

From: [Lulu LaFlamme](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Fwd: My proposed brief presentation on my Police Commission application
Date: Friday, December 3, 2021 4:39:06 PM

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From: [Lulu LaFlamme](#) [REDACTED]
Date: Fri, Dec 3, 2021, 4:22 PM
Subject: My proposed brief presentation on my Police Commission application
To: Chan, Connie (BOS) <connie.chan@sfgov.org>, Mandelman, Rafael (BOS) <rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org>, Peskin, Aaron (BOS) <Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org>, <ian.fregosi@sfgov.org>, <tom.temprano@sfgov.org>, <lee.hepner@sfgov.org>, Lulu [REDACTED]

SF Supervisors
Connie Chan
Rafael Mandelman
Aaron Peskin

The following will be the basis of my two-minute presentation to the BOS Rules Committee on 6 December 2021.

I believe my qualifications for the SF Police Commission are unique.

I am a transgender female. But I do **not** approach the Supervisors as a token, a novelty, or a representative mainly of the trans community.

In my "male" career I served for ten years as a staff writer for the SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE. My beat included the Police Commission, with attendance at scores of meetings.

I served as a member of another SF municipal appointive body, the Ballot Simplification Commission, from 1996-99.

I have lived most of my life in San Francisco.

I have suffered physical and other attacks because of my trans identity. I know the process for relief in such cases.

I have interacted with the Department of Police Accountability regarding trans issues.

I am committed to support for modern, efficient, just, and socially responsible law enforcement. I have studied police operations in conflict zones around the world.

I am experienced as an international human rights investigator.

I am multilingual.

I believe Our City can provide a global model for the future of law enforcement.

That is why I seek this appointment, and what I intend to accomplish.

/s/ Stephen Schwartz ("Lulu")



Luciana Rosamorada de Schwartz, Formerly Stephen Schwartz
lulzylu000@gmail.com [3 zeroes]
Tel. 1.415.517.8757



[2000]

Author of the 2008 release *The Other Islam: Sufism and the Road to Global Harmony*, and the bestselling 2002 volume *The Two Faces of Islam: Saudi Fundamentalism and Its Role In Terrorism*,

Luciana “Lulu” Schwartz is a transgender female videographer, print and electronic journalist, poet, literary essayist, cultural/political historian, and activist. In the aftermath of September 11, 2001, her extensive and authoritative writings on the Islamic extremist phenomenon of Wahhabism, based on her investigative work in the Muslim Balkans (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Albania, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, and the Sandžak region), established her as one of the leading global experts on Islam, its internal divisions, and its relations with other faiths.

Her next full-length book, *Sarajevo Rose: A Balkan Jewish Notebook*, a collection of writings on Sephardic Jewish culture and history, was published in spring 2005 by the prestigious Arab publisher Saqi Books (London) in association with The Bosnian Institute.

Miss Schwartz is available for radio, television, lecture, and reading appearances. She speaks 10 languages, including French, Spanish, Catalan, Italian, Bosnian and Albanian.

Miss Schwartz is a frequent commentator in media of worldwide influence, including, in Britain, *BBC News* and *Guardian Online*.

Stephen Schwartz was designated male at birth in Columbus, Ohio, in 1948, but shortly thereafter her family moved to the Bay Area, where she lived until 1999. Beginning in early youth, she published poetry, translations, and other texts that established her writerly credentials. Miss Schwartz’s work in these areas was praised by such leading critics as Kenneth Rexroth, who welcomed her into the San Francisco literary scene in 1966, describing her as one of the city’s “poets of 18 or less writing well” (in the *San Francisco Examiner* of September 13, 1966, archived here <http://www.bopsecrets.org/rexroth/sf/1966-67.htm>) During the 1970s Miss Schwartz was also a writer for *City of San Francisco*, a weekly created by film director Francis Coppola, and was a founder of the influential post-modernist review *Re/Search*.

Her writing has been supported by grants from various private foundations.

She has lectured and debated at the University of California, Berkeley, the London School of Economics, and other schools and institutions. In addition to the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, now titled the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Societies (1992, 2001, 2003, 2006, 2011), she has presented papers and otherwise participated in conferences (exclusive of the topic of Islam) sponsored by the Agency for International Development, the Institut d’Estudis Catalans/University of Barcelona, the Mont Pelerin Society, the National Forum Foundation (“Second Thoughts” Conference), and Princeton University. She further presented work at the Vth and VIIth International Conferences on the Social and Cultural History of the Jews on the Eastern Adriatic Coast, Dubrovnik, 2004 and 2008, at the Universities of Sarajevo and Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina, in 2007 and 2008, at The Albanological Institute of Prishtina, Kosova Republic, in 2008, and at the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts, in 2013.

She has additionally published an important paper on Communism and Islam, and testified before panels of the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology, and Homeland Security (2003), and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (2007). She has consulted since returning to the U.S. with the federal Departments of Justice and State, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia at The Hague, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, and the RAND Corporation.

Stephen Schwartz received five awards for deadline, spot news, feature, and general reporting from the *San Francisco Chronicle*, where she was employed 10 years. Until 1999 she was Secretary of the Northern California Media Workers’ Guild, AFL-CIO, and a delegate to the San

Francisco Labor Council. In 1996, she was appointed to the five-member San Francisco City and County Ballot Simplification Committee.

She worked as a Writer/Expert for the National Endowment for the Arts, co-authoring the agency's 2009 volume, *The National Endowment for the Arts: A History*.

Books:

A Guide to Shariah Law and Islamist Ideology in Western Europe, 2007-09, Centre for Islamic Pluralism, 2009; revised edition, Kindle, 2013 (Principal investigator.)

The National Endowment for the Arts: A History, Washington, NEA, 2009 (co-author).

The Other Islam: Sufism and the Road to Global Harmony, New York, Doubleday, 2008. Albanian translation: *Islami Tjetër: Sufizmi dhe rrëfimi për respektin*, Prishtina, Koha, 2009; Bosnian tr., *Jedan Drugaćji Islam*, Sarajevo, Mosaik, 2009.

Scientific Training and Radical Islam: Healing the Divided Mind, London, Centre for Islamic Pluralism, 2008. (Principal investigator.)

Is It Good for the Jews? The Crisis of America's Israel Lobby, New York, Doubleday, 2006.

Sarajevo Rose: A Balkan Jewish Notebook, London, Saqi Books and The Bosnian Institute, 2005. Bosnian tr.: *Sarajevska Ruža: Bilješke o Jevrejima na Balkanu*, Sarajevo, Tugra, 2006.

The Two Faces of Islam: Saudi Fundamentalism and Its Role In Terrorism, New York, Doubleday, 2002-03. Bosnian tr.: *Dva Lica Islama*, Sarajevo, Tugra, 2005; Croatian tr., Zagreb, Medžilis Islamske Zajednice, 2005; Albanian tr., *Dy Fytyrat e Islamit*, Shkodër, ars, 2005. Indonesian tr., *Dua Wajah Islam*, Jakarta, The Wahid Institute, 2007; Persian tr. *Du Chebrevre Islam*, Qom, Khakriz, 1390/2011.

Intellectuals and Assassins, London, Anthem Press, 2000.

Kosovo: Background to a War, London, Anthem Press, 2000. Albanian tr., *Kosova: Prejardhja e Nji Luftë*, Prishtina, Rrokullia, 2005, second ed. 2006.

"*Neпоштена komedija XX stoljeća*" / "*A Dishonest 20th Century Comedy*," Sarajevo, VKBI, 2000.

From West to East: California and the Making of the American Mind, New York, The Free Press, Inc., 1998.

A Strange Silence: The Emergence of Democracy in Nicaragua, introduction by Víctor Alba, San Francisco, ICS Press, 1992.

Spanish Marxism vs. Soviet Communism: A History of the P.O.U.M. (with Víctor Alba), New Brunswick, Transaction Books, 1988.

The Transition: From Authoritarianism to Democracy in the Hispanic World, San Francisco, ICS Press, 1987 (Ed., with essays by Octavio Paz, Heberto Padilla, and others).

Brotherhood of the Sea: A History of the Sailors' Union of the Pacific, 1885-1985, New Brunswick, Transaction Books, 1986. See www.sailors.org/history.html.

Incidents from the Life of Benjamin Péret, San Francisco, FOCUS, 1981.

Film:

Internationals in Sarajevo, Short Video Feature, Writer/Narrator, Refresh Production, Sarajevo, 1999. Broadcast on Radio-Television Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Video:

The *Nadja* Series, as Stephen Schwartz, YouTube 2018--.

Poetry and Prose Poetry:

Ëndërrimi në shqip/Dreaming in Albanian, Skopje/Shkup, Fakti, 2003.

Heaven's Descent, San Francisco, Transition, 1990.

A Sleepwalker's Guide to San Francisco, San Francisco, La Santa Espina, 1983.

Hidden Locks, Cambridge, Radical America, 1972.

Antinarcissus, San Francisco, 1969 (Tr.)



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 Keeker, 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

Dec. 5, 2021

RE: Support Letter for Jesus Yanez for Appointment to SF Police Commission

Dear Honorable Members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors,

For identification purposes, I'm the policy director and a senior staff attorney at the Asian Law Caucus. I also was appointed by this body to serve on the San Francisco Police Commission from 2010 to 2014. I'm writing to support Jesus Yanez's application for a seat on the Police Commission. I had a chance to collaborate with and get to know Jesus when I represented immigrant parents and guardians with youth in the juvenile system. I also worked with Jesus when we participated in a working group to implement a San Francisco Department General Order on juvenile rights. With his expertise in mental health, juvenile justice, and violence intervention, Jesus is a thoughtful, caring, grounded, and experienced advocate for the community and would be a great addition to the Police Commission.

Jesus Yanez has been serving and advocating for the local community in District 9 for close to 20 years. He 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 also 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.

I'm so glad to see that Jesus is applying for the Police Commission as his experience in serving the community and working at several community-based organizations has prepared him to represent the interests of the community on the Commission. 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 an important and key perspective to the Police Commission.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email at angelac@advancingjustice-alc.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angela Chan', with a large, stylized flourish above the name.

Angela Chan



GEORGE GASCÓN
District Attorney

November 28, 2018

Greg Wagner
Acting Director
Department of Public Health
101 Grove St
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mr. Wagner,

I am writing to support Veronika Fimbres' application for a Health Program Coordinator 1 or 2 with the Department of Public Health. She is a licensed vocational nurse and has taken the Civil Service Exam and is placed #9 on the list.

I have known Ms. Fimbres for a few years and have been impressed with her drive and dedication to serving our HIV / AIDS affected community. As a long time survivor of HIV / AIDS and a member of the trans community, I believe she would offer a unique perspective as a Health Program Coordinator.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any question about this letter.

Sincerely,


George Gascon
District Attorney



Mitchell H. Katz, MD
Director of Health

November 7, 2003

To Whom It May Concern:

I am delighted to write in support of Ms. Cauley for a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$105,000 for The Transgender AIDS Advocacy Advancement Peer Project (TAAPP).

From 1997 to 2000, Veronika was a member of the Mayor's HIV Planning Council (also known as the Ryan White CARE Council). This Council has a very important function in that it must determine the priorities for expending over \$30 million of Ryan White CARE Funds. Veronika was the first and at that time only transgender community representative of the CARE Council. This was a tremendous responsibility for any one person and Veronika handled it admirably. She was articulate, thoughtful, and persuasive in furthering the causes of the transgender community.

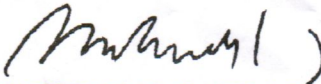
Veronika also sits as a Commissioner of Veteran's Affairs for the City and County of San Francisco. This is a testimony to the respect that the Mayor and the Board of Supervisor's have for her. This respect has been well earned through years of conducting peer support as well as general public education on the experience of transgenders in San Francisco. Her work has, in my opinion, greatly improved the care of transgenders throughout the City and County.

Ms. Cauley has been a major advocate for incarcerated transgenders. She volunteers at the San Francisco County Jail and educates incarcerated transgenders on HIV while also helping them to build their self-esteem. She helped the San Francisco Sheriff's Department to develop and implement a program for transgender prisoners to inform them of the resources available to them upon release from jail and was instrumental in developing a housing unit in the jail for transgendered persons.

San Francisco can be a difficult City to work in because of the many persons with strongly held personal and political beliefs. Veronika has managed to maintain her integrity, and her focus, through all her work.

When I am making a decision that affects the transgender community it is Veronika's council that I look to. Given that transgendered persons are one of the most invisible and poorly represented groups, I think it would make a tremendous statement to the entire community if she were granted this fellowship. I am certain that she will make the most of it.

Sincerely yours,


MITCHELL H. KATZ, MD
Director of Health