

From: [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#)
To: [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: UCSF/Blue Shield negotiations
Date: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 12:40:48 PM

250728

Alisa Somera

Legislative Deputy Director
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102
415.554.7711 direct | 415.554.5163 fax
alisa.somera@sfgov.org

(VIRTUAL APPOINTMENTS) To schedule a “virtual” meeting with me (on Microsoft Teams), please ask and I can answer your questions in real time.

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**From:** Ron Tsujimoto <r2gmoto@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 7, 2025 7:55 AM  
**To:** Calvillo, Angela (BOS) <angela.calvillo@sfgov.org>; Somera, Alisa (BOS) <alisa.somera@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** UCSF/Blue Shield negotiations

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello, my name is Ron Tsujimoto and I am a retired San Francisco, fire captain, who worked

for the city for 36 years. I use the UCSF and other UC healthcare systems regularly. I am outraged that I received a letter saying I won't be able to access healthcare services starting next month, depending on contract negotiations. I depend on my healthcare.

In December 2021 I was diagnosed with stage three colon cancer. Doctor Varma, Chief of colorectal cancer at UCSF immediately arranged a team to design my treatment plan. I believe Dr. Varma and my personal oncologist, Dr. Kidder along with the rest of the UCSF team saved my life. I was offered a treatment plan, including being able to be included in the latest trials and ground breaking treatments. If I was anywhere else other than UCSF, I would not have had those opportunities. I am still receiving treatment at UCSF and have been cancer free since 2022. I feel so fortunate to have been able to have UCSF available to me. Not having that choice will be devastating. This is a matter of life and death!

When I retired, I was promised continued healthcare coverage. Please resolve this intolerable situation as soon as possible.

I am also requesting that you post my testimony online to a public correspondence file for board file number 250728.

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this matter

Sincerely,

Ron Tsujimoto  
2081 Spyglass Ln.  
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762  
510-499-4722  
[r2gmoto@comcast.net](mailto:r2gmoto@comcast.net)

**From:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [BOS-Supervisors](#); [BOS-Legislative Aides](#)  
**Cc:** [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#); [Ng, Wilson \(BOS\)](#); [De Asis, Edward \(BOS\)](#); [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#); [BOS-Operations](#); [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: PLEASE LISTEN TO A STORY ABOUT CITY RETIREE SUFFERING COMPOUNDED BY THE LOSS OF UCSF HEALTH CARE!/Subject: Re: Martha's story  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 8, 2025 9:19:11 AM

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Hello,

Please see below for communication from Art Persyko regarding File No. 250728, which is Item No. 47 on today's Board of Supervisors meeting agenda.

**File No. 250728:** Resolution urging University of California Health and Blue Shield of California to resolve dispute regarding reimbursement for medical services and treatment by renewing their contract, thereby continuing to preserve members' ability to access crucial healthcare services. (Dorsey, Melgar, Fielder, Sauter, Chan, Mahmood, Chen, Sherrill)

Sincerely,

**Joe Adkins**  
**Office of the Clerk of the Board**  
**San Francisco Board of Supervisors**  
**1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244**  
**San Francisco, CA 94102**  
**Phone: (415) 554-5184 | Fax: (415) 554-5163**  
[board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org](mailto:board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org) | [www.sfbos.org](http://www.sfbos.org)

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**From:** Arthur Persyko <artpersyko3@sonic.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 2, 2025 3:07 PM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>  
**Cc:** ChanStaff (BOS) <ChanStaff@sfgov.org>; ChenStaff <ChenStaff@sfgov.org>; DorseyStaff (BOS) <DorseyStaff@sfgov.org>; EngardioStaff (BOS) <EngardioStaff@sfgov.org>; FielderStaff <FielderStaff@sfgov.org>; MahmoodStaff <MahmoodStaff@sfgov.org>; MandelmanStaff (BOS) <mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org>; MelgarStaff (BOS) <MelgarStaff@sfgov.org>; SauterStaff <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>; SherrillStaff <SherrillStaff@sfgov.org>; Walton, Shamann (BOS) <shamann.walton@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** PLEASE LISTEN TO A STORY ABOUT CITY RETIREE SUFFERING COMPOUNDED BY THE LOSS OF UCSF HEALTH CARE!/Subject: Re: Martha's story

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear SF Board of Supervisors:

My friend, Martha Hawthorne, is a retired SF city worker and SEIU 1021 member whose physical suffering is being compounded by her inability to get continuity of care and expertise from her doctors and other health care workers at UCSF because of the change in health care insurance coverage imposed on her and thousands of other SF city worker retirees.

I visited each of your offices last week on behalf of Protect Our Benefits to make the case for finding a resolution of this dire situation that affects over 40,000 retirees who devoted their work lives to seeing the public on behalf of the City and County of SF.

Please read the forwarded email below that Martha Hawthorne sent me to share with all of you; and then please redouble your efforts to ensure that she and other SF city worker/retirees get access to the UCSF health care they so desperately need and were promised.

Sincerely, Art Persyko, SF California Alliance for Retired Americans Action Team convener (650-228-4188).

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Martha Hawthorne** <[martha222@gmail.com](mailto:martha222@gmail.com)>

Date: Tue, Jul 1, 2025 at 2:34 PM

Subject: Re: Martha's story

To: Art Persyko <[artpersyko@gmail.com](mailto:artpersyko@gmail.com)>

I am currently suffering from unbearable Right sided severe sciatica pain caused by a 1.1 cm synovial cyst lodged in the Lumber 4 vertebrae and pressing on the R L4 nerve root. I have Blue Shield PPO and have been told that there is not assurance this would be covered, due to the ongoing negotiations, and coverage ending July 10, ONE DAY BEFORE this procedure. Furthermore, if the procedure is not successful i will need spinal surgery, ALSO AFTER JULY 10.

This puts me and thousands of others in a terrible place, not knowing if we will be able to get the life saving treatment, procedures and surgery we need. There are no other places which can provide continuity of care and the very specialized medical expertise I and others need.

Please don't leave me in the lurch; I love and appreciate my doctors, my sympathy is with them!!!!