of gun violence; a record
25 setting fatal drug overdose crisis; and mounting public demands to increase police

1 deployments and improve police response times amidst an ever-worsening police staffing
2 crisis nationwide; and

3 WHEREAS, The murder of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police officers in
4 May 2020 set the stage for a national reckoning on race relations and police reform that is still
5 underway, causing millions of Americans and more than 18,000 U.S. police departments that
6 serve them to begin embracing 21st century policing reforms that SFPD has been pioneering
7 since 2016; and

8 WHEREAS, A documentary series on SFPD's work, from its groundbreaking reforms to
9 its day-to-day service calls, holds enormous public benefit by offering viewers an up close
10 understanding of the myriad complex problems facing major city police departments today,
11 showcasing how San Francisco's police officers, community stakeholders, and visionary city
12 leaders alike are working to solve them in one of America's most forward thinking cities; and

13 WHEREAS, This documentary series holds enormous potential value for the City and
14 County of San Francisco to attract the best and brightest recruits interested in becoming
15 tomorrow's SFPD members, aiding recruitment at a time when fewer young professionals are
16 seeking law enforcement careers and police departments nationwide see mounting numbers
17 of retirements among the large generational cohort of Clinton Administration police hires; and

18 WHEREAS, Topspin Content, as the proposed documentary series Producer, is an
19 accomplished team of Emmy Award and Academy Award winning veteran writers, producers
20 and on-air talent who are extensively well versed in successful projects on topics that have
21 included, among others, the 2018 Parkland, Fla. high school shooting; the 9/11 terrorist
22 attacks and the New York City Police Department; and, for PBS most recently, Dr. Anthony
23 Fauci's work as President Biden's Chief Medical Advisor on COVID-19; and

24 WHEREAS, The City seeks to enter into a use agreement with Topspin Content to
25 develop and produce a documentary series about the SFPD, the contract being substantially

1 in the form on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. _____
2 (“Agreement”); and

3 WHEREAS, The Agreement provides that, in connection with the production and
4 marketing of the documentary series, the City would grant to Producer all necessary
5 trademark licenses to the series and access to SFPD personnel activities to produce a
6 documentary series about the day-to-day challenges and opportunities of 21st century
7 policing in San Francisco; and

8 WHEREAS, The Producer must follow guidelines that include San Francisco Health
9 Orders and CDC recommendations while working during COVID-19 for the health and
10 wellbeing of people they film; and

11 WHEREAS, Charter, Section 1.101, provides that all rights and powers of the City and
12 County that are not vested in another officer or entity by that Charter, shall be exercised by
13 the Board of Supervisors; and

14 WHEREAS, The Charter, does not vest in SFPD the right to contract to develop and
15 produce a documentary series; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the SFPD, acting on
17 behalf of the City and County of San Francisco, to enter into the Agreement with Producer in
18 substantially the form on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. _____,
19 pursuant to review and modification by the City Attorney; and be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That within 30 days of the agreement being fully executed by
21 all parties, SFPD shall provide a copy to the Clerk of the Board for inclusion into the official
22 file.

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