

**From:** [Katie Colley](#)  
**To:** [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comments in Support of Oversight for Private Security Firms  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022 5:46:23 PM

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Hello Members of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee,

My name is Katie Colley, and I live with my family in District 2 under the leadership of Supervisor Stefani. I, along with a few other concerned citizens, reached out to Supervisor Stefani in November of 2019 after hearing about some unfortunate and inexcusable interactions with children of color and private security firm personnel in my neighborhood. In one instance, a private security officer stopped a Black teenage boy who was on a public street, held him without authority and threatened him with a gun. In another instance, a member of this same private security firm followed a 12 year old boy of color, verbally threatened him and took pictures of him without his consent, again while he was walking on a public street. This kind of behavior is unlawful and must be stopped.

There are laws that exist today that require our Police Department to oversee and monitor private security firms, but they are failing to do so. You have the power to change this injustice by moving this legislation forward today.

I am proud to live here in San Francisco, where we have enacted some of the most progressive police reform in the country. As a mother of two Black children, I feel it is safer for my children to walk our streets knowing that the police are trained to combat racial profiling, have de-escalation training, wear body cameras and there are reporting mechanisms should anything unlawful occur. But all this work for police reform does not mean anything if citizens in our city can by-pass the police, hire private security firms and circumvent these protections, protections specifically created for children who look like mine.

I implore this committee to move this legislation forward to the full Board of Supervisors. I ask you to help make our streets safer by creating stricter oversight for private security firms. We simply cannot allow private security companies to operate without oversight, and we must give citizens a way to report abuse by them.

Thank you to Supervisor Stefani for putting forth this legislation and for being a staunch advocate for this issue. Thank you for your time.

Katie Colley

**From:** [Leigha Weinberg](#)  
**To:** [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Oversight of Private Security Firms  
**Date:** Thursday, January 13, 2022 10:22:24 AM

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Hello,

My name is Leigha Weinberg. I'd like to thank all of you for considering the ordinance to exercise oversight of private security firms. I live in District 2 and have been a client of private security services. I support the existence of those services, but do not believe they can continue to carry on without oversight, as evidenced by the shocking harassment of children of color who live in our neighborhood referenced by Supervisor Stefani at the start of the meeting. If we are going to continue to allow private security guards, with guns, to patrol neighborhoods in our city, we need the Police Department's oversight.

Thank you to Supervisor Stefani for putting forth this legislation and to the SFPD for taking it seriously. I am so glad this issue is being raised and addressed.

Best regards,  
Leigha Weinberg

**From:** [Barbara Holmes](#)  
**To:** [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment in support of oversight of private security firms  
**Date:** Thursday, January 13, 2022 7:35:37 AM

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To the members of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee,

My name is Barbara Holmes and my family and I live in District 5. We are grateful for supervisor Stefani to have introduced this ordinance and to supervisors Mar and Haney for hearing this item.

We moved to San Francisco with our family that includes two black sons and we have felt lucky to live in a place where police is specifically trained to avoid racial profiling. I was appalled to hear about the behavior towards children of color by some of the private security firms in district 2. I had assumed that there must be strong legal and police oversight of those security firms, but it is clear that what is in place is not enough. As citizens of such a great city it is our responsibility to protect all members of society and ensure their safety. As parents we teach our children and especially our black boys to respect the police and follow their instructions for their own safety. However, circumstances where armed security personnel can stop, question and intimidate children on a public street is completely unacceptable. These firms need better oversight and the citizens need a reporting mechanism when they are overstepping their responsibilities. I urge you to move this legislation forward today.

With kind regards,  
Barbara Holmes

**From:** [Julia R. Eells](#)  
**To:** [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Supervisor Stefani proposal of private security ordinance  
**Date:** Thursday, January 13, 2022 4:30:43 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)

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I am writing to support amending the police code to require the Police and the Controller do a comprehensive analysis on their role regulating private security in San Francisco. I believe the Police Department needs to undertake this work to regulate private security. Thank you Supervisor Stefani for introducing this ordinance, and to Supervisors Mar and Haney for hearing this item.

As an employer and an educational institution in the city of San Francisco, I care deeply about transparent and equitable treatment of community members in our neighborhoods. Our experience has been that private security firms have displayed biased and harassing treatment of both our students and employees and I believe that the regulation of private security will make an impact on creating a more safe and equitable experience for everyone in our city.

Thank you,

**JULIA RUSSELL EELLS**  
Head of School

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