

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 3



City and County of San Francisco

AARON PESKIN

September 12, 2017

Chief Joanne Hayes-White
San Francisco Fire Department
698 Second Street
San Francisco, CA 94107

Dear Chief Hayes-White:

Supervisors Peskin and Kim have called for a hearing on San Francisco's coordinated preparation and response to the record-breaking September 1 - 3, 2017 heat wave (File no. 170962), and ask that the SF Fire Department present at the Government Audit and Oversight committee hearing scheduled for September 20. Please be advised of the following questions:

- How many SFFD EMT vehicles/ambulances were deployed each day over the 3-day period, and at what times and where (including EMTs on actual fire engines)?
- It has been widely known within SFFD and DEM that the highest calls for service come on Friday evenings, a fact later confirmed at our recent June 12, 2017 hearing. What staffing changes have happened since that hearing to increase line staffing on Friday evenings?
- Assuming there was already an increase in Friday evening staffing, were additional staffing changes made *on top of that* in advance of the 3-day weekend to take into consideration the heat wave? How many additional staff were brought in over the weekend, and how were they deployed during the surge periods?
- Please map the call data during the heat wave by type of call and location of call.
- What was the wait time for an ambulance at peak times during this 3-day period? What is the normal wait for an ambulance on a Friday and Saturday night?
- Given that the National Weather Service predicted on August 29 that San Francisco would be experiencing "severe" levels of heat beginning September 1, why did SFFD issue a PSA on "Preventing Heat-related Injuries and Fires" on September 1 at 2:30 pm?

- Given that many of our first responders live outside of the City, do we have any data on how their travel times impacted staffing during the heat wave?
- During a weather emergency, like what happened on the weekend of September 1, how does SFFD coordinate with other City departments? What are the protocols and contingency planning that is followed?
- What kind of feedback loop and reflection is there after a disaster happens? How does SFFD (with other City departments) assess response and coordination so as to improve on it next time? Is there a performance matrix that is used to measure response?

Thank you for your response to these inquiries. I respectfully request to have SFFD's response submitted to the Clerk, as well as members of the GAO committee, by Tuesday morning, September 19. I look forward to the September 20 hearing. If you have any questions, please contact my office and my legislative aide, Beth Rubenstein at 415-554-7453 or beth.rubenstein@sfgov.org



Aaron Peskin