



PATROLLER

FEBRUARY 2024

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)

ASSISTANT CHIEF OF PATROL



AChf. Ken Craig
(Volunteer Training & Certification)

DEPUTY CHIEF OF PATROL



DChf. Brian Hill
(Information Technology)

DEPUTY CHIEF OF PATROL



DChf. Kyle Wong
(Volunteer Scheduling & Retention)

STATEMENT FROM CASTRO COMMUNITY ON PATROL CONCERNING SAN FRANCISCO SAFETY AWARENESS FOR EVERYONE – SF-SAFE INVESTIGATION

By Chief Carey, CCOP



[Castro Community On Patrol](#) (CCOP or Castro Patrol) was a program of SF-SAFE (Safety Awareness For Everyone) from 2006 until November 2023 when SF-SAFE ended the affiliation without explanation. Recently, news surfaced of investigations of possible mishandling by SF-SAFE of funds from the City of San Francisco and independent donors.

CCOP Chief of Patrol Greg Carey stated, “We noticed longer periods between the submission of invoices and reimbursements in early 2023. Where these were paid within 4-6 weeks in the past, we were seeing delays of months. The latest check request was submitted on June 13, and not paid until August 30, 2023.”

SF-SAFE informed us on August 3, 2023 that the \$20,000 expected from this year’s City grant had been

cancelled. No reason was given. When asked about the status of funds that had rolled over from prior years because of the pandemic, we were told in an email that we had, “about \$80k in grant funds and \$2k in non-restricted (money raised independently of the City grants) funds” available. We began working with Supervisor Mandelman’s office on August 9 to understand what happened.

We tried to contact SF-SAFE on October 23 and were referred to an attorney who refused to provide any details. The attorney answered a few questions from the first call on November 12 and then sent the notice of dissolution of the relationship four days later.

After the partnership was dissolved, CCOP was left with approximately \$11,000 in unpaid obligations and an uncertain financial future. The invoice of greatest concern is to a San Francisco vendor who supplied safety equipment. SF-SAFE had approved direct invoicing between the vendor and SF-SAFE. The customized (non-standard) merchandise was ordered

on June 26, 2023. The total due the small business is more than \$6,300 and no payments have been made by SF-SAFE. The remainder of the unpaid invoices are reimbursements owed to CCOP Board members.

CCOP is working with several agencies to locate a new fiscal sponsor. Chief Carey explained, “We have secured about \$7,600 in donations outside of the funds that went missing from SF-SAFE and hope to find additional funds to cover immediate expenses. We are working with Supervisor Mandelman’s office to re-establish City funding to continue our essential services to the Castro neighborhood.”

CCOP intends to work with investigators looking into SF-SAFE if asked to do so.

This unexpected and shocking situation forced us to work almost exclusively on trying to find a solution that allows us to continue to exist, function, and meet our obligations over the last few months. As such, we have not had much time to focus on our core mission of Patrolling. We hope to return to that core mission very soon.

CCOP Recognized By Board of Supervisors & FBI



San Francisco Board of Supervisors To Honor Castro Patrol

Please mark your calendars and join the Patrollers and supporters of Castro Community On Patrol (CCOP) on Tuesday February 27, 2023 at around 2:30PM at San Francisco City Hall, Room 250 when the Board of Supervisors will honor and recognize our Seventeen years of service to the Castro neighborhood, to the City and County of San Francisco, and to the LGBTQ+ community in general.

The Supervisors will honor CCOP at their regular Board of Supervisors meeting with the recognition expected to take place around 2:30PM. The actual timing of the event will depend on the agenda for the day, so we suggest arriving at City Hall by 2:00PM to help ensure you don't miss it.

We encourage ALL of our Patrollers, supporters, friends, and colleagues to join us at City Hall for this important event. Everyone at CCOP is extremely grateful and humbled by this award and recognition and we definitely was to share the moment with as many people as possible.

CPS Chief Ken Craig and CCOP Chief Greg Carey to be recognized by the F.B.I. Director in April

CCOP has worked closely with our Sister/Brother organization Community Patrol Service (CPS) since our very beginnings, and community education and outreach was a key facet of this collaboration, including providing "Active Shooter" training for bars, businesses, and nonprofits.

We reached out to both the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Bureau of Investigation when updating and enhancing our active shooter training class, and we've worked closely with Special Agents from both departments for a number of years, with agents attending a number of our training classes.

In recognition of this work on behalf of the LGBTQ+ community, the FBI San Francisco office recommended us for recognition during the annual FBI Directors Community Liaison awards that take place at the J. Edgar Hoover building in Washington D.C. on April 19th, 2024. Chief Ken Craig of Community Patrol Service and Chief Greg Carey of Castro Community On Patrol have been recognized to receive this honor, along with many other community activists from around the country.

While Chief Craig and Chief Carey will travel to Washington D.C. to accept the award in person, a smaller local ceremony will take place in San Francisco in mid-March with the Special Agent In Charge (SAIC) Robert Tripp of the FBI San Francisco Office presiding. This will allow our local Patrollers, supporters, and friends to join us. We will publish more details on the local San Francisco event as they are finalized.

CCOP is both humbled and greatly honored to be recognized by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco, and by the Department of Justice FBI for the work we have done over the last Seventeen years, and for the work we will continue to do for Seventeen more years to come.



SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

By Chief Ken Craig, Community Patrol Service
Assistant Chief of Patrol, Castro Community On Patrol



THE IMPACT OF THE SF-SAFE INVESTIGATION WILL HAVE AN IMPACT FAR BEYOND THE SAFE NONPROFIT ITSELF

The suspension of all activities at the San Francisco Safety Awareness For Everyone (SF-SAFE) nonprofit will impact neighborhood safety and specific safety programs throughout the city, likely for many years to come. This is a significant impediment to overall safety for the city, as it slowly recovers from the difficulties of the COVID-19 pandemic and the anti-police service sentiment that has decimated the number of police Officers within the city.

SAFE was born out of a charter that established the nonprofit in 1977 to enhance public safety and foster community resilience through education, collaboration, and proactive initiatives. Funded annually by a significant grant out of the Police Department budget, SAFE worked closely with the department to foster and develop Neighborhood Watch programs throughout the city, and helped to promote many police department initiatives such as gun buy backs, expired medication drop off's, fireworks safety programs, park safe programs, and bicycle registrations. One of SAFE's most impactful endeavors was its collaboration with the San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD) in developing the Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) program in 1987. NERT was born out of the recognition by Marina area residents that traditional emergency services would be overwhelmed in the event of a large-scale disaster. NERT trains ordinary members of the public in basic disaster response skills to assist the recovery in their own neighborhoods.

SAFE was the key nonprofit entity that assisted in the creation and initial funding of Castro Community On Patrol, agreeing to act as our fiscal sponsor and providing essential guidance and counsel during the first years of the Patrol. SAFE offered a vital connection to the Police Department and essential support in working with City Government to secure small annual grants that helped CCOP survive during the first few years of our services.

The SAFE Neighborhood Watch programs are, as we constantly promoted whenever possible, the most simple, basic, and essential safety program for any neighborhood and community. Every street and every neighborhood should have a Neighborhood Watch, to keep an eye out for problems and report challenges appropriately. The demise of SAFE and suspension of their activities will severely impact the operations of these Neighborhood Watch groups for a period of time, which is a great shame.

CCOP itself was severely impacted by the demise of SAFE, but we are taking steps to establish ourselves as an independent nonprofit with the City, CA State, and the IRS. We are also working with our community partners to secure funding and support to meet our outstanding fiscal obligations and we are looking forward to a more independent, stable, and exciting future. During these "new formation" months, we ask for your continued support, engagement, and participation at all levels.

SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

Community Self-Defense Class

BEGINNERS COMMUNITY SELF-DEFENSE CLASS

Saturday 02/17/2024

1 PM - 4 PM

Open to anyone 18 years +

Only \$30 per attendee

In the Castro Neighborhood



Hosted by Castro Community On Patrol

Pre-registration is **REQUIRED**

Find out more and register at

www.CastroPatrol.org



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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.

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

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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/

SF LGBTQ+ Safety Program



The San Francisco LGBTQ+ Community Safety Program (SF-LGBTQ-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.

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.

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.

SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

DON'T BE AFRAID, GET TRAINED AND PREPARED

SIX STEPS TO ASSIST IN PROSECUTING CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

1

IF YOU SEE A CRIME IN PROGRESS, OR A LIFE-THREATENING SITUATION:

CALL - 911

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS OR SOMETHING AUTHORITIES SHOULD KNOW ABOUT:

CALL - 415-553-0123

MEET AND PROVIDE A WITNESS STATEMENT TO POLICE.

If Officers don't see the incident you called about themselves, and find no other criminal activity when they arrive, they cannot CITE or make an ARREST without a witness to the incident.

2

3

GET THE COMPUTER AIDED DISPATCH (CAD) NUMBER THAT IS ASSIGNED TO THE INCIDENT

Officers will provide this when you provide your witness statement. This number will allow you to track the case from investigation to prosecution.

FOLLOW UP WITH SFPD INVESTIGATORS

Call the SFPD Station that responded to your incident and provide the CAD # to get updates on the status of incident.

4

5

FOLLOW UP WITH THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Using the CAD#, work with the Assistant District Attorney assigned to the case, and let them know what YOU WANT to happen in the case.

GO TO COURT, AND STAND AS A WITNESS

If the case goes to court, be sure to attend and be willing to provide witness testimony on the stand, and/or victim impact statements.

6

SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

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) 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 who walk for a 3-hour shift which they select themselves.

Our patrols provide assistance, distribute information, offer guidance, and deliver 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 LGBTQ+ 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, Glow in the Street events, CBD Music in the Plaza, Santa Skivvies Run, PRC Holiday Dinner and many more.

Our volunteers are mostly members of the LGBTQ+ community, but we are open and welcoming to **ALL** who want to volunteer 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.

www.CastroPatrol.org | info@CastroPatrol.org | 415-735-5337

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