

**From:** [Sally Van Loon](#)  
**To:** [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Hanley Chan  
**Date:** Friday, July 16, 2021 10:20:38 AM

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## July 16th, 2021

Dear Honorable Members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

I am writing to ask that Mr. Hanley Chan be appointed to the San Francisco Sheriff's Department Oversight Board.

Hanley's background, extensive knowledge and qualifications, his law enforcement experience as well as his community involvement and commitment make him supremely qualified to be part of your oversight board.

Hanley Chan is the perfect, committed community leader we need right now and I urge you to appoint him to the San Francisco Sheriff's Department Oversight Board.

Sincerely,

Sarah VanLoon  
76 Taraval Street  
San Francisco, CA 94116  
1-415-812-5255

Sent from my iPhone  
~Sally

**From:** [Stefan Dobrus](#)  
**To:** [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Waltonstaff \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [MandelmanStaff, \[BOS\]](#); [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#); [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Hanley Chan Appointment  
**Date:** Friday, July 16, 2021 10:29:27 AM

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**July 16th, 2021**

Dear Honorable Members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

I am writing to ask that Mr. Hanley Chan be appointed to the San Francisco Sheriff's Department Oversight Board.

Hanley's background, extensive knowledge and qualifications, his law enforcement experience as well as his community involvement and commitment make him supremely qualified to be part of your oversight board.

Hanley Chan is the perfect, committed community leader we need right now and I urge you to appoint him to the San Francisco Sheriff's Department Oversight Board.

Sincerely,

Stefan Dobrus  
76 Taraval Street  
San Francisco, CA 94116  
415.845.7667  
[Shdobrus@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Shdobrus@sbcglobal.net)



July 16, 2021

**VIA EMAIL ONLY**

Hon. Aaron Peskin  
Hon. Rafael Mandelman  
Hon. Connie Chan  
Board of Supervisors – Rules Committee  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, City Hall., Room 244  
San Francisco CA 94102

**Re: Support for Jessica Pishko for Sheriff Oversight Board**

Dear Chairperson Peskin and Hon. Supervisors:

On behalf of Secure Justice, I write in strong support of Jessica Pishko's application to serve on the Sheriff Oversight Board for San Francisco.

Ms. Pishko is one of the nation's foremost experts on Sheriff oversight and reform. I have personally relied on her research for a number of years, and during this year's state legislative cycle, we had the pleasure of collaborating on Senator Wiener's SB 271 (now turned into a 2-year bill), which would have changed the election criteria for candidates seeking the office of Sheriff. The Senator selected Ms. Pishko to be one of our expert witnesses at committee, and she continues to advise our statewide coalition as we prepare for our return next session.

Ms. Pishko is local, she has taught at San Quentin and San Francisco City College, and she continues to advise Bay Area activists, academics, and legislators on Sheriff and jail reform matters.

For these reasons, we are in strong support of Ms. Pishko's application to serve on the oversight board. Please contact me for any questions about our position.

Sincerely,

Brian Hofer  
Executive Director  
(510) 303-2871  
[brian@secure-justice.org](mailto:brian@secure-justice.org)  
<https://secure-justice.org/>

cc: Victor Young, Lee Hepner

Dear Supervisor Aaron Peskin, Supervisor Rafael Mandelman,  
and Supervisor Connie Chan:

I wanted to thank you for the opportunity to discuss my interest in the Sheriff's Department Oversight Board and give you some background on me and my work.

As a lawyer, advocate, and journalist, I have witnessed how mass incarceration is the most pressing problem of our time, impacting families, communities, and governments around the nation, and, particularly, California.

By way of background, I attended Harvard Law School, where I got my JD, and Columbia University, where I received an MFA in writing. Much of my prior work as a lawyer in New York City was representing clients on appeal from death sentences and working with survivors of domestic violence to obtain child custody, protection order, and support.

I lived in San Francisco full time from 2013 through 2019 (Inner Sunset) where I taught at City College and San Quentin in addition to working as a journalist reporting on the criminal legal system. (We have been splitting time between the Bay Area, staying in Marin, and Dallas, where my parents live and have needed assistance. We are actively in the process of moving back to San Francisco.) These experiences taught me the importance of listening to the voices of the incarcerated and the struggles of returning citizens. Much of my advocacy work prior to sheriffs was around the prosecutorial elections and advancing information about the importance of prosecutorial discretion.

When I first began working on sheriff accountability issues, I discovered that there was a lack of information about sheriffs and, as a result, a lack of public awareness about what questions to ask of a sheriff's office and how to begin reform. During a non-resident fellowship at the University of South Carolina School of Law, I worked with experts in policing and gathered information on sheriff requirements, training, and removal procedures in every state. This was the first project to gather this information in one place.

Since then, I have worked with the Justice Collaborative, the ACLU, Campaign Zero, and other local grassroots groups to educate the public on the role of sheriffs and the need for sheriff oversight and accountability. I regularly present information to community groups so people can learn about their sheriff, including issues like LGBTQ concerns, harm reduction, and mental health. I have also done the only scholarship on [the role of sheriffs in evictions](#). During the pandemic, I helped [gather a group of sheriffs](#) who signed on in a pledge to decarcerate their jails to reduce the threat of COVID-19 to staff, those incarcerated, and the public at large. I also assisted with policy and testimony for Senator Weiner's SB 271, which would widen the pool for sheriff candidates in California. For many local groups, I have helped design policy platforms for future demands and recruit new candidates to run for sheriff.

This month, I am assisting with the launch of Communities for Sheriff Accountability, which is a coalition of grassroots groups – including Faith in Action, the Advancement

Project, and the Workers' Party – to help create more public awareness of the role of sheriffs.

As you know, California is on the vanguard for sheriff oversight, and this is both exciting and overdue. For a long time, sheriffs have operated their offices in the shadow, even though what they do is immensely important. For one thing, sheriffs operate jails, which are mass incarceration's front door. So many more people will experience the inside of a jail cell than they will state prison. Substantial research shows that jails are incredibly dangerous and the site of a great deal of trauma – more people will commit suicide within the first few days of arrest – in addition to the prevalence of individuals with mental health challenges, those experiencing poverty and homelessness, and those in withdrawal. And, because of realignment and other California policies, jails in California hold more people, who have greater needs, for longer periods of time.

Second, sheriffs are important in many civil and criminal enforcement matters. Sheriffs oversee weapons permits and protective orders. They also carry out evictions. These are matters that impact so many people, but especially those already experiencing trauma and who have been neglected by other systems.

My vision for the San Francisco Sheriff Department – and the Civilian Oversight Committee – is to align on goals for accountability and transparency. While the San Francisco Sheriff has already done a great deal to improve the availability of data to the people of the country, it is important to do more, both to help people in the community understand what happens inside jails and to help the office improve. Tracking who is in jail, for how long, and what happens once they see a judge, are vital to helping out community.

Of immense importance – critical to the health of the entire community – is to think about the conditions of the San Francisco jail system and how to alleviate the trauma for those who are incarcerated and who work there. Indeed, jails are dangerous for everyone; the pandemic has made this very clear. And, for those who are already experiencing disproportionate harm, jails compound the concerns. LGBTQ individuals, for example, experience great violence in society and even more so inside jails, where they are more likely to be assaulted or have traumatic experiences that make returning to the community so difficult. People with long-term mental health diagnoses and substance use disorder often end up in jail, are unable to pay bail, and may stay for longer periods of time.

Jails are, in fact, a vital part of the community. It may seem strange to put it this way, but society as a whole cannot tackle challenges rooted in racism and inequity without examining its jail and policing systems. COVID-19 had made it plain that communities are interconnected. We are none of us an island, and we must all work together to achieve the vision that I, you, and so many San Francisco residents want for our children.

I look forward to working with you, discussing my vision for the sheriff's office, and sharing in the important work you do to improve our community. Thank you for the time, and please reach out if you have questions or want to discuss.

Best,  
Jessica Pishko

917-566-0235

July 16, 2021

Honorable Aaron Peskin  
Chair, Rules Committee  
1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett Pl, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Honorable Rafael Mandelman  
Member, Rules Committee  
1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett Pl, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Honorable Connie Chan  
Member, Rules Committee  
1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett Pl, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102

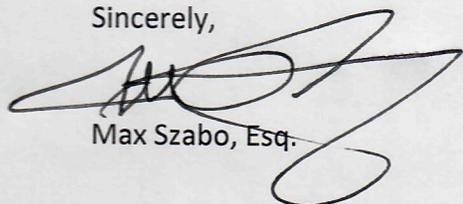
RE: File # 210481 – Appointments, Sheriff's Department Oversight Board

Supervisors,

I write to recommend Jessica Pishko for the Sheriff's Department Oversight Board. As you know, the Sheriff's Department Oversight Board would advise and make policy recommendations to the sheriff and Board of Supervisors concerning department operations, complaints against employees and contractors, and in-custody deaths. For years Ms. Pishko has reported on California jails and prisons and the criminal legal system, and she has therefore received an up-close look at the issues plaguing Sheriff's Departments across the nation. That deep knowledge of the issues that other departments have faced give her the capacity to identify gaps in policy that can be corrected prior to problematic incidents.

Ms. Pishko is deeply invested in this work. I recall a conversation with her last year wherein we discussed the formation of a new organization representing elected progressive prosecutors in California. She expressed a similar need for elected Sheriffs due to the traditional, tough-on-crime values that most Sheriffs Associations espouse. Sheriff Miyamoto is incredibly capable and is committed to modernizing and reforming the department. Those providing oversight of the department should be equally capable and knowledgeable of the issues facing Sheriff's Departments. Ms. Pishko is exceedingly capable and knowledgeable, and I recommend her without hesitation.

Sincerely,



Max Szabo, Esq.

July 16, 2021

The Honorable Aaron Peskin  
Chair, Rules Committee  
Member, San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

The Honorable Rafael Mandelman  
Vice-Chair, Rules Committee  
Member, San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

The Honorable Connie Chan  
Member, Rules Committee  
Member, San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

**Subject: Hanley Chan for San Francisco Sherriff Oversight Board**

Dear Supervisors;

I am writing to ask that Mr. Hanley Chan be appointed to the San Francisco Sheriff's Department Oversight Board.

Mr. Chan has a long history of public service and being a community activist. He has served his country in the United States Army National Guard and then as a San Francisco Patrol Special. Mr. Chan's extensive knowledge of the inner workings of law enforcement and his extensive qualifications, as well as his community involvement and commitment, make him supremely qualified to be part of the oversight board.

Mr. Chan is the ideal candidate and the committed community leader we need right now and we urge this committee to appoint him to the San Francisco Sheriff's Department Oversight Board.

Sincerely,



Milton Hum  
Secretary-Treasurer



CHANGE THE WORLD FROM HERE

Professor Lara Bazelon  
USF School of Law  
Barnett Chair in Trial Advocacy  
Director of the Criminal and Juvenile  
Justice Clinic and Racial Justice Clinics  
2130 Fulton Street, Kendrick Hall 211  
San Francisco, CA 94117  
Tel 415.422.6752  
Fax 415.422.2750

July 18, 2021

**VIA EMAIL ONLY**

Hon. Aaron Peskin  
Hon. Rafael Mandelman  
Hon. Connie Chan  
Board of Supervisors – Rules Committee  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, City Hall., Room 244  
San Francisco CA 94102

**Re: Support for Jessica Pishko for Sheriff Oversight Board**

Dear Chairperson Peskin and Hon. Supervisors:

I write to support of Jessica Pishko's application to serve on the Sheriff Oversight Board for San Francisco. It is hard to think of a more qualified candidate.

Jessica is a veteran journalist who has reported extensively on the criminal justice system, with a particular focus on the California jails and prisons. She is also an expert in the myriad legal issues pertaining to sheriffs, and having held a fellowship at the University of Southern California in sheriff accountability, is very familiar with how sheriff's offices operate in California. Her newsletter is a go-to for those seeking expertise on this topic. She is writing a book about sheriffs for a general public audience that will be published by Dutton.

Jessica is also a team player. She has been a consultant on a number of sheriff campaigns, working closely with non-profits including the ACLU, Campaign Zero, and RFK. She was also a co-founder of Communities for Sheriff Accountability, which is an umbrella organization for grassroots groups that are seeking to bring reform and transparency to sheriff's offices.



CHANGE THE WORLD FROM HERE

Professor Lara Bazelon  
USF School of Law  
Barnett Chair in Trial Advocacy  
Director of the Criminal and Juvenile  
Justice Clinic and Racial Justice Clinics  
2130 Fulton Street, Kendrick Hall 211  
San Francisco, CA 94117  
Tel 415.422.6752  
Fax 415.422.2750

Finally, Jessica has ties to the Bay Area. She lived here for five years and is moving back in the near future. For all of these reasons, I think she would be an asset to the Board and should be selected for membership. Please let me know if I can provide further information. I can be reached at (310) 663-7105.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kara A. Boylan".

Professor of Law  
University of San Francisco School of Law  
Barnett Chair in Trial Advocacy  
Director of the Criminal & Juvenile Justice and Racial Justice Clinics

**From:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [BOS-Supervisors](#)  
**Cc:** [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#); [Ng, Wilson \(BOS\)](#); [Laxamana, Junko \(BOS\)](#); [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#); [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please Continue Sheriff's Oversight Item (File: 210481)  
**Date:** Monday, July 19, 2021 10:19:41 AM

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**From:** Grover Cleveland Democratic Club <groverdemssf@tutanota.com>

**Sent:** Monday, July 19, 2021 9:41 AM

**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>; Chan, Connie (BOS) <connie.chan@sfgov.org>; Peskin, Aaron (BOS) <aaron.peskin@sfgov.org>; Mandelman, Rafael (BOS) <rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org>; Walton, Shamann (BOS) <shamann.walton@sfgov.org>; Fregosi, Ian (BOS) <ian.fregosi@sfgov.org>; Groth, Kelly (BOS) <kelly.groth@sfgov.org>; Yu, Angelina (BOS) <angelina.yu@sfgov.org>; Hsieh, Frances (BOS) <frances.hsieh@sfgov.org>; Angulo, Sunny (BOS) <sunny.angulo@sfgov.org>; Hepner, Lee (BOS) <lee.hepner@sfgov.org>; Yan, Calvin (BOS) <calvin.yan@sfgov.org>; sarah.souza@sfgov.org; Mundy, Erin (BOS) <erin.mundy@sfgov.org>; Temprano, Tom (BOS) <tom.temprano@sfgov.org>; Gallardo, Tracy (BOS) <tracy.gallardo@sfgov.org>; Gee, Natalie (BOS) <natalie.gee@sfgov.org>

**Subject:** Please Continue Sheriff's Oversight Item (File: 210481)

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

Dear Rules Committee,

We at the Grover Cleveland Democratic Club of San Francisco are deathly concerned about the seating of the Sheriff's Oversight Committee. While the voters of San Francisco approved Prop D, many of our members, including many API individuals concerned with rising crime in the city and hate murders, voted no on the charter amendment, and it is likely in the city's high crime environment, the taxpayers of the city would vote no on this misguided policy were it on the ballot today, and we ask for a continuance given these pressing concerns.

We are seeing many Asian-Americans, who are greater than 1/3 of the electorate, getting beaten, raped, and murdered. Retail theft has gotten so bad that Walgreens and Target have to either close early or shut their doors altogether. Given the circumstances, the public is hardly clamoring for coddling of lawbreakers, and we at the Grover Cleveland Democratic Club believe that one shouldn't do the crime if they can't handle the rigors of doing time. No crime victim will be crying for some criminal who was forced into a gladiator fight.

With that said, should you decide to appoint somebody to the new Sheriff's Oversight Board, why not a deputy sheriff? Michael Nguyen is a good guy, and a team player who does everything by the book, and we think that we must have someone with the perspectives from the front lines. After all, we supported front-line workers during the COVID crisis, we should support those who know and apply department policy. We think that sheriffs should govern sheriffs, police should govern police, firefighters should govern firefighters, and street cleaners should govern streetcleaners once M.

Haney's Clean Streets Commission gets enacted.

In closing, it's best if, out of respect for our retail workers and crime victims, that this kangaroo commission not be seated, but if you must seat them, we must have good sheriff's deputies like Michael Nguyen serving on them.

The Grover Cleveland Democratic Club Of San Francisco is a forum for moderate and conservative Democrats who feel left out of the elite circles of the city we call home. We support clean streets, toughness on crime, business friendly taxation and regulations, common sense, and a better quality of life for all in this city. We must secure a safe and prosperous future for our children in San Francisco.

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