

1 [Urging the San Francisco Superior Court to Implement a Transparent Criminal Records
2 Request System Online and Condemning the Unprofessional Behavior of the Public
3 Information Officer]

4 **Resolution urging the San Francisco Superior Court to expedite implementation of a**
5 **transparent criminal records request system by ensuring that requester access,**
6 **method of payment and all files are available online like other jurisdictions, responding**
7 **to press requests for information in a timely and professional manner; and**
8 **condemning the unprofessional behavior of the Public Information Officer.**

9
10 WHEREAS, The federal government operates an online search engine, PACER, which
11 provides “instantaneous access to more than 1 billion documents filed at all federal courts”;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Other California counties, such as Alameda County, also provide
14 instantaneous and user-friendly online access to court records, as well as online payment
15 options; and

16 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Superior Court have been trying to update the courts’
17 ancient Unix computer systems for the past 20 years; and

18 WHEREAS, A recent Open Forum opinion editorial by freelance journalist, Anna Tong,
19 published in the San Francisco Chronicle and on file with the Clerk of the Board of
20 Supervisors in File No. 211035, which is hereby declared to be a part of this Resolution as if
21 set forth fully herein, detailed the byzantine process and restrictive requirements members of
22 the press must undergo to obtain a criminal record, which border on an attempt to discourage
23 the press from obtaining information of merit to the public; and

24 WHEREAS, The same September 25, 2021 opinion editorial detailed in alarming detail
25 the unprofessional and obstructionist behavior of the San Francisco Supervisor Court Public

1 Information Officer, Ken Garcia, in clear violation of the employee protocols of public
2 employees; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the San Francisco
4 Superior Court to expedite implementation of a transparent criminal records request system
5 by ensuring that requester access, method of payment and all files are available online like
6 other jurisdictions; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the San
8 Francisco Superior Court to respond to press requests for information in a timely and
9 professional manner; and, be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors condemns the
11 unprofessional behavior of the San Francisco Superior Court Public Information Officer.

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City and County of San Francisco

Tails
Resolution

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 211035

Date Passed: October 05, 2021

Resolution urging the San Francisco Superior Court to expedite implementation of a transparent criminal records request system by ensuring that requester access, method of payment and all files are available online like other jurisdictions, responding to press requests for information in a timely and professional manner; and condemning the unprofessional behavior of the Public Information Officer.

October 05, 2021 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 211035

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 10/5/2021 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Handwritten signature of Angela Calvillo
Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

London N. Breed
Mayor

10/15/2021

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Handwritten signature of Angela Calvillo
Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

10/15/2021

Date