



# PATROLLER

MARCH 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)

## February Was Busy On Many Fronts For CCOP



As we discussed last month, we are going through the process of establishing CCOP as an independent nonprofit corporation with the City and County of San Francisco, with the State of California, and with the Federal Internal Revenue Service. As you can probably imagine, this involves a lot of research, paperwork, and time. We are not officially registered with the State of California and we are currently working on the IRS nonprofit paperwork.

We have also established "Avenue Greenlight" as our short-term fiscal conduit, allowing us to use their nonprofit status until we can establish our own 501(c)(3) certification from the IRS.

All of this "background" work has been substantial and largely hidden to our volunteers and supporters, but it is essential to securing the long-term future of CCOP.

In an interesting juxtaposition of fate, just as we lost our corporate identity and fiscal capacity with the closing of San Francisco Safety Awareness for Everyone (SF-SAFE) we were also being recognized for our services to the community by the City and County of San Francisco who will present us with a Certificate of Honor for Seventeen-years of service and commitment to the city. This award will take place at the conclusion of the Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday March 5, 2024 at City Hall. We invite all of our supporters to join us at 2 PM at the Board of Supervisors meeting as the award is presented, sometime around 2:30 PM

We are also being recognized by the FBI in the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Directors Community Liaison awards at the J. Edgar Hoover FBI headquarters in Washington D.C. on Friday April 19, 2024. We have worked closely with the FBI San Francisco Office over the last few years in a number of areas, including our LGBTQ+ Community Safety Program, our Active Shooter training classes, and in our efforts to support the SFPD LGBTQ+ Advisory Forum.

As not everyone will be able

to attend the award ceremony in Washington D.C. the FBI San Francisco Office will host an award ceremony at San Francisco City Hall on Monday March 18<sup>th</sup> to allow our local supporters to attend and participate. We will post specific time and room number details on our social media as soon as they are confirmed.



In addition to all of this, we also hosted a **Community Beginners Self-Defense class** on February 17<sup>th</sup> in the Castro, a **private Beginners Self-Defense class** at Millennium Tower condominium, and our **"Active Shooter – Terrorist Incident – Event Protection"** basic training class on February 28<sup>th</sup> at the initial request of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.

February was quite hectic and busy, and we anticipate March will continue like this as we move forward in establishing our full corporate identity and paperwork, and as we continue to support the community and the many nonprofits we work with. As always, we greatly appreciate your support in this work.

## Chief Craig & Chief Carey To Receive FBI Directors Community Liaison Award in Washington D.C.



**San Francisco LGBTQ+ Community Safety Program (CSP) leaders, Chief Ken Craig [pictured left above] of Community Patrol Service (CPS) and Chief Greg Carey [pictured right above] of Castro Community On Patrol (CCOP) have been selected to receive the prestigious Federal Bureau of Investigation Directors Community Liaison award in a special presentation that will take place at the J. Edgar Hoover FBI headquarters in Washington D.C. on Friday April 19, 2024.**

The Community Liaison awards are presented annually, and this year represents the 16<sup>th</sup> iteration of the awards. Each FBI area of responsibility nominates worthy candidates who have worked collaboratively with the local FBI office in furthering the overall mission and goals of the FBI. FBI Director Wray will present the award to Chief Craig and Chief Carey during the gala event in Washington D.C. recognizing them for their tireless work within the San Francisco LGBTQ+ community in providing active shooter training, information, support, and resources to the Castro and surrounding neighborhoods.

Recognizing that not everyone will be able to make the trip to Washington D.C. for the official ceremony, the local FBI San Francisco Office will conduct a local ceremony in San Francisco before the official ceremony in April, to allow local supporters of the CSP program and Chiefs Craig and Carey to come together to congratulate them on this well-deserved award.

The local San Francisco award ceremony is tentatively scheduled for **Monday March 18<sup>th</sup>** at San Francisco City Hall. Watch our social media for more specific event details.

**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*



## A HISTORY OF CASTRO COMMUNITY ON PATROL ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE LAST SEVENTEEN YEARS

As CCOP is “born again” as an independent nonprofit corporation in the wake of the SF-SAFE dissolution, I thought it might be appropriate to remind to Patrol volunteers and our supports of some of the accomplishments of CCOP in our Seventeen-year history.

All Patrollers are civilian volunteers who average one three-hour patrol per month. In addition to fielding over 3,400 patrols translating to 10,200 hours of service to San Francisco, CCOP has initiated several other important programs focused on improving personal safety.

CCOP participates in safety planning and assistance with large events including:

- Pink Saturday with the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence (2007-2014)
- Demonstrations and marches related to Prop 8 and DOMA (2008-2012)
- The day-after memorial for victims of the Pulse nightclub shootings (2016)
- Community planning and safety preparations in response to the “Patriot Prayer” group (2017)
- BLM and AAPI events related to violence against POC victims (2020)

CCOP provides crowd and traffic control, often without the need for SFPD involvement, for civic celebrations and memorials. A typical year includes:

- Inscribe event for World AIDS day
- Easter in the Park with the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence (2008 - present)
- Harvey Milk birthday and memorial vigil
- Castro Street Fair (2008 – present)
- Halloween “Glow in the Streets” block party (2017 – present)
- Castro Street Holiday tree lighting
- Castro Menorah lighting ceremony
- Santa’s Skivvies Run fundraiser for SFAF (2010 – present)
- PCR/AIDS Emergency Fund Christmas eve dinner (2010 – 2021, currently on hold)

CCOP worked closely with investigators to identify suspects in the few homicides in the Castro, to both help see justice prevail and to serve as a deterrent with the message “if you harm us, we will bring justice.” Victims included Freddy Canul-Arguello (2011), Eriq Escolon (2012), and “Feather” Lynn Higgins (2014)

In 2021, CCOP purchased and continues to maintain THREE Automated External Defibrillators (AED) which are distributed throughout the Castro neighborhood, available to ANYONE in response to a cardiac emergency. Two are permanently located at businesses with late-night operating hours and the third is brought to large scale public events by CCOP.

**SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT**

# SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

CONTINUED.....

At CCOP we believe the most effective path to public safety is in training members of the public to take care of themselves, take care of their friends, and take care of their community. Since 2010 we have conducted public outreach educational efforts and training classes in the following topics:

- Basic Self-Defense
- Hate Crime awareness
- Active Shooter for individuals and businesses
- First Aid/CPR/AED/NARCAN training
- Event safety monitor training

CCOP firmly believes in collaboration and cooperation to spark change and innovation. As such we have participate in, supported, and volunteer with several governmental and private groups allowing our Patrol Volunteers to influence key decisions and policies such as:

- International Police Association
- Department of Justice, FBI Infraguard program
- Department of Justice, FBI Citizens Academy program
- Northern California Regional Intelligence Center
- State of California Volunteer Disaster Corps
- San Francisco District Attorney, LGBTQ+ Advisory Panel
- San Francisco Police Department, LGBTQ+ Advisory Forum
- San Francisco Police Department, Community Academy program
- San Francisco Police Department, Auxiliary Law Enforcement Response Team program
- San Francisco Fire Department, Neighborhood Emergency Response Team program
- Castro Community Benefits District, Board of Directors
- Castro Community Benefits District, Castro Cares program
- Merchants of Upper Market and Castro

We have been honored with several awards for our work:

- 2016 & 2021: Commendations from the State of California Senate
- 2020: "Outstanding Neighborhood Watch" from the City's Neighborhood Empowerment Network program
- 2022: Community Service Award from the Harvey Milk Democratic Club
- 2024: City and County of San Francisco Board of Supervisors Certificate of Honor
- 2024: FBI Directors Community Liaison award

We are tremendously proud of the long history of accomplishments and recognition we've achieved during our Seventeen-year history, and we look forward eagerly to growing and expanding this list as we gain our own nonprofit status in the eyes of the Federal government and consider all of the opportunities that will open up for us. We hope you will continue to support us on this journey.

**SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT**

# 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 Rafael 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 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

**SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT**

## 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 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](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.

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.

**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](http://www.CastroPatrol.org) | [info@CastroPatrol.org](mailto:info@CastroPatrol.org) | 415-735-5337

**SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT**