



# PATROLLER

DECEMBER 2022

**Newsletter for the Patrollers, volunteers, and supporters of Castro Community On Patrol in San Francisco, California, USA.**

**ESTABLISHED 2006**

**CHIEF OF PATROL**



**Chf. Greg Carey**  
(Public Relations)

**DEPUTY CHIEF OF PATROL**



**DChf. Ken Craig**  
(Volunteer Training & Certification)

**DEPUTY CHIEF OF PATROL**



**DChf. Brian Hill**  
(Information Technology)

**DEPUTY CHIEF OF PATROL**



**DChf. Kyle Wong**  
(Volunteer Scheduling & Retention)

## CCOP Stands With The Club Q Victims & Survivors



CCOP was very saddened to hear of the murderous attack on Club Q in Colorado Springs.

We stand shoulder to shoulder with the family, loved ones, friends, and colleagues of those who sadly lost their lives, those who were injured during the incident, and those who witnessed the carnage as civilians or first responders.

We are deeply grateful for the brave patrons who selflessly responded and subdued the murderer, preventing many more fatalities and injuries. It takes a huge amount of courage and will to do so, and we owe those individuals a debt of gratitude that can never be suitably met.

The LGBTQI+ community remains a target in the U.S. and around the world. While great strides have been made in many ways in recent decades, threats remain, even in those places where we feel most comfortable.

CCOP is coordinating with local Government and community organizations to provide, and refresh, our FREE Active Shooter, Terrorist Incident, and Event Protection training opportunities for those who organize, manage, and deliver community events and entertainment spaces.

We are also establishing a FREE community self-defense class which will take place sometime in December, to offer guidance and information to members of the LGBTQI+ community.

We will announce all training opportunities and dates on our website, Facebook, and Instagram platforms.

## CCOP Attends The Castro Tree Lighting Ceremony



CCOP attended the annual Castro Tree Lighting event on Monday November 28, providing additional safety with SFPD.

"It was very important for us to be in attendance," said CCOP Deputy Chief Ken Craig. "Especially in light of the recent Club Q attack."

This year's event was very well attended, including State Senator Scott Wiener, San Francisco Mayor London Breed, and Castro Supervisor Raphael Mandelman.

## Safety Focus Increases During The Holidays



As we enter the holiday period, both the city and the Castro will focus more attention on safety for all.

The city is hiring 150 more Street Ambassadors to add to the 250 already in place to provide a "positive presence in our Downtown area and our neighborhoods."

More annual holiday events will take place in the Castro, as well as more visitors to the neighborhood in general during December. Take a moment to read our [HOLIDAY SAFETY FLYER](#).

# SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

By Chief Ken Craig, KCTO, KCCO,  
St.SPCB



Chief Ken Craig,  
Community Patrol Service

**In The Wake Of The Club Q Murders, Thoughts And Prayers  
Are Simply Not Sufficient. Action Is Necessary.**



In our November newsletter, we discussed the immutable fact that members of the LGBTQQI+ community remain the targets of violence and mass murder incidents,

simply because of who we love or how we live. These incidents occur throughout the United States and throughout the entire world. Much of this violence is ignited by ignorance, fear, and very likely by misinformation and propaganda disseminated by individuals who refuse to recognize the right of others to live and love in ways different to their own.

As we noted last month, 2021 was the 'deadliest year' since records began for Transgender People, with 375 murders throughout the world, with most occurring in Central and South America. There were 44 murders of Transgender victims within the United States in 2020, and 50 murders in 2021 according to the Human Rights Campaign. Sadly, 2022 has seen at least 31 murders of Transgender people to date.

As members of the LGBTQQI+ and allied community, we must take steps to train, prepare, and protect ourselves, our loved ones, and our community in general as much as possible, though all means possible.

- Train in the use of Pepper spray and/or a Taser, and consider carrying one, or both, at all times.
- Attend as many self-defense classes as possible, and as frequently as possible.
- Attend any Active Shooter training classes as possible, and as frequently as possible.
- Look for emergency exits when entering ANY building or unfamiliar space, so you know your exit options in an emergency.
- Remain aware of your surroundings at all times when in public. Limit anything that removes or limits any of your senses, such as earbuds, loud music, focusing your cellphone, etc.
- Attend events and facilities ONLY if they have trained their staff in Active Shooter protocols.
- Report anyone you know, who appears to potentially be a danger to themselves or others, and where you know they own one or more firearm and fear they may use them. Gun Violence Restraining Orders are issued under the Red Flag laws.
- If you see ANYTHING or ANYONE suspicious when "out and about" call 9-1-1 immediately and provide details of your suspicions.

## RED FLAG LAW

A "red flag law" is a type of gun confiscation law. It allows certain people to seek a Gun Violence Restraining Order (GVRO) to remove firearms from a person who has been deemed by a judge to be a threat to themselves or a threat to someone else. To submit a GVRO request complete this [GVRO FORM](#) and submit the form to the court. You can also contact your district attorney's office for assistance in filling out the form.

## SELF-DEFENSE and ACTIVE SHOOTER Training

CCOP will be scheduling these classes within the neighborhood during the month of December, and regularly into 2023.

Watch our website and Facebook pages for information on our next FREE Community Self-Defense Class and sign up early to participate as the classes are always very popular and they fill up fast.

# Castro Cares Program Report



be a part of the solution

Castro Cares is a unique community collaborative providing supplemental outreach and hospitality services throughout the district to the city's homeless support services and the work of the San Francisco Police Department. The program is funded by a city grant and through public donations.

The program deploys uniformed Community Ambassadors 7-days a week. They interact with the residents, business employees and owners, visitors, and with those living on the streets. Through these interactions, the Community Ambassadors develop trusting relationships with many of the individuals who live on the street, but call Castro home. This relationship often helps to bring critical services, support, and resources to them, and it has helped transition a few into supportive housing and off the streets.

This relationship with the "regular" homeless residents of the Castro significantly assists in identifying transient homeless who have little interest in respecting the neighborhood, residents, or businesses, which in turn assists the Castro Cares partner organizations in addressing those individuals directly and mitigating their impacts.

Between January and June of 2022 (latest published figures) the Castro Ambassadors conducted 904 homeless engagements, performed 602 wellness checks, and responded to 7 overdoses.

To find out more about the Castro Cares program, or to donate in support of the program, check out their website at [www.castrocbd.org/castro-cares/](http://www.castrocbd.org/castro-cares/)

# Castro Business Watch Program



Castro Business Watch program is a unique business collaborative allowing owners and employees to share information and support each other. Modeled on the Neighborhood Watch program, CBW is a FREE program open to all registered businesses in the Castro / Duboce Triangle neighborhood.

CBW is overseen by San Francisco Safety Awareness for Everyone ([www.SFSAFE.org](http://www.SFSAFE.org)) which offers additional safety and security services to businesses throughout the city.

To find out more, contact us at [INFO@CastroPatrol.org](mailto:INFO@CastroPatrol.org) and we will be happy to chat with you, and enroll you into the program.

# Community Patrol Service



Community Patrol Service (CPS) is a not-for-profit community organization that works with neighborhoods throughout the United States who wish to develop a Community On Patrol Service (COPS) organization such as Castro Community On Patrol (CCOP).

CPS will offer free advice, guidance, training information, suggestions, and non-fiscal support throughout the development of your own COPS group.

To find out more, contact us at [CommunityPatrolService@gmail.com](mailto:CommunityPatrolService@gmail.com) and we will be happy to chat with you, and enroll you into the program.

# WHO / WHEN / WHERE / HOW

## LIFE THREATENING OR CRIME IN PROGRESS ?

### **Call 9-1-1**

In any situation where life is at imminent risk, or where a crime is in progress right now, call 9-1-1 for an immediate emergency response.

## NO IMMEDIATE THREAT TO LIFE OR PROPERTY?

### **Call 415-553-0123**

In situations which are less critical or immediate but where a Police or Fire response may still be required, use the non-emergency number above.

### **San Francisco District Supervisor's Office**

Supervisor Raphael Mandelman  
District 8,  
**Call 415-554-6968**  
**MandelmanStaff@sfgov.org**

San Francisco District Supervisors represent you and can assist in many areas of concern that involve formal Government agencies or departments. If their office cannot assist you directly, they will help to put you in contact with resources that can assist.

### **San Francisco District Attorney's Office**

350 Rhode Island Street  
North Building, Suite 400N, 94103  
**Call 628-652-4000**  
**DistrictAttorney@sfgov.org**

The DA's office prosecutes crime in San Francisco and offers various services for victims of crime.

**VICTIM SERVICES:** 628-652-4100  
**HATE CRIME HOTLINE:** 628-652-4311

### **San Francisco Official Resources**

**San Francisco Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
415-553-7400

**San Francisco Police Department Mission Station**  
415-558-5400 SFPDMissionStation@sfgov.org

**San Francisco Police Department Park Station**  
415-242-3000 SFPDParkStation@sfgov.org

**SFFD Street Crisis Response Team**  
Call 911 for people in severe mental distress

**SFFD Street Wellness Response Team**  
415-553-0123 for homeless related non-criminal issues

**San Francisco City Services**  
3-1-1 to report "things" i.e. human waste, trash, etc.

**San Francisco Safety Awareness For Everyone**  
415-416-6436 <https://sfsafe.org>

**Mental Health Services For Everyone**  
9-8-8

### **Community Resources**

**Castro Community Benefits District Services**  
415-500-1181 ExecDirector@castrocbd.org  
**Cleaning Services:** 415-471-7536

**Castro Cares Community Ambassadors Program**  
Call or Text 415-471-7536

**Castro Community On Patrol**  
415-ASK-CCOP INFO@CastroPatrol.org

**24 Hour National Domestic Violence Hotline**  
1-800-799-7233

**Trevor Project**  
212-695-8650 (LGBTQQI+ youth in need of support)

**SF Adult Protective Services (APS) Hotline**  
415-335-6700 or 1-800-814-0009

**PG&E – Gas Leak / Downed Power Line**  
1-800-743-5000 or 9-1-1

# 3 HOURS A MONTH MAKES A HUGE DIFFERENCE



## CASTRO COMMUNITY ON PATROL NEEDS YOU

GIVE US JUST THREE HOURS A MONTH AS A PATROL VOLUNTEER, TO MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY

Castro Community On Patrol (CCOP), a program of San Francisco Safety Awareness For Everyone (SF-SAFE), seeks new volunteers to help patrol the Castro neighborhood on a monthly basis.

CCOP has successfully patrolled the Castro neighborhood for over 15 years, deploying teams of three unpaid volunteer Patrollers for a 3-hour shift which they select themselves.

Our patrols offer assistance, information, guidance, and support to the residents, businesses, and visitors of the Castro, interacting with thousands of people every year. We are “First Reporters” by calling in Medical, Fire, or Law Enforcement professionals when needed, and we will offer assistance when safe to do so until the professionals arrive.

CCOP also assists other community groups to make their events successful, and we are often a part of the developing history of the LGBTQQI+ community. In the past we’ve assisted at PROP8 rallies, Pulse Nightclub memorials, Harvey Milk annual events, and many others. We also assist at regular community events by providing safety teams to events such as the Sisters Easter in the Park, SF PRIDE safety events, Castro Street Fair, CBD Music in the Plaza, SFAF Santa Skivvies Run, PRC Holiday Dinner and many more.

Our volunteers are mostly members of the LGBTQQI+ community, but we are open and welcoming to ALL who want to donate just three hours a month to help keep the Castro neighborhood a little safer. We provide full training, and you will deploy with experienced Senior Volunteers. Patrolling is fun, you get to meet lots of people, and you can feel good about helping out the community.

JOIN US TODAY, AND HELP US BUILD A BETTER TOMORROW

[WWW.CASTROPATROL.ORG](http://WWW.CASTROPATROL.ORG)

**“SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT”**