



PATROLLER

AUGUST 2025

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

ESTABLISHED 2006

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DEPUTY CHIEF OF PATROL



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(Volunteer Scheduling &
Retention)

WELCOME TO CAPTAIN SEAN PERDOMO



Captain Sean Perdomo
Mission Police Station

We welcome our new Mission Police Station commanding officer, Captain Sean Perdomo and we look forward to working closely with him, and his Mission Station officers, in the coming years.

CCOP has been fortunate to enjoy an incredibly close and collaborative relationship with every Captain who has commanded Mission Station and we look forward to continuing that relationship with Captain Perdomo as we move through what may be some very difficult and challenging years for the Castro neighborhood and community.

PATROL SPECIAL POLICE PROGRAM MAY RETURN



We met recently with two representatives of an effort to restore the former San Francisco Patrol Special Police program in a modified form to the former program.

The Patrol Special Police were formed in 1847 and were privately funded by clients and businesses, working beats throughout the city, including the Castro. They were a vital part of the fabric of safety for the neighborhood over decades until our last special left in 2022.

This new effort has the support of the Police union and hopes to obtain Police Commission approval for a limited test-case restoration of the program in one or two neighborhoods which would then expand if successful.

CCOP supports this effort and will work to make it as successful as possible.

PROTECT THE CASTRO BY JOINING US

**WE DESPERATELY NEED
MORE PATROL
VOLUNTEERS** to allow us to continue to deploy visibility safety patrols on weekends and to provide safety support to the many community events we are asked to assist throughout the year.

We only ask for a minimum of one 3-hour patrol a month! We provide all training and equipment.

Help us to
PROTECT THE CASTRO

S.F.P.D. CRIME DATA SNAPSHOT

SFPD Crime Data results citywide for the following specific categories between **1/1/2025 to 8/24/2025**

	2025	Yr - Yr %
Homicide	15	-31.8%
Robbery	1,078	-23.8%
Assault	1,361	-13.3%
Burglary	2,424	-28.4%
Veh. Theft	2,049	-45.7%
Larceny	10,697	-23.8%
TOTAL		-27.0%

During the same period last year, SFPD recorded a total of 24, 538 reports, compared with a total of 17, 902 reports this year, representing a 27.0% drop overall.

PATROL NEWS

FREE ADULT FIRST AID / CPR / AED AND NARCAN CERTIFICATION FOR VOLUNTEER PATROLLERS



One of the many benefits of volunteering with Castro Community On Patrol is all of the additional training you have access to, free of charge.

Recognizing the vital importance of training and professional development, we embrace continuous training and recertification for our volunteers, covering the costs.

Knowing how to respond in a medical emergency and having the confidence and resources available in that moment is key to providing what may be life-saving assistance. Our Patrollers will undertake training through the Bay Area Red Cross this month with CCOP picking up the costs.

- Adult first aid,
- Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR),
- Automated Electronic Defibrillator (AED),
- Use of Narcan

These skills are extremely useful for our Patrollers when they are on duty, but are equally invaluable in caring for family members and friends at any time.

FREE BEGINNERS SELF-DEFENSE TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEER PATROLLERS



One of the many benefits of volunteering with Castro Community On Patrol is all of the additional training you have access to, free of charge.

We have provided our “Beginners Self-Defense” training class over the last nineteen years, always to rave reviews by attendees. The training provides a graduated threat assessment and response protocol and is something that almost anyone, of any age, can use effectively.

Members of the public would normally pay \$100 per person to attend this class, and we reduce that to \$60 per person when we work with partnering community nonprofit organizations. When we host our own quarterly community training that cost is further reduced to \$30 per person, but our Patrol Volunteers have FREE access to this class, and all subsequent classes.

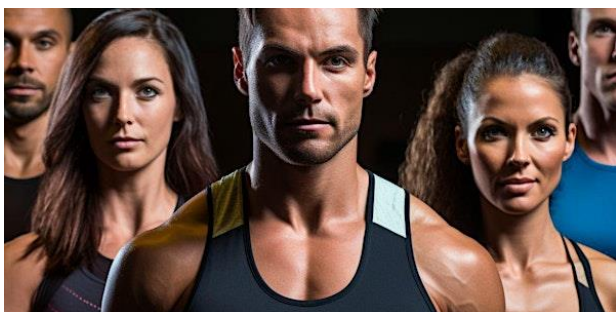
Knowledge is power, and we seek to empower our Patrol Volunteers by offering as much advanced and additional training as possible.

“SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT”

SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

BEGINNERS SELF-DEFENSE CLASS

COMMUNITY SELF-DEFENSE SEMINAR IN SEPTEMBER



While we are struggling to deploy regular visibility foot patrols in the neighborhood, we are still responding to community requests from individuals and organizations seeking our unique knowledge and skills to provide safety support for their events, and to offer training to the general public.

Following a number of inquiries about our very popular 3.5-hour Beginners Self-Defense training class, we have scheduled our next such class for:

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2025
12:30 PM – 4:00 PM
In the heart of the Castro

The class is \$30 per attendee and is a fun and empowering, information packed, low impact three and a half hours designed for complete beginners with no prior self-defense experience. You will learn essential concepts and techniques to protect yourself, your loved ones, and the community at large in various situations. Anyone of at least 18 years of age (no upper limit to this class) and older is welcome and encouraged to sign-up.

Our experienced, knowledgeable, and friendly instructors will guide you through the essential thought processes, practical skills, and strategies to boost your safety

and confidence.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn valuable self-defense skills in a supportive, fun, and empowering environment.

All post-training reviews are anonymous, and results are confidential, however these testimonials were freely provided:

"The class was fun, well-paced, and full of really useful information."

"Everyone should take this training, and probably repeat it a few times to really lock in the ideas presented."

"I learned so much for the class. I feel much safer and more confident now. Thank you."

"As a former victim of violence, I was apprehensive about the class, but the instructors were compassionate, professional, friendly, and extremely knowledgeable. I felt safe and comfortable during the class and learned a lot."

"I cannot say thank you enough for providing this training for the community. It is essential."

We firmly believe that you can NEVER have too much knowledge, information, or skill when faced with a challenging situation – but you can DEFINITELY have too little when the "chips are down."

This basic class is a good introduction to self-defense concepts for yourself, your loved ones, your friends, and the community in general. Bring a friend or two and make it an afternoon of leaning and fun.

SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

PATROL TRAINING ACADEMY

BY Chief Ken Craig, Community Patrol Service

COLLABORATION, CROSS-TRAINING, AND MUTUAL AID

Public safety is most effective when it is understood not as the responsibility of a single agency, but as a collective effort. In modern communities, particularly diverse and dynamic ones such as urban neighborhoods; volunteer safety patrols, formal law enforcement agencies, and community stakeholders all play distinct yet complementary roles. The integration of these roles through collaboration, cross-training, and mutual aid builds trust, enhances preparedness, and increases the ability to prevent, respond to, and recover from crises. These interconnections highlight the tremendous benefits that emerge when volunteer patrols, law enforcement, and the broader community work as partners rather than isolated actors.



Volunteer safety patrols—such as neighborhood watch groups, community patrols such as CCOP, or community-based safety organizations—are rooted in the principle of collective responsibility for safety. These groups often function as “eyes and ears” for law enforcement, providing visibility, early detection of potential threats, and community reassurance. Research suggests that such patrols can deter crime through increased surveillance and visibility (Bennett, Holloway, & Farrington, 2008).

Unlike police officers, community volunteers typically do not engage in enforcement; their strength lies in communication, observation, and community engagement. By establishing a familiar and trusted presence, they can bridge the gap between formal authorities and residents who may feel hesitant or marginalized, especially within the LGBTQ+ community. When effectively coordinated with law enforcement, safety patrols extend the reach of public safety resources in cost-effective and vitally important ways.

Collaboration between safety patrols, law enforcement, and the broader community provides a foundation for stronger and more resilient safety networks. Collaboration creates synergy: each group contributes unique resources, perspectives, and legitimacy.

- **For volunteers**, collaboration with law enforcement provides training, structure, credibility, and vital “back-up” support when essential.
- **For law enforcement**, volunteers provide local knowledge, cultural awareness, and presence in areas where officers cannot always be.
- **For the community**, collaboration signals inclusivity and responsiveness, fostering trust that institutions are working together rather than imposing top-down solutions.

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PATROL TRAINING ACADEMY

COLLABORATION, CROSS-TRAINING, AND MUTUAL AID Cont:

Collaborative frameworks are supported by the community policing model, which emphasizes partnerships and problem-solving to address safety concerns holistically (Skogan, 2006). By working together, volunteer patrols and law enforcement can focus on preventative strategies and problem-solving instead of reactive enforcement alone.

Cross-training represents an essential step in ensuring that volunteer patrols, law enforcement, and community members can operate effectively together. For volunteers, training in observation, communication, de-escalation, and emergency response ensures that their contributions are safe and constructive. Law enforcement agencies can also benefit by receiving training from community leaders and patrol groups on cultural competency, local dynamics, and the unique challenges of marginalized populations.

Cross-training has three major benefits:

1. **Standardization of Response** – Volunteers and officers trained in consistent protocols ensure smoother coordination during emergencies, avoiding miscommunication or duplication of efforts.
2. **Confidence and Safety** – Volunteers gain confidence in their roles, reducing the risk of escalation or harm, while law enforcement can trust in volunteers' reliability.
3. **Empathy and Understanding** – Law enforcement officers gain insight into community concerns, while residents learn about the challenges officers face, reducing suspicion and mistrust.

Studies in community policing demonstrate that shared training improves both perceptions of legitimacy and operational effectiveness (Mazerolle & Ransley, 2005). By fostering shared language and expectations, cross-training transforms separate actors into a unified team.

No single group can manage every safety challenge alone. Mutual aid—the commitment of organizations and communities to support one another in times of need—is vital to resilience. Volunteer patrols, police agencies, and residents each bring assets that, when shared, amplify collective capacity.

For example:

- Volunteer patrols may provide first aid, crowd observation, or coordination support during large events.
- Law enforcement agencies can provide resources such as radios, training, or emergency responses.
- Community organizations can offer shelter, food, or outreach during crises.

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PATROL TRAINING ACADEMY

COLLABORATION, CROSS-TRAINING, AND MUTUAL AID Cont:

Mutual aid is especially critical in emergencies such as natural disasters, mass gatherings, or incidents of violence. Research on disaster response highlights that grassroots volunteers are often first on the scene and provide vital assistance before official responders arrive (Tierney, 2014). When formal mutual aid agreements exist between patrols and law enforcement, these contributions can be more effectively integrated into official response frameworks.

Collaboration, training, and support not only strengthen operational effectiveness but also enhance trust and legitimacy. Communities that see law enforcement working alongside volunteers and residents are more likely to view safety efforts as inclusive and responsive. This is particularly important in communities with historically strained relationships with police.

Volunteer patrols can act as intermediaries, softening tensions and facilitating communication. In turn, law enforcement that openly supports volunteer patrols demonstrates recognition of community capacity and willingness to share responsibility. Trust, once built, has long-term benefits: higher crime reporting rates, greater cooperation during investigations, and fewer confrontations rooted in misunderstanding or fear (Tyler, 2004).

While the benefits are clear, collaboration between volunteers, law enforcement, and communities also presents challenges. Key considerations include:

1. **Boundaries of Authority** – Volunteers must understand the limits of their roles to avoid vigilantism or conflict with officers.
2. **Sustainability** – Volunteer groups often face burnout or declining membership, requiring ongoing support from law enforcement and the community.
3. **Equity and Inclusion** – Safety efforts must be inclusive and avoid disproportionately targeting marginalized groups.
4. **Communication Structures** – Clear communication channels between volunteers, police, and residents are necessary to ensure coordination.

Acknowledging these challenges allows for the creation of policies and practices that maximize benefits while minimizing risks.

The importance of collaboration, cross-training, and mutual aid between volunteer safety patrols, law enforcement, and the community cannot be overstated. Together, these partnerships strengthen safety, increase resilience, and foster trust in ways that no single actor can achieve alone. Volunteer patrols extend the presence and cultural awareness of safety efforts, law enforcement provides resources and authority, and the community offers legitimacy and support. Through shared training and mutual aid, they become more than the sum of their parts.

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WHO / WHEN / WHERE / HOW

LIFE / PROPERTY THREATENING OR CRIME IN PROGRESS ?

Call 9-1-1

In any situation where life or property 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

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

SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

Castro CBD, Castro Cares Program

castro
C A R E S



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/

SFPD LGBTQ+ Advisory Forum



Established 2010
"Working together to create a safer and stronger community for all"

The San Francisco Police Department, LGBTQ+ Advisory Forum was formed in 2010 and welcomes LGBTQ+ volunteer members from around the city. Members meet quarterly with SFPD command staff, to offer input on SFPD Policy, raise concerns, work on community projects and learn more about the SFPD.

To find out more, contact us at SFPD.LGBTQ.Forum@gmail.com and we will be happy to chat with you about how to become a permanent member..

SFPD SAFE PLACE 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 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

PROTECT THE CASTRO



BE THE DIFFERENCE

**GIVE US JUST THREE HOURS A MONTH AS A PATROL VOLUNTEER,
TO MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY**

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

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SIGN UP. BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION.



"SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT"

**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

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

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DON'T BE AFRAID, GET TRAINED AND PREPARED

REPORT HATE CRIMES



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

SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

DON'T BE AFRAID, GET TRAINED AND PREPARED

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 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 conviction. YOUR statement may be critical,
6. **FILE A REPORT** with Police if you are the victim of a violent incident. SFPD are trained and required to be professional, empathetic, and understanding when you need to report a criminal act against you. San Francisco and California are SANCTUARY locations so don't worry about your immigration status in the U.S. when reporting. Have a trusted friend or organization with you when you make your report.
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 with one voice "WE WILL NOT BE VICTIMS, WE WILL NOT BE TARGETS, WE WILL FIGHT BACK."



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

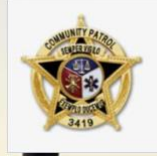


SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

DON'T BE AFRAID, GET TRAINED AND PREPARED



DATING SAFETY



USE THE BUDDY SYSTEM. Share emails, online profiles, and details of your new date with a trusted friend.

CHECK IN. Ask your BUDDY to reach out to you by phone or text during your date to verify you are good.

NO – IS NEVER NEGOTIABLE. SAY NO TO ANYTHING OR ANYONE THAT MAKES YOU FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE.

ESCAPE ANY WAY YOU CAN. If you feel threatened or at risk do what you need to ESCAPE to safety.

DEFEND YOURSELF. You are entitled to defend if you need to. Better to be tried by 12, than buried by 6.

REPORT IT. If you are threatened, abused, or injured by a date, report them to 9-1-1 and let your friends know.

SEEK SUPPORT. From friends, from the community, and from government and nonprofit entities.



www.CastroPatrol.org

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DON'T BE AFRAID, GET TRAINED AND PREPARED

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



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DON'T BE AFRAID, GET TRAINED AND PREPARED

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 you 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.**



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



SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

DON'T BE AFRAID, GET TRAINED AND PREPARED

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



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