



PATROLLER

FEBRUARY 2023

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 Provides Active Shooter Training Classes



CCOP led our second “Active Shooter – Terrorist Incident – Event Protection” basic training class for bars, clubs, businesses, and event organizers on Saturday January 21, 2023 at the SF Eagle Bar.

This second class was literally one month after our first class on December 21 of 2022. In total we have trained about 50 people through the classes to date, which will help them to develop internal policies, enhance their Emergency Response Planning, and train to respond in the event of any unexpected emergency incident.

We will continue to work with our Federal, State, and City & County of San Francisco partners to provide a general “Active Shooter” basic training class for members of the public, as well as our ever popular “Community Self-Defense” basic class over the next month or two. Watch our website for class details and to register.

2023 Starts Off With Multiple Mass Shootings In CA



As shocked as we were by the horrific murders at Club Q in Colorado Springs in November of 2022, nothing could have prepared us for the deadly start to 2023 in California alone with three high-profile mass shooting incidents.

“The very sad fact is that the United States is mired in an epidemic of violence that has been evident for decades,” said Deputy Chief Ken Craig.

“Hundreds of firearm mass shootings occur every single year in this country, killing thousands and injuring thousands more.”

“Until real and concrete measures are put in place to remove the stresses and pressures that motivate individuals to resolve their issues with mass shooting violence, sadly, these incidents will continue to occur,” he continued.

As members of the public, this is a sad reality in the

modern world in which we live, that we must consider the possibility of being involved in such an incident at some point in our adult lives. This may be especially true as members of the LGBTQIQ+ and allied community as we are often targets of violence anyway.

“Individually we may never really be able to prevent all mass shooting incidents,” DChf. Craig continued, “but through training and awareness, we just may be able to help identify people under stress and assist them in mitigating that stress in various ways which may prevent them from mobilizing to violence.”

“If the worst situation happens and we find ourselves in a mass-shooting incident, prior training, practice, and concepts of what to do and how to do it may be the difference between surviving or succumbing.”

As a subject matter expert from the San Francisco District Attorney’s office pointed out recently “**Just Do SOMETHING.**” As a derivation of the famous Nike ad, Just Do SOMETHING is excellent advice in these circumstances. Train, plan, prepare, and if faced with a situation – **DO SOMETHING** to survive.

SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

By Chief Greg Carey, KCCO, St.WECB



Chief Greg Carey
Castro Community On Patrol

Preparing For The Unthinkable



Student: “After the Club Q shooting, we were told by the Supervisor, Senator, and Mayor that there would be extra security for the LGBTQ+ community. What happened?”

Answer: “That is exactly why we are here. Individual preparedness is always a large part of personal safety.”

That was the short answer at the second Active Shooter workshop held in the past month to help businesses develop plans to upgrade the visible security to deter would-be-attackers and to provide details to staff and volunteers about what to do if a person with a weapon gets inside the business. The longer answer is that bureaucracy is always slow, and many good ideas never get implemented. Add to that the fact that the SFPD is between 500 and 800 Officers short of the recommended level to make fulfilling any promise of constant protection impractical.

Even if the police department was fully staffed, the odds of an Officer being at the exact spot that a crime (shooting, burglary, assault, car break-in, you name it) is infinitesimally small. Unless the Officer is a witness to the crime, they cannot stop it and more importantly cannot arrest a suspect unless a person who is the victim or a witness is willing to be part of the investigation.

Within 48 hours of the January 21 workshop, California experienced three active shooter events in Monterey Park, Half Moon Bay, and Oakland. Most shooters use a handgun, so many events go unreported nationally if no “AR-15” type of long-gun is involved.

Castro Patrol has long made it a high priority to educate the queer community about personal safety. It starts with having distributed over 100,000 free safety whistles with accompanying safety literature and extends to the dozens of Basic Self-Defense workshops held before the pandemic. Even more important, Castro Patrol has worked to establish and maintain conversations across the many groups that impact safety, including merchants, police and local prosecutors, and the FBI and Homeland Security agencies when needed.

The unfortunate truth is that America school children have a plan of action in active shooter situations and most adults have no idea what to do. Having a plan in place greatly improves the chances of survival. The two business-oriented workshops held in December and January have reached nearly 50 people, to encourage better planning and preparedness. Starting in March, we will be bringing these messages to the general public with the return of our Basic Self-Defense workshop and a new Active Shooter workshop. Watch for details as these events come together.

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.

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/

Community Safety Program



The San Francisco LGBTQI+ Community Safety Program (SF-LGBT-CSP) is a joint effort between the community and various Federal, State, and local agencies to provide training, guidance, advice, and support in developing a "fabric of safety" for all individuals, businesses, and events.

Through collaboration and cooperation, the CSP establishes some basic training concepts and standards, and facilitates the exchange of information and ALERTS that are crucial to preparedness, responsiveness, and recovery in the aftermath of any incident or attack.

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

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) which offers additional safety and security services to businesses throughout the city.

To find out more, contact us at 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 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

“SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT”