File	No.	160372

Committee Item	ı No
Board Item No.	3

## COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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OTHER						
Prepared by: Prepared by:		Date: April 15, 2016  Date:				

[Urging the California Attorney General to Investigate the Racist Text Messages and Practices of the San Francisco Police Department]

Resolution requesting California Attorney General Kamala Harris initiate a civil-rights investigation, pursuant to California Civil Code, Section 52.3, into the San Francisco Police Department's racist text messages and practices.

WHEREAS, Two weeks ago it was revealed that a group of San Francisco police officers were involved in exchanging racist and homophobic text messages targeting the African American and LGBT community; and

WHEREAS, This recent incident was not the first instance of San Francisco police officers engaging in this type of behavior; and

WHEREAS, Last year it was revealed that 14 different San Francisco police officers exchanged hateful racist and homophobic text messages which referred to African Americans as "monkeys" and used homophobic slurs to refer to the LGBT community; and

WHEREAS, As a result of Operation Safe Schools which resulted in 37 arrests, all of African Americans, last year federal public defenders filed suit alleging the sting operation was racially biased; and

WHEREAS, The Mayor, Police Chief and members of the Board of Supervisors called on the U.S. Justice Department to investigate the policies, procedures, and training of the San Francisco Police Department; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) is currently reviewing the policies and training procedures of the San Francisco police department, but this program of the Justice Department does not have the authority to mandate changes in policies in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco District Attorney George Gascon has convened a Blue Ribbon Commission in response to the police texting scandal, but the San Francisco Police Department is not bound by recommendations the Commission will make; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Police Department's Use of Force Policies are currently under review and scrutiny after the death of three men of color in officer involved shootings; and

WHEREAS, On December 2, 2015, Mario Woods a 26-year old African American man was shot 21 times by San Francisco Police Officers; and

WHEREAS, On February 26, 2015, Amilcar Perez-Lopez, a Guatemalan immigrant was fatally shot by police officers including shots in his the back; and

WHEREAS, On March 21, 2014, Alex Nieto a 27-year old man was shot 59 times by San Francisco Police Officers; and

WHEREAS, Just last week San Francisco Police Officers shot and killed Luis Gongora, a 45-year old homeless man; and

WHEREAS, Recently released data from the San Francisco Police Department between 2013 and 2015 shows African American drivers were searched at a rate more than four times than white drivers and Latino drivers were searched at a rate nearly two and a half times that of white drivers; and

WHEREAS, An independent study conducted by the Haywood Burns Institute concluded that African Americans are arrested and convicted at disproportionately higher rates than whites in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco's African American population is less than 6%, however, African Americans are seven times more likely than whites to be arrested, eleven times more likely to be booked in county jail and ten times more likely to be convicted of a crime in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, Confidence in our San Francisco Police Department and officers is imperative to public safety in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, All of these incidents suggest a pattern or practices within the San Francisco Police Department which have allowed racial bias to occur; and

WHEREAS, The California Attorney General has authority under California Civil Code, Section 52.3 to seek relief to eliminate a pattern or practice of conduct by law enforcement officers that deprives any person of rights, privileges, or immunities secured or protected by the Constitution or laws of the United States or by the Constitution or laws of California; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors takes seriously any allegations of and condemns any racially motived practices by any public agency in San Francisco; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors joins Public Defender Jeff Adachi in requesting the California Attorney General initiate a civil rights investigation into the practices and procedures of the San Francisco Police Department.

Print Form

## **Introduction Form**

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

RECEIVED IN ISOTRO
4.12

Time stamp or meeting date

	1. For reference to Committee.				
. /	An ordinance, resolution, motion, or charter amendment.				
	2. Request for next printed agenda without reference to Committee.				
	3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.				
	4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor	inquires"			
	5. City Attorney request.				
	6. Call File No. from Committee.				
	7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion).				
	8. Substitute Legislation File No.				
	9. Request for Closed Session (attach written motion).				
	10. Board to Sit as A Committee of the Whole.				
	11. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on				
Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following:  Small Business Commission  Youth Commission  Ethics Commission					
	☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commission	ı			
Note:	For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a Imperative				
Sponso	r(s):				
COH	en, kim. yee				
Subjec	t:				
Resolution requesting Atlorney General Investigation - SF Police Department					
The text is listed below or attached:					
Attached					
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Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:					
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