





## INSTITUTO FAMILIAR DE LA RAZA, INC.

2919 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA 94110

(415) 229-0500

Health Services FAX: (415) 647-3662  
Administration FAX: (415) 647-0740

December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021

San Francisco Police Commission  
1245 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
San Francisco, CA 94158

To the San Francisco Police Commissioners:



INSTITUTO  
FAMILIAR  
DE LA RAZA

2929 19th Street  
San Francisco, CA 94110  
(415) 229-0500  
www.ifrsf.org

**Ricardo Garcia-Acosta**  
(he/him/his)  
Initiative Director  
Roadmap to Peace

(415) 672-3660 cell  
(628) 867-4849 fax  
ricardo.garcia-acosta@ifrsf.org

My name is Ricardo Garcia-Acosta and I am the Director of the Roadmap to Peace Initiative (RTP), a collaborative, community driven effort led by Instituto Familiar de la Raza. I am also a thought leader on crisis response, community interventions, and the implementation of focused deterrence strategies that seek to reduce violence and to improve outcomes for San Francisco's highest-risk Latinx community members. It is through these efforts, as well as my work with SF Juvenile Probation Department (2014-2016), that I have had the pleasure to work with Mr. Yanez and to that end; I am more than excited to write this letter in support of his application for a seat on the San Francisco Police Commission.

I have had the pleasure to work with Mr. Yanez for close to 20 years and have seen first-hand the work he has done in SF towards the enrichment of our youth and in developing violence prevention programs that have not only had impact with those we served, but even more so, I have seen the impact he has had on developing the next generation of leaders in the SF Mission District community. Jesus was the Program Director for Instituto de La Raza, *La Cultura Cura*, where he hired and trained mental health specialists, clinical case managers, and peer advocates to serve in their client-centered strengths-based harm-reduction program. This program utilizes evidence-based treatment, holistic healing interventions, and culturally congruent practices designed to address basic needs and provide support in partnership with social service providers including the San Francisco Unified School District, the San Francisco City & County Juvenile and Adult Probation Departments, and the San Francisco Department of Public Health. Jesus is currently working on the "Vision Zero: Latinx Safety Plan" as a consultant for the Mission Language and Vocational School, IFR, and in partnership with the Mission Peace Collaborative.

Jesus Yanez has served as a member of the Community Assessment and Referral Center (CARC), Community Response Network (CRN) Care Development Committee, and A Roadmap to Peace (RTP) Initiative Steering Committee. As an advisory board member for CARC, Jesus partnered with the San Francisco Public Defenders, the District Attorney, and the Police Department to craft language access & developmentally appropriate protocols for detaining and booking juveniles under the Police Department's General Orders.



## INSTITUTO FAMILIAR DE LA RAZA, INC.

2919 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA 94110

(415) 229-0500

Health Services FAX: (415) 647-3662

Administration FAX: (415) 647-0740

During his time with as an Advisory Board Member with RTP, MR. Yanez was key in developing the best practices of integrating cross-sector agencies in the workforce development and social services fields, to better work with criminal justice involved youth and young adults utilizing evidence- based and community best practices grounded in culturally congruent wrap-around service interventions.

For decades, Jesus Yanez has advocated for best practice interventions to address the systemic issues that contribute to disproportionate minority confinement and has applied community driven restorative justice solutions in partnership with institutional stakeholders to help keep our neighborhoods safe. It is my belief that living in SF's urban environment poses unique challenges for youth, transitional age youth (TAY), adults and their families. The vision and service philosophy needed to address the most vulnerable populations in SF is based on collective action to provide timely services, while aligning public and private investments in public safety, and to promote self-determination and empowerment for highly in-risk and system-involved individuals. Mr. Yanez has innovative ideas in this regard and understands the need to place these individuals and their families on a road to wholeness by facilitating authentic community connections that allows them to thrive. His admirable work and experience would bring a unique and vital perspective to the Police Commission and I strongly support his potential selection. In a time where Policing is being scrutinized more than ever, it is these characteristics that are needed to help lead the Police Department to improving community trust and being seen as a vital partner in ensuring Public Safety.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ricardo Garcia-Acosta  
Initiative Director, Roadmap to Peace  
Instituto Familiar de la Raza

December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021

To: San Francisco Police Commission  
1245 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
San Francisco, CA 94158

From:

To the San Francisco Police Commissioners:

My name is Tracey A. Taper and I have worked in District 10 for 20 years.

To that end, I am pleased to write this letter in support of Jesus Yanez's application for a seat on the Police Commission.

Jesus Yanez has been serving the local community in District 9 for close to 20 years and has worked with numerous community-based organizations focusing on the enrichment of our youth and violence prevention. Jesus was the Program Director for Instituto de La Raza, *La Cultura Cura*, where he hired and trained mental health specialists, clinical case managers, and peer advocates to serve in their client-centered strengths-based harm-reduction program. This program utilizes evidence-based treatment, holistic healing interventions, and culturally congruent practices designed to address basic needs and provide support in partnership with social service providers including the San Francisco Unified School District, the San Francisco City & County Juvenile and Adult Probation Departments, and the San Francisco Department of Public Health. Jesus is currently working on the "Vision Zero: LatinX Safety Plan" as a consultant for the Mission Language and Vocational School, IFR, and in partnership with the Mission Peace Collaborative.

Jesus Yanez has served as a member of the Community Assessment and Referral Center, Community Response Network (CRN) Care Development Committee, and A Roadmap to Peace (RTP) Initiative Steering Committee.

As an advisory board member for the Community Assessment and Referral Center, Jesus partnered with the San Francisco Public Defenders, the District Attorney, and the Police Department to craft language access & developmentally appropriate protocols for detaining and booking juveniles under the Police Department's General Orders.

During his time on the CRN Care Development Committee, Jesus contributed to the creation of a best practices manual "Working Towards Peace and Healing in our Community", for violence prevention service providers working with systems-involved street affiliated youth. As a result of its positive impact, the CRN program model was replicated by the City and County of San Francisco in 2012 as part of the Mayor's Office of Violence Prevention Services.

Jesus has been developing a collaboration of cross-sector agencies in the workforce development and social services fields to work with criminal justice involved youth and young adults utilizing

evidence- based and community best practices grounded in culturally congruent wrap-around service interventions during his time with the RTP Initiative Steering Committee. This RTP initiative was awarded a contract from the SF Department of Children Youth and Families and a GOOGLE Challenge grant and publicly endorsed by the Mayor's Office.

For decades, Jesus Yanez has advocated for best practice interventions to address the systemic issues that contribute to disproportionate minority confinement and has applied community driven restorative justice solutions in partnership with institutional stakeholders to help keep our neighborhoods safe. His admirable work and experience would bring a unique and vital perspective to the Police Commission and I believe he would be a great addition.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tracey A. Taper

Community Advocate.



**INSTITUTO FAMILIAR DE LA RAZA, INC.**

2919 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA 94110

(415) 229-0500  
FAX: (415) 647-3662

December 5, 2021

San Francisco Police Commission  
1245 3rd Street San Francisco, CA 94158

To the San Francisco Police Commissioners:

My name is Gloria Romero and I am the Executive Director of Instituto Familiar de la Raza (IFR)- a healing organization that has 40+ year history of providing services to the Chicano/Latino/Indigena community of SF. IFR has been a leader in the area of mental health and wellness, trauma recovery and healing, family support, and youth violence prevention.

I am pleased to write this letter in support of Jesus Yanez's application for a seat on the Police Commission. Jesus has been serving children, youth, and families in SF for over 20 years and brings extensive experience working within various anchor community based organizations and partnering with public sector institutions including the SFUSD, the SF City & County Juvenile and Adult Probation Departments, and the SF Department of Public Health.

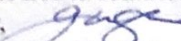
IFR was honored to have Jesus serve in the past as the Program Director for La Cultura Cura program, where he managed a team of mental health specialists, clinical case managers, and peer advocates to provide individual and/or family therapy, clinical case management, mentorship, and trauma informed group services for youth impacted by violence and trauma. Jesus designed and implemented evidence-based treatment, holistic healing interventions, and culturally rooted practices with youth impacted by the criminal justice system.

Jesus has been actively involved and contributed to the development and implementation of key violence prevention and criminal justice prevention strategies such as the Calles Program of the Real Alternatives Program, the Community Response Network (CRN), Mission Peace Collaborative, and Roadmap to Peace Initiative (RTP). Jesus is a founding member of the RTP Initiative made up of seven partner organizations with IFR as the lead agency committed to improving the social, economic health and safety outcomes of our most vulnerable Latinx youth ages 13-24, system touched, and vulnerable to street and gun violence. Grounded in a community based collective impact approach, Jesus helped lead a diverse network of RTP stakeholders to address the comprehensive needs of youth involved in the criminal justice system and impacted by violence, with a special focus on migrant unaccompanied minors.

Jesus has also provided his expertise to inform policies such as linguistically & developmentally appropriate protocols for detaining and booking juveniles under the Police Department's General Orders, the CRN and RTP program manuals, and Jesus is currently partnering with IFR and RTP to develop a "Vision Zero: LatinX Safety Plan" for SF youth and young adults.

For decades, Jesus Yanez has implemented and advocated for culturally rooted and community driven best practice interventions to improve the health and safety outcomes for youth and young adults and to address the systemic root causes that contribute to disproportionate incarceration of BIPOC community. I am particularly impressed and inspired by Jesus compassion and commitment to equity, healing, and restorative justice. His unique perspective and experience would be a valuable asset to the Police Commission.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this recommendation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [gloria.romero@ifrsf.org](mailto:gloria.romero@ifrsf.org).

Sincerely,   
Gloria Romero, Executive Director-Instituto Familiar de la Raza

**From:** [Valerie Tulier](#)  
**To:** [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Jesus Yanez  
**Date:** Monday, December 6, 2021 10:22:40 AM

---

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

Good morning,

I am writing this public comment email in support of Jesus Yanez being appointed to the SF Police Commission.

Mr. Yanez has done extensive community and violence prevention work.

He has popular support from his professional colleagues and community. Mr. Yanez has a very qualified background and will bring a well-rounded perspective to this important position.

In a time, when we have such societal turbulence and controversy, he will bring balance and a holistic viewpoint, looking for a win-win for all concerned.

Please accept this as a very high recommendation for Jesus Yanez to be appointed as the next SF Police Commissioner.

Thank you,  
Valerie Tulier-Laiwa, Facilitator  
Mission Peace Collaborative

December 5, 2021

To Members of the Board of Supervisors:

As a former Police Commissioner, I am well aware of the knowledge, time commitment, expertise, and ability to work with both the community and the San Francisco Police Department. I write in full support of David Rizk for the Board of Supervisors' vacant seat on the San Francisco Police Commission. I know David from his invaluable work on many important issues while I was a Commissioner.

Early in his career, David worked at the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a San Francisco non-profit that advocates for civil liberties in the online and technology fields. Later, he worked for two federal judges and then entered private practice at the Kecker, Van Nest and Peters law firm, handling, among other things, criminal prosecutions, government investigations, and civil rights matters such as excessive force cases. While in private practice, he co-authored with the ACLU an *amicus* brief to the California Court of Appeal supporting the Police Commission after it was sued by the S.F. Police Officers' Association over reforms to S.F.P.D.'s use of force policy. The appellate opinion, which was an important victory for the Commission, the City and police reform efforts statewide, relied heavily on the arguments and positions advanced in that *amicus* brief.

David also has extensive direct experience in police oversight. Since 2016 he has been a member (and chair) of the civilian board that oversees BART Police, which was created after the Oscar Grant murder, and now hears misconduct cases, advises on department policies, and conducts community outreach. As a result, he is already practiced in the work of managing relationships with command staff, independent investigating bodies (like DPA), and the community. At BART, he pushed for important use of force reforms that led to a decrease in use of force incidents and continues to push the department to confront racial disparities in its enforcement activities.

David's work with S.F.P.D. and the Police Commission has occurred primarily through the Bar Association of San Francisco's Criminal Justice Task Force (BASF's CJTF) formed in 2015. David joined BASF's CJTF in 2016 and also currently sits on the BASF Board of Directors. Through the Task Force, he has developed relationships with leadership in all the criminal justice partners (SFPD, District Attorney, Public Defender, Department of Police Accountability), and has worked tirelessly to improve our local criminal justice system in many ways. His work is always thorough, reliable, and useful to many in the criminal justice system. He has been an important resource for the Commission and S.F.P.D and on behalf of BASF's CJTF, he sat on the Police Commission's Tasers Working Group, as well as S.F.P.D.'s Executive Working Group on the Use of Force. Through the Task Force, he has worked on most of the key issues the Police Commission has addressed in recent years: use of force reforms, bias free policing, body worn cameras, data collection, community policing, collective bargaining practices, and S.F.P.D.'s



progress in adopting the U.S. Department of Justice's reform recommendations. I know he has spoken to many Commissioners as well as Supervisors about these issues, and written dozens of letters and position papers to provide decision-makers with research and policy advice. Most recently, he has assisted the Commission and S.F.P.D. by providing extensive, detailed proposed revisions to D.G.O. 5.16, the search warrant policy, on behalf of the Task Force. More broadly, he also chairs the CJTF's Bail Subcommittee and has been a strong advocate for S.F. Pretrial for years, working with all the justice partners.

Finally, of course, David is also a federal public defender, so he understands the criminal justice system as a litigator—but also, and maybe even more importantly, from the community's perspective. He is a San Francisco native and long-time resident, so he understands the City and its various neighborhoods and communities intimately.

In sum, David's expertise, historical knowledge of the Commission's policy work and a deep understanding of the complicated structure between the commission, the department and the Board of Supervisors is immeasurable. I know diversity is important on this commission but so is knowledge, passion, and community involvement. It is important to recognize that David has consistently participated with the commission over the years, rolled up his sleeves and did the hard work necessary to bring the commission to where it is today.

I am honored to support David for my seat as I know he will work hard and be a tremendous asset to the commission. I know how critical this commission is to the City of San Francisco and know that David is the right person for the commission in this intense criminal justice environment.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Petra DJ*

Petra DeJesus

267 Justin Dr., SF

**From:** [Nancy Hernandez](#)  
**To:** [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#); [Tracy Brown](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment on apointee to police commission  
**Date:** Monday, December 6, 2021 10:53:30 AM

---

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

Thank you for accepting my public comment on adding members to the police commission.

I have been coming to the police commission for the past 2 decades to bring stories of families and youth I work with who have been impacted by SF PD violence.

There needs to be a Latino voice on this body who will listen to the families and advocate for accountability.

I reccomend Jesus Yañez as a advocate who will take the advice of thr community and work to prevent more unnessicary violence.

Thank you for including my say in this decision.