



WALKUP, MELODIA, KELLY & SCHOENBERGER

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May 19, 2020

Hillary Ronen (Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org)
Catherine Stefani (Catherine.stefani@sfgov.org)
Gordon Mar (Gordon.mar@sfgov.org)
City & County of San Francisco
Board of Supervisors – Rules Committee
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Re: *Geoffrey Gordon-Creed*
Appointment to San Francisco Police Commission

Dear Supervisors Ronen, Stefani and Mar:

I write this letter in support of Geoffrey Gordon-Creed's appointment to the San Francisco Police Commission. I am a Shareholder with the law firm of Walkup Melodia Kelly & Schoenberger and Immediate Past President of the Bar Association of San Francisco and Justice and Diversity Center. I am the current President of the San Francisco Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates ("ABOTA") and a member of the Executive Committee of ABOTA National. I have also served as a past president of the San Francisco Trial Lawyer Association.

I have known Mr. Gordon-Creed for over fifteen years. We have opposed each other in litigation. We have also taught trial advocacy skills together in pro bono legal programs and at the University of San Francisco School of Law. As opposing counsel, Mr. Gordon-Creed is a formidable adversary with equal parts intelligence and integrity – both in copious amounts. He has a penchant for dissecting and simplifying complex issues. He approaches adversarial situations with reasoned deliberation and decisive execution. As a trial advocacy teacher, he is an excellent mentor, well equipped with experience to back up his instruction.

Over the years, I have had the opportunity to spend time with Mr. Gordon-Creed in and out of professional settings. He is an outstanding candidate for the San Francisco Police Commission. His past experience as

City & County of San Francisco
May 19, 2020
Page 2

an attorney for the City and County of San Francisco, representing various city departments, including the Police Department, make him well versed in policing issues specifically in the City. His general experience as an attorney advising clients in a wide array of complex liability matters help him understand how to fairly investigate and evaluate allegations of misconduct and system failures. He has a strong sense of justice for victims and a profound understanding about the use and abuse of power. He also understands the difficulty of the job of policing. His input would be invaluable to the Police Commission.

Moreover, he is passionate about supporting the San Francisco community, having served as Chair of the SF Ethics Commission and Chair of the Board for the Richmond District YMCA. His concern for the citizens of San Francisco is sincere and genuine.

As importantly, Mr. Gordon-Creed gets along with everyone. While he takes his responsibilities seriously, he never takes himself too seriously. An honorable gentleman with acerbic wit, he is never condescending and always collaborative and inclusive. He would be a tremendous asset to the Police Commission.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions about this extremely well qualified candidate.

Very truly yours,



DORIS CHENG

DC

cc: Victor Young, Clerk of the Rules Committee

May 19, 2020

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1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
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**Re: Geoffrey Gordon-Creed – Appointment to San Francisco Police
Commission**

Dear Supervisors Ronen, Stefani and Mar:

I am very pleased to write this letter in support of Geoffrey Gordon-Creed's appointment to the San Francisco Police Commission.

By way of background, I am a former member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and the former City Attorney. I am also past President of the Police Commission and have served as General Counsel for the San Francisco Unified School District. Based upon my public service experience and knowing Geoff as well as I do, I believe he would be an excellent member of the Police Commission.

I first met Geoff when he became a Deputy City Attorney and worked closely with him as City Attorney. Geoff represented the City and County in both state and federal courts on a wide range of matters, including police, fire, health, recreation and park and public transportation issues. Geoff was always well-prepared and a skilled attorney. More importantly, he worked with his colleagues, opposing counsel and the Judges in a thoughtful, courteous and collegial manner. Geoff has always been well-respected and well-liked. He has a good sense of judgment and a wonderful sense of humor. Since leaving the City Attorney's office, I have continued to stay in touch with Geoff and his family, as they have continued to undertake important legal and civic responsibilities.

In short, I am very pleased to write in support of the appointment of Geoff Gordon-Creed to the Police Commission. I know he would be an excellent member of the Commission.

Sincerely,



Louise Renne

cc: Victor Young, Clerk of the Rules Committee (Via e-mail: Victor.young@sfgov.org)
Geoffrey Gordon-Creed (Via e-mail: geoffgc@gkhs.com)

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JOHN W. KEKER
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May 22, 2020

VIA EMAIL

City & County of San Francisco
Board of Supervisors - Rules Committee
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlet Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Re: Geoffrey Gordon-Creed – Appointment to San Francisco Police Commission

Dear Supervisors Ronen, Stefani and Mar:

I write to recommend and endorse Geoffrey Gordon-Creed as a member of the San Francisco Police Commission.

I was President of the Police Commission twice, once under Mayor Agnos and once under Mayor Brown. I knew Geoff by reputation in his capacity as a Deputy City Attorney litigating cases involving police and firefighters. I got to know him personally when as Vice Chair of the Presidio Trust Board we hired Geoff's wife Jean Fraser to be CEO. Since then Geoff and I have become good friends, having meals and adventures together.

Geoff will be an outstanding Police Commissioner. He knows and is thoughtful about policing issues. He has quite progressive views on community policing, on why mass incarceration is not the answer to anything, and on the need to eliminate racial profiling and the disproportionate use of deadly force against people of color, all views that I share. He is ethical, smart, fair and hardworking. His top notch legal ability will be an asset in the all important work of conducting disciplinary hearings. He is collaborative, with a good sense of humor, and will work well with the other Commissioners as well as the Chief and his top staff.

In sum, you couldn't have a better candidate, and I hope you speedily confirm Geoff Gordon-Creed as a Police Commissioner. If any of you have questions or want more information from me, please ask.

Very truly yours,



JOHN W. KEKER

cc: Victor Young
Geoffrey Gordon-Creed



DENNIS J. HERRERA
City Attorney

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May 22, 2020

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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Re: Geoffrey Gordon-Creed – Appointment to San Francisco Police Commission

Dear Supervisors Ronen, Stefani and Mar:

I write this letter in strong support of Geoffrey Gordon-Creed's appointment to the San Francisco Police Commission.

As the City Attorney for nearly two decades – and also a former Police Commissioner – I have a deep understanding of the qualities and skills required to do the job well. Geoff has those in spades.

Geoff is a highly respected trial attorney with more than 30 years of experience. He is ethical, smart, hard-working, thoughtful and independent.

He worked in my office representing various City departments, including the Police Department, and excelled in that role. He is well versed in the complexity of policing issues.

Geoff has great respect for the difficulty of the job of policing, but he has progressive views on policing and mass incarceration. He will be a strong advocate for implementing the Department of Justice-recommended reforms that are aimed at establishing better trust and collaboration between the Police Department and the communities it serves. Likewise, he will support and push for speedy implementation of the DOJ-recommended reforms that seek to eliminate racial profiling and the disproportionate use of deadly force against people of color.

He believes strongly in the importance of community policing and that the Department needs to work collaboratively and consistently with the communities it polices to earn their trust.

He is well suited to hear and decide issues of police discipline that come before the Commission. He has served as a mediator and arbitrator and understands rules of evidence and how disciplinary hearings are conducted. He is hardworking, ethical and fair. He would listen to all sides and make a just decision.

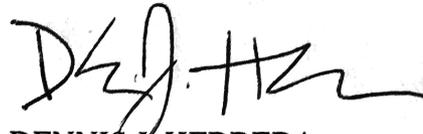
Letter to Board of Supervisors - Rules Committee

Page 2
May 26, 2020

Geoff also believes strongly in public service and serving his community. He served on the San Francisco Ethics Commission and was the acting Chair of that Commission. Among other community roles, he is currently Chair of the Board for the Richmond District YMCA, which serves and supports youth, families, and seniors in the Richmond District.

Perhaps more importantly, Geoff is a good person. He is collaborative, has a good sense of humor, and always seeks to do the right thing. I can't recommend him highly enough.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D.J. Herrera", with a stylized flourish at the end.

DENNIS J. HERRERA
City Attorney