



PATROLLER

JANUARY 2026

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

ESTABLISHED 2006

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CCOP MARKS 20 YEARS OF SERVICE IN 2026



Amid multiple news reports of violent sexual assaults perpetrated on Gay males within the Castro neighborhood, the Leather community came together with then, Supervisor Bevan Dufty, and Castro Community On Patrol was born following meetings in June of 2026.

Our first volunteer training class included then SFPD Chief Heather Fong and CA State Assembly person Mark Leno. CCOP continued to leverage our strong support and connections with formal law enforcement and government representatives to enhance our program and expand from a “reactionary” organization to a preventative teaching entity.

Few volunteer safety patrols in the Castro have survived more than a few years. CCOP is the unique exception.

CCOP / CPS OFFER ASSISTANCE TO SACRAMENTO



Alvin Prasad

58-year old Alvin Prasad was murdered in Sacramento after exiting a nightclub in the Lavender Heights neighborhood, in what the Sacramento District Attorney believes was a hate crime.

Considerable community concern was raised and Sacramento Police initially did not host any public meetings about the incident and while the alleged attacker was arrested, the LGBTQ+ community met to discuss the possibility of restarting a volunteer safety patrol in the area.

Our safety partner, Community Patrol Service (CPS) reached out to the Sacramento LGBTQ+ community, offering assistance, guidance, and non-fiscal support to help them develop a safety patrol if they decide to establish one.

CPS and CCOP are always happy to help in this way.

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 **1/1/2026 to 01/25/2026**

	2026	Yr – Yr %
Homicide	2	100%
Robbery	78	-33.3%
Assault	99	-33.6%
Burglary	162	-47.9%
Veh. Theft	159	-43.2%
Larceny	723	-40.6%
TOTAL		-41.2%

During the same period last year, SFPD recorded a total of 2, 115 reports, compared with a total of 1, 243 reports this year, representing a 41.2% drop overall.

PATROL NEWS

CCOP PROVIDES BEGINNERS SELF-DEFENSE CLASS IN SOMA WEST



CCOP in collaboration with our safety partner Community Patrol Service (CPS) and SoMa West Community Benefits District (CBD) hosted our always popular Beginners Self-Defense training class in SoMa on Saturday January 17th.

The class offers a wealth of useful information on how to assess a possible threat and escalate a safety response while trying to avoid, de-escalate, and get help before the need for physical defensive techniques are necessary.

This was our first class in SoMa West, but we hope to host some additional classes in the neighborhood while continuing to support these classes in the Castro neighborhood also.

The techniques covered in this Beginner Self-Defense class may be all the more important as we face the very real risk of U.S. Federal Immigration agents coming to San Francisco at some point in the near future is likely. This class offers some practical concepts and ideas for keeping you, and those around you safer in a dangerous or threatening situation.

CCOP MET WITH MAYOR LURIE AND SFPD CHIEF LEW AT THE SFPD LGBTQ+ ADVISORY FORUM



One of the most important functions of Castro Community On Patrol is advocating for the entire LGBTQ+ community throughout San Francisco. To facilitate this, we actively engage in a number of nonprofit boards and forums, one of which is the San Francisco Police Department LGBTQ+ Advisory Forum which met on Monday January 22 with Mayor Daniel Lurie and new SFPD Police Chief Derrick Lew attending.

Both answered questions from the forum members who represent the broader San Francisco LGBTQ+ community.

Mayor Lurie reaffirmed his commitment to safety on the streets for residents, businesses, and visitors as his primary focus. Chief Lew discussed the successes of the Drug Market Agency Coordination Center (DMACC) task force in targeting drug pushers, lower crime numbers overall, and the slowly increasing Officer new hires and lateral transfers.

Mayor Lurie and Chief Lew also discussed current plans to respond to possible DHS/ICE/CBP operations within San Francisco, promising to continue to protect and support the cities immigrants.

SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT

PATROL TRAINING ACADEMY

BY Chief Ken Craig, Community Patrol Service

THE GOLDEN HOUR DURING MEDICAL TRAUMA

The concept of the “Golden Hour” is simply that the quicker a trauma patient receives professional medical care, the better their long term chances are of survival. There is actually no real statistical evidence that survival rates drop significantly in patients who don’t receive treatment within the first sixty minutes of the initial trauma, but no-one can really argue that the goal whenever and wherever possible should be treatment as soon as possible.

DEFINITION OF TRAUMA

Trauma is an injury to the body that occurs when a physical force contacts the body. The trauma may be blunt or penetrating. Examples of blunt trauma are motor vehicle collisions, falls, and assaults with a blunt object. Examples of penetrating trauma include gunshot wounds and stab wounds. Exposure to these forces can cause soft tissue injuries, fractures, bleeding, and tearing of vital organs and blood vessels, all of which can result in severe disability and death.

The severity of the injury is related to the force of the impact, duration of impact, body part involved, injuring agent (blast, blunt object, penetrating object), and any associated risk factors (age and preexisting medical conditions).

TRAUMA INDICATORS TO LOOK FOR

As CCOP Patrollers, we are sometimes the first persons “on scene” and it therefore falls to us ensure we follow reasonable guidelines to examine for, and respond to possible trauma injuries if those are indicated and / or suspected.

Trauma would be indicated if:

- You witness or are advised of actual trauma,
- You observe bleeding,
- You observe recent bruising or abrasions,
- You observe disjointed limbs or protruding bones.

Trauma may be suspected if:

- The subject is unresponsive to verbal and pain stimuli,
- The subject exhibits aggressive or confused behavior



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PATROL TRAINING ACADEMY

ASSESSING A “DOWNED” PERSON

In our CCOP role we often come across “downed” individuals lying in various positions and places. We conduct a standard well being check to ensure they are o.k. In circumstances where the individual does not respond to verbal rousing, we move on to more aggressive arousal techniques to determine if they unresponsive individual is truly unconscious, or severely intoxicated.

As it is VITAL to stabilize trauma victims to prevent further injury, we must perform a trauma assessment prior to advancing to physical rousing techniques during a well being check as follows:

1. Visually assess the individual and their surroundings as you approach and attempt verbal contact. If you see any trauma indicators, treat the situation as a possible trauma victim.
2. If verbal rousing is unsuccessful and no trauma indicators are present, move on to physical and pain rousing techniques.

WHEN TRAUMA IS SUSPECTED

If you identify any possible trauma indicators:

1. Immediately call 911 and advise them of the indicators you are observing
2. Without moving the individual unless absolutely necessary, perform an Airway, Breathing and Circulation (ABC) check.
3. If either A-B or C are compromised and you are trained and willing, respond accordingly.
4. Stabilize any area of trauma and keep the subject warm until professionals arrive on scene.

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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.

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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

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DON'T BE AFRAID, GET TRAINED AND PREPARED

Castro Community On Patrol
Community Patrol Service & SoMa West CBD
PRESENTS

Beginners Self-Defense Class



Saturday January 17, 2026
1 PM – 4:30 PM

OPEN TO ANYONE 18 YEARS OR OLDER
LOW IMPACT CLASS SUITABLE FOR ANYONE
ONLY \$30 PER ATTENDEE : PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Use the link below to register :

<https://SoMaWestSD1.eventbrite.com>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

WWW.CastroPatrol.org
INFO@CastroPatrol.org



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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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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

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DON'T BE AFRAID, GET TRAINED AND PREPARED

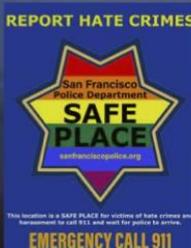
SAFETY FOR EVERYONE



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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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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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!

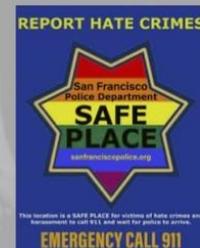
LGBTQ Anti-Violence Project: 1-212-714-1141

FORGE Transgender Project: 1-414-559-2123

Youth LGBTQ Help Center: 1-800-246-7743



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ANGEL SHOTS

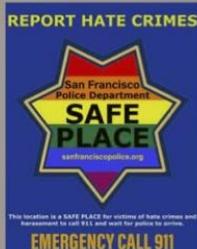
THIS ESTABLISHMENT RECOGNIZES AND SUPPORTS
THE **ANGEL SHOT** SAFETY PROGRAM

DO YOU NEED HELP?

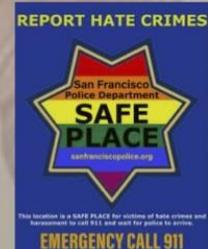
- Are you on a **DATE** that is not going well?
- Do you feel **UNSAFE**?
- Is anyone **BOTHERING** your or making you feel **UNCOMFORTABLE**?
- Are you being **FORCED** to do something against your will?

**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.**



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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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