



## **SAN FRANCISCO DEPUTY SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION**

**"Serving the Deputy Sheriffs' of San Francisco since 1952"**

PRESIDENT  
Ken Lomba

VICE-PRESIDENT  
Jason Moore

TREASURER  
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SERGEANT-AT-ARMS  
Jim Irving

June 23, 2022

***Via Electronic Mail***

***Mayor London Breed***

San Francisco Mayor  
City Hall, Room 200  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, California 94102  
email: [mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org](mailto:mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org)

### **Re: SFDSA Demands Civil Grand Jury Investigate the Sheriff's Office**

Dear Honorable Mayor Breed:

Staffing in the San Francisco Jails has become dangerously unsafe with inmates attacking inmates, nurses, sheriff deputies and civilian employees. The San Francisco Sheriff's Office and City and County of San Francisco have understaffed the jails to a dangerously low level, they have not prioritized funding to hire deputies, they have not even prioritized retention of current deputies.

Since 2014 there have been 3 separate reports from the SF Civil Grand Jury warning about the effects of going below minimum staffing levels and to expedite hiring instead of forced overtime. There was even a warning of a possible violation of Title 15 in the future if nothing changes. Unfortunately, the Sheriff's Office has failed to hire the proper number of deputies to create a safe working environment for both the deputies and inmates. The minimum staffing levels have gotten worse, and bottom line: the deputies are exhausted.

In the past reports, the Grand Jury found that because of the dwindling number of total deputies employed by the City and County of San Francisco, the excessive overtime and shortage of bodies did not allow for the important inmate programs in existence let alone increase the inmate programs that were recommended. Furthermore, the recommended training for deputies could not



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take place or was inadequate to deal with the mental health and substance abuse as well as many other issues the housed population experiences.

Ultimately, this Grand Jury recommended on three separate occasions in 2014, 2016, and 2017 to "expedite hiring to reduce overtime." The Grand Jury's recommendations have never been followed and the situation has become untenable as the number of deputies is lower now than it was when this Grand Jury made these strong recommendations.

### **CCSF JAILS ARE NOW FALLING BELOW MINIMUM STAFFING REGULARLY**

Just days ago, on June 9, 2022, Sheriff Miyamoto issued a memo to all City and County of San Francisco jail staff identifying his intentions of – operating below minimum staffing – for a period of the next 8-9 months! The City and County of San Francisco has clearly recognized the futility of giving the appearance of reaching minimum staffing and has now admitted that it cannot exercise its duty to do so.

The City and County of San Francisco is in fierce competition with its neighboring counties, Alameda and San Mateo, for jail staff. Alameda has been under a consent decree to hire more jail staff. It would be a shame for the City and County of San Francisco to be under similar governmental oversight. The City and County of San Francisco can expedite the hiring of staff but has not made it a priority, at the expense of the overworked and exhausted jails staff.

The Civil Grand Jury Complaint against the Sheriff's Office and the City and County of San Francisco was filed on June 20th, 2022. This Grand Jury should demand answers from the San Francisco Sheriff's Office as to why it has failed to comply with its 3 separate recommendations since 2014.

View the complaint here, [Civil Grand Jury Complaint Against SF Sheriff](#)



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The Sheriff's Office is not hiring at appropriate levels, something needs to be done immediately. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Ken Lomba  
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Cell: (415) 696-2428