



# PATROLLER

APRIL 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)

### Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence Easter In The Park 2023



CCOP will assist the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence once again this year as safety monitors for their annual "Easter In The Park" which will take place at Dolores Park on Sunday April 9<sup>th</sup>.

The Sisters will have an Easter Egg hunt for the little ones in the morning, then a full program of entertainment from noon through 4 PM or so, including the ever popular "Foxy Mary" and "Hunky Jesus" contests.

Given the rash of protests around the State, and around the Country, related to "drag" opposition, we are coordinating closely with SFPD, Park Rangers, and the Sisters. We certainly hope this day concludes as it has for many years prior, without incident.

We could use some additional Patrollers and community Safety Volunteers to assist us. If you are available for four hours on the 9<sup>th</sup>, drop us an email at [INFO@CastroPatrol.org](mailto:INFO@CastroPatrol.org).

### Active Shooter Training 04/20 In The Castro



We absolutely HATE that once again as this newsletter is prepared, yet another senseless shooting has taken place, and six innocent lives lost.

We wish this training was never needed, but the truth is that the LGBTQ+ community IS a real and potential target of this type of violence, and it is incumbent on us all to train and be prepared to help protect ourselves and our loved ones.

Our Basic Active Shooter class is a 2-hour lecture-based training which will give you some key information and concepts to help you and your loved ones. Please register early as space will be limited.

Pre-registration is REQUIRED. Please use this link to register for this important safety training:

[04/20 Active Shooter Basic Training Class Registration](#)

### FREE Basic Self-Defense Training Class 04/29



Alongside Active Shooter training, and First Aid certification, we strongly feel that basic self-defense training is an essential skill for EVERYONE. Like an insurance policy, we hope you will NEVER need these skills, but you will be happy to have them on a bad day.

Our three-hour basic training class is open to ANYONE of 18 years or older and provides a graduated thought process to help identify possible risks and take appropriate defensive actions. As the risk escalates, the defensive actions grow at pace. The primary objective is to avoid physical defense, but if all else fails the class offers some simple yet extremely effective techniques that anyone can use.

Pre-registration is REQUIRED. Please use this link to register for this important safety training:

[04/29 Basic Self-Defense Training Class Registration](#)

# SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

By Chief Greg Carey, KCCO, St.WECB



Chief Greg Carey  
Castro Community On Patrol

## SPIRITUAL VIOLENCE

Let's start with a basic definition: Hate speech by itself is NOT a hate crime. I will provide details throughout the article, but for now, let's take a look at recent history.

A group of demonstrators arrived at 1:46 pm at the Castro Winter Street Fair on December 18 (a non-CCOP event) to object to the drag performers who were a big part of the day's entertainment. They were very organized. The first group of 12 people set up a beachhead on the sidewalk in front of Flore just outside the permitted area with a loud PA system used by the two main speakers. They used trigger words like "groomer" and "child corrupter" to rile the audience and complained that there were children present. This ignored the fact that each child enjoying the performance was accompanied by one or two adults, also having fun. Seventeen minutes later 10 more reinforcements arrived carrying signs along with a videographer with a professional camera. Several audience members became very angry and tried to reason with the demonstrators which only increased tension. The two groups came very close to physical violence, but more than a dozen police officers stood by. I was told that this same group often comes into the Castro on Sundays to broadcast their hate to anyone in the area.

In 1977, the US Supreme Court ruled in a case involving neo-Nazis in Skokie, Illinois that hate speech is protected by the first amendment. To further complicate matters, the Castro protesters claimed to be a religious group which adds "religious speech" to the protection of the 1977 ruling.

### **What Can We Do?**

Faced with this issue before the pandemic, Rev. Diana Wheeler (straight ally and Episcopal minister) produced a 10-minute training video explains how to peacefully respond to spiritual hate speech. Some of these groups use lawsuits to fund their operation. If someone touches, shoves, or become so angry to actually assault one of the protesters, they can bring legal actions to gain monetary compensation. That may explain the videographer. The video linked below explains how to respond without making physical contact.

Training Video: [https://youtu.be/-xFk\\_9CbnHI](https://youtu.be/-xFk_9CbnHI)

Documents referenced in video: [bit.ly/3FjTiQ2](https://bit.ly/3FjTiQ2)

### **What is a Hate Crime?**

As mentioned earlier, hate speech by itself is not a hate crime under California's laws. But hate motives can enhance punishment if a jury agrees that a person convicted a crime like vandalism or assault did so because of hatred of a class of people. Always tell an investigating officer that you believe a hate crime may have been the motive for the other crime, but unless that other crime is reported and charges pressed, the hate motive cannot be prosecuted.

## 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/](http://www.castrocbd.org/castro-cares/)

## SF LGBTQ+ 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](mailto: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](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

**SFPD Chief's LGBTQ+ Community Advisory Forum**  
LGBTQ.forum@sfgov.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

# JOIN US IN MAKING A 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 since 2006, deploying in teams of three unpaid volunteer Patrollers for a 3-hour shift which they select themselves.

Our patrols provide assistance, information, guidance, and support to the residents, businesses, and visitors of the Castro, interacting with thousands of people every year. We are often “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 always deploy with experienced 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) | [info@CastroPatrol.org](mailto:info@CastroPatrol.org) | 415-735-5337**

***“SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT”***