

#### ESTABLISHED 2006

#### CHIEF OF PATROL



*Chf. Greg Carey* (Public Relations)

#### **ASSISTANT CHIEF OF**



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)

# PATROLLER

**APRIL 2025** 

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

#### ENTERTAINMENT ZONE & LAST CALL EXTENSIONS



State Senate Bill 76 in 2023, and 696 in 2024 allows the City to designate outdoor areas as Entertainment Zones (EZ) during special events where drinkina alcohol on the streets will be permitted. State Assembly Bill 342 allows the city to extend the "last call for alcohol" from 2 AM to 4 AM on Friday, Saturday, and on State holidays.

It is not yet clear which local bars and clubs will extend their drinking hours on weekends, but the hope is that these changes will provide more income to help out these businesses throughout the year, and especially during special events such as street fairs.

Nightlife is part of the life blood of the neighborhood, and we certainly support any efforts to improve business success and retention within the Castro. Only time will tell how successful this effort will be in the end.

#### IT TAKES A COMMUNITY, IT NEEDS YOU!



Violent incidents within the Castro neighborhood, or in adjacent neighborhoods involvina LGBTQ+ individuals, always raise community legitimate concerns regarding safety, regarding community training and preparedness, and regarding law enforcement responses.

It is always easy to point the finger and demand that "someone else" resolve such problems, yet in truth most of us know that EACH OF US must play a part in any solution and resolution.

CCOP has been involved in that effort for nineteen years and counting, but we cannot do this alone. SFPD cannot do this alone. SFDA cannot do this alone. All need member of the public and the community to STEP UP, get involved, and offer support when necessary.

As the neighborhood gets busier, as the Entertainment

Zone and extended last call hours come into play, we ask YOU to take a part, play a role, and have a positive impact on safety and the wellbeing of everyone in the neighborhood.

JOIN US as a volunteer Patroller, so we can put out visibility patrols every Friday and Saturday evening.

REPORT all suspicions and crimes you witness or fall victim to – and follow up with Police to press charges.

SPEAK UP when you see things that need to be changed for the better. IT TAKES A COMMUNITY.

#### S.F.P.D. CRIME DATA SNAPSHOT

<u>SFPD Crime Data</u> results citywide for the following specific categories 1/1/2025 to 4/20/2025

	2025	Yr – Yr %
Homicide	5	-44.4%
Robbery	530	-20.8%
Assault	627	-9.5%
Burglary	1,132	-26.2%
Veh. Theft	1,015	-42.8%
Larceny	4,674	-30.4%
TOTAL		-29.9%

During the same period last year, SFPD recorded a total of 11, 566 reports, compared with a total of 8, 112 reports this year, representing a 29.9% drop overall.

## **PATROL NEWS**

#### CCOP HOSTED A SELF-DEFENSE CLASS IN RESPONSE TO RISING COMMUNITY SAFETY CONCERNS



In direct response to community safety concerns following recent violent battery reports within the community, CCOP worked with our safety partner Community Patrol Service to quickly schedule our joint "Beginners Self-Defense" class at Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church on Saturday April 5<sup>th</sup>.

Chief Ken Craig, Community Patrol Service, who is also a Grand Master martial artist led the class with the assistance of Chief Greg Carey and Deputy Chief Brian Hill of CCOP.

The three and a half hour training class takes attendees through a graduated threat assessment and defensive response matrix concept that empowers individuals to "find their voice," and make early decisions to hopefully avoid dangerous situations BEFORE physical defense is necessary.

The class was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all. Look out for future selfdefense training classes on our website. We will likely schedule another class in June to coincide with PRIDE month.

#### CCOP SUPPORTS "OUT TO PROTECT" LGBTQ LAW ENFORCEMENT LIAISON ACADEMY EVENT



<u>Out To Protect</u> is a nonprofit corporation with a mission to support LGBTQ+ members of law enforcement and to strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and the LGBTQ+ community.

The OTP <u>LGBT Law Enforcement Liaison</u> <u>Academy</u> is a highly effective 3-day training program is a key effort that offers highquality POST certified training to law enforcement officials from all over the U.S. to help them build trust and increase community engagement with the LGBTQ+ community.

The attendees of the most recent Liaison Academy finalized their course with a visit to the Castro on Saturday April 19, meeting with LGBTQ+ San Francisco based law enforcement personnel, and members of the community. CCOP participated in this Q&A and exchange of ideas.

It was refreshing to realize that San Francisco is a recognized leader in LGBTQ+ community relations and support. The existence of CCOP, an unpaid volunteer safety walking patrol, with a close relationship to SFPD was unexpected and eye-opening for many of the attendees.

## **PATROL NEWS**

#### CCOP PROVIDED SAFETY SUPPORT FOR THE SISTERS OF PERPETUAL INDULGENCE, EASTER IN THE PARK



We were extremely happy to provide safety support to the annual <u>Sisters of Perpetual</u> <u>Indulgence</u>, Easter in the Park on Sunday April 20<sup>th</sup> at Dolores Park.

Working in close cooperation with the San Francisco Park Rangers, Special Medical Aid EMTs, and the Hand To Hand safety volunteers, we monitored the event that enjoyed warm and sunny weather and huge crowds as normal.

This is always a very fun event to support, with incredible and irreverent entertainment, happy attendees, and a lot of joy for everyone. We were a little busier than usual with five relatively minor medical incidents, three of which required ambulances to attend but all patients are expected to have a full and speedy recovery.

Our congratulations to all of the competition winners. Our thanks to all attendees who made the day fun and trouble free. Our admiration to the Sisters who host this incredible extravaganza every year.

#### CCOP DISCUSSES CASTRO ASSAULT CASES AT SFPD LGBTQ+ ADVSIORY FORUM MEETING



significant roles CCOP One of the undertakes beyond our regular safety participation patrols. active and is involvement in many community organizations and safety efforts. Our Chiefs of Patrol are participants in the Castro Community Benefits District, the Castro Cares program, Castro Merchants, the San Francisco District Attorney's LGBT Forum, the SFPD LGBTQ+ Advisory forum and more.

At the recent <u>SFPD LGBTQ+</u> Advisory Forum meeting on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Chief Carey of CCOP and Chief Craig of CPS raised concerns about the most recent violent assault at <u>Jane Warner Plaza on 04/20</u>. Interacting closely and cooperatively with SFPD command staff helps us to advocate for victims and often to better understand the details involved in the initial response or subsequent investigations and prosecutions.

The <u>SFPD LGBTQ+ Advisory Forum</u> is actively seeking new members if you have an interest is representing your community. Email <u>LGBTQ.forum@sfgov.org</u> for an application form.

### **SAFETY FOR EVERYONE**



As a **COMMUNITY** we need to come together to help mitigate and eradicate any violence on the streets targeting anyone in the neighborhood, but this needs **EVERYONE** to participate and get **INVOLVED**:

- 1. **TRAIN** so you know how to defend yourself and what to do when you are threatened, or feel threatened,
- 2. **USE** the community support opportunities available throughout the neighborhood if you need them, and encourage your loved ones and friends to do the same,
- 3. **HELP** anyone in trouble by using your **SAFETY WHISTLE** to call attention to the incident and hopefully many other community members will do the same,
- 4. **CALL 9-1-1** immediately to report any acts of violence or threats of violence so Police can respond as quickly as possible time may be of the essence,
- 5. **PROVIDE** the details of what you saw to Police if you are a witness to a violent incident. Only witness statements can lead to an arrest, charges, and ultimately a conviction. YOUR statement may be critical.
- 6. FILE A REPORT with Police if you are the victim of a violent incident. SFPD are both trained and REQUIRED to be professional, empathetic, and understanding when you need to report any criminal act against you. DON'T worry about past experiences with Police in your original hometown, DON'T worry about your immigration status within the US (San Francisco and California are SANCTUARY locations so you will not be asked for this information). If you want someone to be with you when you file your report, contact INFO@CastroPatrol.org, or INFO@TheSisters.org, or have a trusted friend with you.
- 7. **SHARE** your incident details with INFO@CastroPatrol.org so we can not only support you through the legal process, but we can also track these incidents to help us recognize patterns and work with SFPD to target dangerous areas or times with more enforcement.

SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT. The WHOLE community needs to respond and shout out with one voice "WE WILL NOT BE VICTIMS, WE WILL NOT BE TARGETS, WE WILL FIGHT BACK." Please share this information with EVERYONE you know.

## PATROL TRAINING ACADEMY

#### EXTRACTED BY Chief Ken Craig, Community Patrol Service Original Article by Gerald W. Garner, POLICE Magazine, 09/30/2002

#### ENCOUNTERS WITH EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED PERSONS

Law enforcement personnel and Patrollers are ethically and legally obligated to handle a mentally disturbed person in an empathetic, humane manner. Emotionally disturbed persons, or EDPs, present a major challenge to professionally and empathetically deal with their sometimes bizarre and frequently <u>unpredictable behavior</u>. Sometimes, these severely troubled individuals can present extreme danger to themselves as well as the Patrollers who come across them, to help defuse a personal, life-threatening crisis.



Most Patrollers realize the importance of treating a

seriously troubled soul in the same manner in which they would want to be treated themselves, if the tables were turned. But thoughtful, caring handling of an EDP does not mean that valid safety practices should be relaxed for even a moment. Tragically, it is possible to cite more than a few examples in which peace officers have paid with their lives for their unwitting or unwary handling of an EDP.

There can be no doubt that handling an emotionally disturbed person is a potentially high-risk endeavor. Fortunately, there are a number of common-sense precautions you can take to prevent you from ending up in a seriously dangerous situation.

#### **Gather As Much Information as Possible**

Your own safety as well as the welfare of the subject you are dealing with can depend upon your learning as much as you can about the situation in the time you have available. Gather as much information as you can before and during your EDP contact. Ask questions of anyone present, such as family members, associates, and witnesses to the behavior.

What was the subject doing to attract attention? After all, it is not against the law simply to act in an odd manner.

Do the subject's actions clearly show that he represents a danger to himself or others? Call upon your own careful observations as you reach a decision on whether or not the person must be taken into protective custody.

#### **ENCOUNTERS WITH EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED PERSONS Continued:**

What have they said or done in your presence? Are they clearly acting in a threatening manner? Once more, recall that it is not against the law to be "different." It is one thing if someone you are talking with suspects that there are green aliens living in their attic. It is quite another if they announce an intention to torch the place to drive them out.

#### **Signs of Emotionally Disturbed Persons**

It's worth saying again: Being very upset and being "different" are not crimes. It is only when an individual is acting out to the extent that he or she poses a threat to themselves or others that your intervention as a first responder might be needed. Signs of a very emotionally disturbed person may include the following:

- The individual is very disoriented (unsure as to identity, date, location, time of day).
- The person is delusional ("I'm the President of the United States," "You are Satan," etc.).
- The subject is hallucinating; sees things or persons that are not present or hears things that no one else can hear.
- The person is extremely agitated or emotional, perhaps laughing or crying hysterically, for no readily apparent reason.
- The individual repeatedly screams, howls, growls, or spouts unintelligible gibberish.
- The person engages in seemingly endless repetitive motions, such as rocking back and forth.
- The individual inexplicably acts out in a very aggressive or violent manner, such as smashing property or assaulting others.
- The person verbally threatens to harm himself or others (suicidal or homicidal).

None of these things, taken alone, serves as an ironclad indicator that an individual displaying such behavior must be taken into protective custody as an EDP. But all indicate the need for further inquiry.

#### **Consider Other Possibilities for the Behavior**

Realize that there may be explanations beyond serious mental illness for an individual's apparently inexplicable behavior, including some of the behaviors described above. Alcohol or drug intoxication can produce similar effects. Is there physical evidence of the ingestion of alcohol or medications, legal or otherwise? Some illnesses and conditions can produce hallucinations and other strange symptoms. Head injuries can do the same. So can a very high body temperature.

#### **ENCOUNTERS WITH EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED PERSONS Continued:**

If you have any doubt about what is going on with your subject, summon emergency medical assistance without delay. A life could well hang in the balance. Continue to gather information and analyze the data you gather. Get professional advice promptly. At the same time, do not relax your safety vigilance. Some very ill people have committed some pretty awful crimes.

#### **Never Go Solo**

Dealing with an EDP is not a job you should ever handle solo. It is well-documented that emotionally disturbed individuals can display seemingly superhuman strength. They also can appear oblivious to pain, thereby neutralizing the effect of a normally effective pain compliance hold or defensive chemical spray.

Having sufficient help on hand, whether that means one partner or three, can make all the difference if force must be used to take a combative EDP into protective custody. An extra set of muscles (or several) can make it much less likely that anyone, including you, receives significant injury in the process.

Do not skimp on summoning as much aid as you think you will need. In one infamous case from the South a few years ago, an adult male EDP disarmed and killed two officers who were attempting to wrestle him into custody. Keep sufficient help with you during transport and processing of your EDP.

#### Follow Standard Officer Safety Guidelines

Your primary concern while dealing with an EDP is assuring your own safety as well as that of the subject and any others who may be present, including your partner(s). Meanwhile, do not overlook your own survival needs. Bring all of your safety training to bear in dealing with an EDP.

Have some contingency plans, including an escape route, and be prepared to back off temporarily if the odds are clearly stacked against you. If your subject is responding to your presence in a bizarre or threatening manner, consider keeping a physical barrier such as a piece of furniture or your car's hood between you and them.

**Tell the truth**. Going along with an emotionally disturbed person's hallucinations, such as by agreeing that you can see the little green men, won't help. Do not make promises that you cannot keep. Talk in a calm, professional, yet decisive manner and reassure the individual of your good intentions, but be prepared for – literally – anything.

#### 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 Official Resources

San Francisco Federal Bureau of Investigation 415-553-7400

San Francisco Police Department Mission Station 415-558-5400 <u>SFPDMissionStation@sfgov.org</u>

San Francisco Police Department Park Station 415-242-3000 <u>SFPDParkStation@sfgov.org</u>

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

#### 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

#### **Community Resources**

Castro Community Benefits District Services 415-500-1181 <u>ExecDirector@castrocbd.org</u> Cleaning Services: 415-471-7536

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

Community Patrol Service CommunityPatrolService@gmail.com

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

## Castro Cares Program Report

## Castro SAFE PLACE Program



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+ Community 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 <u>INFO@CastroPatrol.org</u> and we will be happy to chat with you, and enroll you into the program.



The **SFPD SAFE PLACE** program is a collaborative effort between SFPD and San Francisco Businesses to offer a temporary "safe haven" to victims of crime or harassment until law enforcement or medical professionals arrive.

The program mission is to reduce hate crimes, bullying, harassment, and discrimination. By working together, we can encourage crime reporting and promote safety and security.

To find out more, contact us at <u>INFO@CastroPatrol.org</u> 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-forprofit 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 <u>CommunityPatrolService@gmail.com</u> and we will be happy to chat with you, and enroll you into the program.

## **BECOME A COMMUNITY HERO**



### **BE THE DIFFERENCE**

#### <u>GIVE US JUST THREE HOURS A MONTH AS A PATROL VOLUNTEER,</u> <u>TO MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY</u>

Castro Community On Patrol (CCOP / Castro Patrol) needs volunteers to help us patrol the Castro neighborhood on a monthly basis. YOU could be our next Trainee Patroller! Our next Community HERO.

We have 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 free safety whistles, 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. We **DON'T** break up physical fights or put our volunteers into dangerous situations.

Our volunteers are mostly members of the LGBTQ+ community, but we are open and welcoming to **ALL**. We provide full training, and you will always deploy with other experienced, knowledgeable, and dedicated volunteers. Patrolling is fun, you get to meet lots of people, and you can feel good about helping out your community. Sign up TODAY and become a neighborhood HERO tomorrow.

www.CastroPatrol.org | info@CastroPatrol.org

## SIGN UP. BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION.

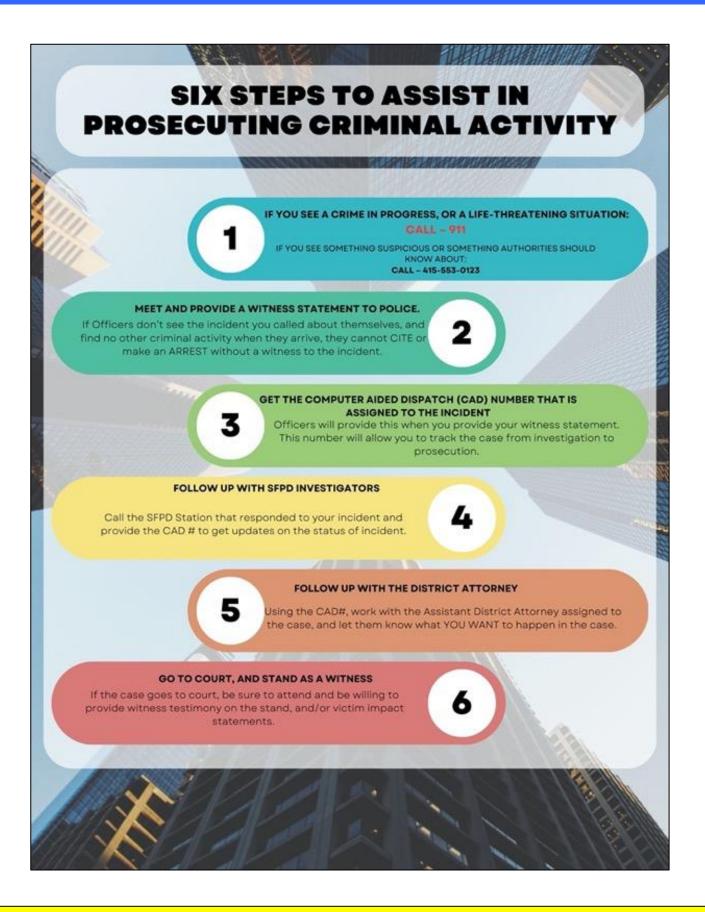


NEVER DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL, COMMITTED PEOPLE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD. INDEED, IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT EVER HAS.

## **BE THE DIFFERENCE!**

WWW.CASTROPATROL.ORG

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO VOLUNTEER



## **REPORT HATE CRIMES**

San Francisco

**Police Department** 

## sanfranciscopolice.org

This location is a SAFE PLACE for victims of hate crimes and harassment to call 911 and wait for police to arrive.

# **EMERGENCY CALL 911**



## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IS AGAINST THE LAW AND OFTEN LEADS TO SERIOUS INJURY OR WORSE. DON'T BECOME A MARTYR.

## **DO YOU NEED HELP?**

- Are you regularly subjected to acts of degradation, physical or verbal abuse, intimidation, or excessive control?
- Do you feel UNSAFE with your intimate partner?
- Do you feel empowered to make decisions for yourself?

Abusers rarely stop their abuse, but frequently escalate to more serious attacks. Ask for help!

LGBTQ Anti-Violence Project: 1-212-714-1141 FORGE Transgender Project: 1-414-559-2123 Youth LGBTQ Help Center: 1-800-246-7743



# **ANGEL SHOTS**

THIS ESTABLISHMENT RECOGNIZES AND SUPPORTS THE ANGEL SHOT SAFETY PROGRAM

## **DO YOU NEED HELP?**

- Are you on a DATE that is not going well?
- Do you feel UNSAFE?
- Is anyone BOTHERING your or making you feel UNCOMFORTABLE?
- Are you being FORCED to do something against your will?

### ASK OUR SECURITY STAFF OR YOUR SERVER FOR AN "ANGEL SHOT."

WE WILL HANDLE THINGS DISCRETELY AND WE WILL PROTECT YOU UNTIL YOU ARE SAFE & SECURE.



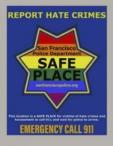
# **HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS SLAVERY BY A DIFFERENT NAME. TARGET THE TRAFFICKERS AND HELP SAVE THE VICTIMS.

## **DO YOU NEED HELP?**

- Are you FORCED to work for little or no reimbursement?
- Do you face physical or psychological abuse if you do not work as demanded?
- Can you leave at any time, without fear of retribution?
- Are you expected to do things outside of your comfort zone, such as performing sexual favors for strangers?

National Human Trafficking Hotline Call: 1-888-373-7888 Text: HELP to 233733 (BEFREE) www.humantraffickinghotline.org



This message is brought to you by the San Francisco Safety Coalition



