Paul Henderson

Paul Henderson currently serves as the interim Director of the Department of Police Accountability for the City and County of San Francisco. Appointed by the Police Commission, Paul manages the Department's investigation of all complaints regarding police use of force, misconduct and allegations that a member of the Police Department has not properly performed a duty.

Paul previously served as Deputy Chief of Staff and Public Safety Liaison for Mayor Ed Lee. Since 2011, Paul has advised Mayor Lee on a variety of topics and helped develop and implement policy across a broad range of issues. Paul supported the Lee Administration and various City departments by advising the Mayor on the criminal justice system and encouraging greater cooperation between local, state and federal partners.

Before joining the Mayor's Office, Paul served as Chief of Administration under then-District Attorney Kamala Harris, holding the highest position held by an African-American or LGBT male in the history of the office. Paul has over a decade of prosecutorial experience, winning dozens of trials, and has handled every type of case from nonviolent misdemeanors to serious felonies, including homicide.

Through his success in protecting victims of violent crimes and representing communities without a voice in the courtroom, Paul has made many lasting impacts in the San Francisco Bay Area that have garnered national recognition. His combination of legal experience and balanced perspective has made Paul a sought after speaker and on-air personality. He is a frequent lecturer and speaker at various law schools throughout the country. At the invitation of President Barack Obama, he participated in a national forum addressing criminal justice reform at the White House.

A native of San Francisco, Paul worked his way through his undergraduate studies at UCLA and earned his Juris Doctorate from Tulane University, where he also served as class president.

Paul is a renowned speaker, veteran prosecutor, and champion of civil rights.