



PATROLLER

SEPTEMBER 2025

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

ESTABLISHED 2006

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FOLSOM STREET FAIR IS UPON US IN SAN FRANCISCO



The 42nd annual Folsom Street Fair will take place on Sunday September 28, 2025 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM in the SoMa district on Folsom Street between 8th and 13th Streets.

Known for its leather, kink, and alt-sex positive community focus, the free event features multiple community stages with performers and music.

The Fair also sees a number of supporting events take place throughout the week leading to the Folsom Street Fair weekend, and through the weekend itself. The MAGNITUDE party is a large event that takes place on Saturday evening, and the Castro will undoubtedly see a large influx of out-of-town visitors who are here for The Fair.

We wish everyone a SAFE – FUN – FULFILLING Folsom Street Fair experience this weekend!

VOLUNTEER WITH US AT THE CASTRO STREET FAIR



The 51st annual Castro Street Fair will take place on Sunday October 5th in the heart of the Castro neighborhood.

CCOP provides a key Treasury function for the fair, as we have done for over twelve-years now. We are looking for a few community volunteers to assist us in this function for a five-hour shift from 12:30 PM to 5:30 PM. Your five hours donated will be converted to a dollar amount and we will donate in your name to any U.S. 501(c)(3) nonprofit of your choice.

We will provide water, snacks, and pizza later in the afternoon. You will walk the Fair four or five times so a comfortable pair of shoes is ESSENTIAL, lol.

Email us at INFO@CastroPatrol.org if you'd like to volunteer or have questions.

PROTECT THE CASTRO BY JOINING US

Ordinary people, doing extraordinary things is how we think of our Patrollers. They come from all walks of life, all backgrounds, and live throughout the Bay Area. They all share one single focus, helping to keep the Castro SAFE for EVERYONE.

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 9/21/2025**

	2025	Yr – Yr %
Homicide	18	-25.0%
Robbery	1,200	-24.8%
Assault	1,524	-13.7%
Burglary	2,724	-28.7%
Veh. Theft	2,287	-45.4%
Larceny	11,896	-23.9%
TOTAL		-27.2%

During the same period last year, SFPD recorded a total of 27, 407 reports, compared with a total of 19, 964 reports this year, representing a 27.2% drop overall.

PATROL NEWS

CCOP PROVIDES BEGINNERS COMMUNITY SELF-DEFENSE CLASS IN THE CASTRO



We feel strongly that “you can NEVER have too much knowledge, but you can definitely have too LITTLE when it really matters.”

We have provided our community “[Beginners Self-Defense](#)” training class for the last nineteen years. helping attendees understand how to assess risk and escalate their decision-making responses in an easy to remember and very effective process.

The class focuses on recognizing increasing threats, avoiding conflicts when possible, de-escalating conflict situations when viable, and responding in a “last resort” with some simple physical defensive techniques that anyone should be able to use effectively.

We have training hundreds of community members in these quarterly classes in the Castro and for nonprofit organizations within the city. We are now in discussions with SOMA West Community Benefits District in the hope of establish a class in the SoMa area to bring the training to that neighborhood also. We had hoped to do so before the Folsom Street Fair, but it is likely to be 1Q2026 for the first opportunity in SoMa. Watch this space!

CCOP PROMOTES “PRIVATE SPACE” PROGRAM TO HELP SAFEGUARD CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS



Following consultation with safety groups in Los Angeles and Washington D.C., CCOP launched the “PRIVATE SPACE” program to encourage nightlife business and neighborhood merchants to post signage serving to remind Federal Officers that they need properly executed search or arrest warrants signed by a judge to enter privately owned businesses and clearly marked private and/or staff areas.

Southern California businesses have been posting similar reminders since the National Guard and U.S. Marines were deployed in a law enforcement capacity conducting what appears to be blanket sweeps and profiling without valid arrest or search warrants. Many businesses have seen a precipitous drop in patronage and sales as a result of the Federal law enforcement actions.

Posting the “PRIVATE SPACE” signage may NOT prevent Federal Officers from entering or arresting individuals within private businesses, but the sign may help in any subsequent court cases.

Check out our “[Know Your Rights](#)” on our CCOP website for additional information on your constitutional rights.

SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

PATROL TRAINING ACADEMY

BY Chief Ken Craig, Community Patrol Service

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS AND P-I-O-S-E-E CONCEPTS

Situational awareness is more than just a skill—it is a foundational aspect of Patroller safety, effective decision-making, and successful outcomes in the field. The PIOSEE model offers a structured approach to situational awareness, helping Patrollers systematically process information and make sound decisions. The development and application of situational awareness practices are critical, as they can be the deciding factor between success and failure in complex and potentially dangerous and life-changing situations.



Situational awareness is divided into three levels:

1. **Perception of the Elements in the Environment** - The initial level involves observing key factors in the environment, such as people, vehicles, and potential hazards.
2. **Comprehension of the Current Situation** - This second level is about understanding what these elements mean and interpreting their significance.
3. **Projection of Future Status** - The final level involves predicting how the situation might develop in the future and preparing to act accordingly.

The **PIOSEE** model—Perceive, Interpret, Orient, Select, Execute, and Evaluate—provides a structured framework for maintaining situational awareness. This model serves as a step-by-step guide that Patrollers can follow to process information and make effective decisions. Each step is crucial and contributes to overall situational awareness.

1. Perceive

“Perceive,” focuses on observing and gathering information from the environment. Patrollers need to be vigilant in scanning their surroundings, noting elements such as unusual behaviors, body language, or objects that may indicate a potential threat. Perception can be influenced by distractions, stress, and cognitive biases, so be aware of this if possible.

2. Interpret

Once information is perceived, you must interpret it. This stage involves analyzing what the observed elements mean. For example, if you notice someone acting nervously, you need to interpret whether it's a sign of potential aggression, anxiety, or something else. Interpretation is where training, experience, and understanding of human behavior come into play, helping you to read the situation accurately.

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PATROL TRAINING ACADEMY

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS AND P-I-O-S-E-E CONCEPTS Cont:

3. Options

Develop your available options, physically and mentally, in relation to the identified elements to help you prepare for potential actions and responses. For example, if you identify a threat, you will adjust their stance, assess possible escape routes, or prepare defensive tools. This phase also involves understanding the potential intentions of the individuals involved, the environment's layout, and possible consequences of different actions.

4. Select

After orienting to the situation, the next step is to select the most appropriate response. This phase requires the you to choose from various possible actions, taking into account the overall safety, tactical advantage, and legal and ethical implications. For instance, you may choose to communicate verbally, withdraw physically to a safe distance, or call for professional backup. The selection of a response depends on both situational awareness and your judgment, making it essential for Patrollers to have well-developed decision-making skills.

5. Execute

The “Execute” stage is where the Patroller carries out the selected action. This may involve verbal communication, physical intervention, or tactical movement. Effective execution relies on training, muscle memory, and confidence in one’s abilities. A Patroller’s ability to execute a response smoothly is vital in maintaining control over the situation. Errors in execution can result in failure to neutralize a threat or may escalate a situation unnecessarily.

6. Evaluate

The final stage in the **PIOSEE** model is “Evaluate.” After executing an action, you must assess the outcome to determine if the response was effective or if further action is required. Evaluation is a dynamic process, as officers continuously re-assess their surroundings to ensure they stay ahead of any potential changes. Learning from each evaluation, whether the action was successful or not, helps officers refine their responses in future situations.

The **PIOSSE** cycle should continue until the situation is resolved, as it offers an opportunity to continuously evaluate the situation and your responses.

Another critical factor in effectively responding as an individual, or more importantly as a Patrol team, is the application of **Team Resource Management (TRM)** concepts and a solid understanding and comfort with your assigned function on the team, and your capacity to undertake that function when required. It is human nature to be “intrigued” by an unusual situation or interaction, and this often leads to a singular focus (“tunnel vision”) which excludes other peripheral information surrounding you. If all team members are so singularly focused on the incident, it is possible you may miss vital information or clues that are available to you.

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PATROL TRAINING ACADEMY

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS AND P-I-O-S-E-E CONCEPTS Cont:

Team Resource Management is a concept that assigns specific tasks, functions, and responsibilities to each Patrol team member. In focusing on your assigned task, and trusting your team members to likewise focus on their assigned task, your team “should” respond in the most effective way possible to any situation you may encounter. Most experienced Patrollers will fall into these actions instinctively, through training and repetition by experiencing multiple patrols and incidents. Newer Patrollers may need to be reminded to “turn your camera on,” or “note the time and address,” or to take a step away from the main incident to keep an eye on bystanders or the surrounding area when more experienced Patrollers are engaged in handling a person down, a medical incident, or an irate individual etc.

Any breakdown in situational awareness or Team Resource Management can lead to bad outcomes, such as missing an important incident, failing to respond in a timely and effective manner, or responding in an inappropriate or unlawful way. Therefore, fostering these skills is a priority for CCOP training and practice. In support of this priority, you will often find our Chief’s or Senior Patroller’s “checking in” with you following an incident to verify you “turned your camera on,” or that you “noted the correct start time and address,” or to ask what you would have done, or not done, in a similar situation. The goal of this “check in” is to assist you in developing your situational awareness, critical thinking, and understanding of our Team Resource Management concepts.

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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

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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



"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

SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

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

SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

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."**



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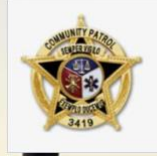


SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

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.**



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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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