

1 **Motion to support Statement on The Death of Banko Brown**

2

3 **Supplemental Information:**

4

5 See attached document [Statement]

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23



The San Francisco Youth Commission is devastated by the fatal shooting of Banko Brown, an unhoused Black trans man. Our deepest condolences go to his family and his community. Brown was leaving a Walgreens when an altercation started between Brown and a security guard, which resulted in Brown being fatally shot. It appears that the altercation between Brown and the security guard was caused by the belief that Brown was taking food.

This serves as yet another reminder that we as a city must combat the systemic issues that led to Brown's death; including homelessness, lack of services for Transitional-Aged/Queer youth, racism, and more. According to San Francisco's Homeless Unique Youth Count and Survey, nearly 50% of unhoused youth identify as LGBTQ+. The family of Brown has mentioned his consistent struggle with finding permanent housing and it appears Brown had been turned away after several attempts to apply for permanent housing.

In San Francisco, there is a major food shortage problem among our homeless population. According to the 2019 San Francisco Homelessness Count and Survey Report, 56% of unhoused people had experienced a food shortage at least 4 weeks before the survey was conducted. Furthermore, the USDA released a report that stated that 22% of Black children lived in food-insecure households. It is clear more must be done to ensure unhoused people, particularly youth and Transitional Aged youth,



receive the support they need—particularly when it comes to the basic human need for food.

The Youth Commission is outraged at the misgendering and deadnaming of Banko Brown by the Medical Examiner's Office, the San Francisco Police Department, and members of the media after his death. As San Francisco's youth, we expect follow-through when these agencies and individuals declare that they support trans people. When mistakes are made, they must be acknowledged publicly and apologized for. It is essential our City departments respect the pronouns and gender identities of San Franciscans, particularly those who have been killed.

Banko Brown should have never died, or have even been in a situation where he had to steal food to survive. This situation does not reflect the San Francisco Youth Commission nor the city's values as a whole. Queer youth, especially Black Trans youth such as Brown, deserve to feel safe in San Francisco, and until we can provide the services and support to achieve that, they won't. The San Francisco Youth Commission is committed to working towards addressing these issues in order to prevent these incidents and provide the needed support to other Queer youth and youth of color.