



SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

April 2018 Newsletter

April is both Child Abuse Awareness and Sexual Assault Awareness month. We invite you to attend the April Commission meeting and other events listed below and get involved.

We welcome our newest member to the Commission, Commissioner Meena Harris. She was sworn in on March 28 in time to join the Commission at their monthly meeting.

-The Department on the Status of Women



Mayors Office Deputy Chief of Staff Francis Tsang, Commissioner Meena Harris, Vice President Breanna Zwart, President Debbie Mesloh, Commissioner Julie D. Soo, and Director Emily M. Murase PhD. at Commissioner Harris' swearing in ceremony.

[Commission Meetings](#)

[New Publications](#)

[Featured Events](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Past Happenings](#)

[Commission & Board Openings](#)

Commission Meetings

The mission of the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women is to foster the equitable treatment and advancement of all women and girls throughout San Francisco through policies, legislation, and programs.

April 2018 Commission Meeting

The Commission on the Status of Women will meet on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 from 4 - 6 pm at City Hall, Room 408

At the meeting the Commission will hear about the Department's work on legislation that advances the rights of women. The Department will also present an update on the Department's Strategic Plan. Commission resolutions will be presented to: Christine Pelosi for her work in protecting women from harassment and sexual assault, Leslie Simon for her work on the Sexual Assault Task Force, and to LYRIC on the occasion of their 30th Anniversary.

May 2018 Commission Meeting

The Commission on the Status of Women will meet on Wednesday, May 23, 2018 from 4 - 6 pm at City Hall, Room 408

[2018 Commission Meeting Schedule](#)

Agendas, Minutes, and Supplemental meeting materials can be found [here](#).

New Publications

[Full Report: 3rd Annual Human Trafficking Report in San Francisco](#)

[Highlights: 3rd Annual Human Trafficking Report in San Francisco](#)

Featured Events



2018 Gender Equity Challenge Forum

Join us to learn strategies from leading employers that are innovating for gender equity at the 4th Gender Equity Challenge Forum!

The Forum brings together leaders from business, government, and academia to share ideas and inspire action to advance gender equity in the workplace. This event is the ideal opportunity to gain resources, build connections, and discover proven best practices on topics ranging from strengthening the pipeline for women in management to utilizing more women-owned businesses.

GENDER EQUITY CHALLENGE FORUM

8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Wednesday, April 18

Schwab Center

211 Main Street, San Francisco

Early-bird registration has closed, but use code 'GEPInsider' to access the discounted rate at [GenderEquityForum2018.Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gender-equity-challenge-forum-2018-tickets-35282118000) for a limited time.



Don't Miss Our Panel Discussion on Practices to Prevent Sexual Harassment!

Find out what your organization can do to prevent sexual harassment and leave with actionable advice for advancing gender equity in the #MeToo era!

Hear from **Adama Iwu**, one of **TIME Magazine's "Silence Breakers"** and co-founder of **We Said Enough**, who penned a bipartisan letter published in the LA Times with over 140 signatories calling for an end to the pervasive culture of sexual harassment and assault in the California State Capitol.

Plus, learn from **Carolyn Rashby**, a partner at women-owned employment law firm **Miller Law Group**, which is 100% focused on providing employment law services to businesses in California.

Register today to reserve your spot and be a part of this important discussion!



Upcoming Events

Gender Equity Challenge Forum

8:30 am - 3 pm, Wednesday, April 18

Schwab Center, 211 Main Street

San Francisco

[Information](#)

~~~~

### **Mayor's Task Force on Anti-Human Trafficking General Meeting**

1:30 - 3:30 pm, Wednesday, April 25

City Hall, Room 305

San Francisco

[Information](#)

~~~~

Commission on the Status of Women Meeting

4 - 6 pm, Wednesday, April 25

City Hall, Room 408

San Francisco

[Information](#)

~~~~

### **Family Violence Council Meeting**

3 - 5 pm, Wednesday, May 16

400 McAllister Street, Room 617

San Francisco, CA 94102

[Information](#)

~~~~

National Women's Health Week

May 14 - 19

[Information](#)

~~~~

### **Commission on the Status of Women Meeting**

4 - 6 pm pm, Wednesday, May 23

City Hall, Room 408

San Francisco

[Information](#)

---

## **Past Happenings**

### **Statewide CEDAW Resolution Passed, Senate Bill Introduced**

The Department has worked closely with Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson and Assemblymember David Chiu to implement the principles of CEDAW at the state level. Senate Committee Resolution 78 (Jackson) supporting CEDAW for California statewide cleared both houses on February 27 and is now in effect.

Senate Bill 1150 (Jackson) (SB 1150) was introduced in February and will require gender analysis of state agencies' budgets, operations, and services to identify and address inequities and gender discrimination and reporting to the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls on a biennial basis. On April 10, San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women President Debbie Mesloh, Vice President Breanna Zwart, past Commissioner Nancy Kirshner Rodriguez and Department Director Emily M. Murase PhD. testified in Sacramento to support SB

Vice President Breanna Zwart, Adama Iwu, Jen Kwart, President Debbie Mesloh, and Director Emily M. Murase PhD. at City Hall for the February Commission on the Status of Women meeting.



### Honoring the Silence Breakers and the #MeToo Movement

At the February Commission meeting, the Commission celebrated the Silence Breakers and the #MeToo movement by honoring Adama Iwu, Susan Fowler, and Jen Kwart, all local Bay Area women recognized as the 2017 Persons of the Year as part of TIME Magazine's recognition of "The Silence Breakers." Three additional Commission Resolutions were bestowed at the meeting: one for former San Francisco Assessor Doris Ward in honor of her many contributions to the City, another in support of Eating Disorder Awareness month, and one for the UN Women Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces Global Flagship Programme Initiative.



SFCAHT Coordinator Antonia Levine, Director Emily M. Murase PhD., Gender Equality Principles Fellow Mollie Read, and Anti Human Trafficking Fellow Rachael Chambers at the United Nations CSW62.

### UN Commission on the Status of Women - CSW62

The week of March 12, Commissioner Carrie Schwab-Pomerantz, Director Emily M. Murase PhD., Friends of the Commission on the Status of Women President Linda Calhoun, Gender Equality Principles Fellow Mollie Read, and Anti Human Trafficking Fellow Rachael Chambers attended the 62nd session of the United Nations Commission on Status Women (CSW62). The CSW is the largest Commission within the United Nations and meets for a total of two weeks. It is an event that brings together UN Officials, Non-governmental Organizations, and civil society from around the world. The event had two primary focal points this year: conditions of women living in rural areas and women in the media. A CEDAW Global Leadership Award was posthumously awarded to Mayor Edwin M. Lee for his support of women's rights and the CEDAW movement. The award was accepted by the late

Mayor Lee's wife Anita Lee and his daughter Tanya Lee.



2018 Women's History Month Awards celebration at City Hall.

### Women's History Month Awards

On Tuesday, March 20 we celebrated Women's History Month with Mayor Mark Farrell, District Attorney George Gascón, and Members of the Board of Supervisors. The theme "Nevertheless She Persisted: Honoring Women Who Fight All Forms of Discrimination Against Women" highlighted the leadership and contributions of women from our local community who fight for justice and equality. The event was organized by the Department, and the reception was sponsored by the Friends of the Commission.



### New Commissioner Appointed

Commissioner Meena Harris was sworn in on March 28 in time to attend the March Commission meeting. Commissioner Harris works at Uber as Head of Strategy and Development, and is also the Founder of Phenomenal Woman Action Campaign, which is a digital initiative and alliance of civically engaged women.

Mayor's Office Deputy Chief of Staff Francis Tsang swears in Commissioner Meena Harris.

*Vice President Breanna Zwart, Commissioner Julie D. Soo, Commissioner Meena Harris, Commissioner Andrea Shorter, Executive Director of Board of Appeals Cynthia Goldstein, Director Emily M. Murase PhD., President Debbie Mesloh, Commissioner Carrie Schwab-Pomerantz, and Commissioner Marjan Philhour honoring Ms. Goldstein on the occasion of her retirement.*



### Honoring Cynthia Goldstein

At the March Commission meeting, the Commission honored retiring Executive Director of Board of Appeals Cynthia Goldstein for her deep commitment to equal protections under the law and her unwavering advocacy for equality. In the 1990's, Ms. Goldstein shepherded the adoption of and skillfully developed enforcement

guidelines for the landmark 1996 Equal Benefits Ordinance, which, for the first time anywhere in the U.S., required city contractors to offer the same spousal benefits to domestic partners offered to married workers. Since the Ordinance was enacted over 20 years ago, the number of companies offering domestic partner benefits has grown from 500 to over 8,000 businesses, and 19 jurisdictions in 7 states have adopted similar laws.



*The late Dr. Grossman's son, Danny Grossman, accepted the Commission's resolution of honor for his father.*

### **Honoring Dr. Moses Grossman**

The Commission honored Dr. Moses Grossman who passed away at the end of January. Dr. Grossman will be remembered by generations of doctors, health care providers, social workers, and community members as a healer, a teacher and a mentor. On the occasion of Child Abuse Prevention month, the Commission recognized Dr. Grossman for his extraordinary career and lifetime of service on behalf of vulnerable children, mothers, and grandmothers of our community.



*Director Emily M. Murase PhD. shares the steps of City Hall with a class from the Tenderloin Community School.*



### **Child Abuse Prevention Month Press Conference**

On April 4, to kick off Child Abuse Prevention month, the Department gathered with many other City and community groups to bring awareness to the problem of child abuse and also spoke about prevention. Supervisors Malia Cohen, Ahsha Safai, Jeff Sheehy, and Norman Yee spoke about their concerns and work in combating child abuse. Community leaders also spoke about what steps can be taken to prevent child abuse. A class of first graders from the Tenderloin Community School were in attendance and enthusiastically shouted out their lessons on how to protect themselves.



*City Hall was lit blue to highlight Child Abuse Awareness Month.*



*Speakers at the press conference announcing the release of the new report: Minouche Kandel, Molly Brown, Ifashina Clear, Rosalia Lopez, Ahmos Netanel, Emily M. Murase PhD., Victoria Chan, Saerom Choi, and Tara Anderson.*

### **3rd Annual Human Trafficking Report in San Francisco Published**

The San Francisco Mayor's Task Force on Anti-Human Trafficking has published the 3rd Annual Human Trafficking Report in San Francisco. The Task Force held a press conference at City Hall announcing the report publication. Member's of the Task Force joined Department staff and spoke at the conference on the scope of the report and its ground breaking significance.



*Women's Policy Director Minouche Kandel training officers at Bayview Police Station.*

### **Domestic Violence Training's at Bayview Police Station**

As part of the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women Grant: Bayview High Lethality Domestic Violence Response Team Pilot Project, Women's

Policy Director Minouche Kandel and Grants Associate Elise Hansel are presenting a series of training's for police officers at the Police Department's Bayview Station during April.

---

## Commission & Board Openings

Leadership Opportunities on Boards and Commissions:

You can find Commission and Board openings at the following links.

1. [311 List of Boards and Commissions](#)

2. Board of Supervisors List:  
[Vacancies on Boards and Commissions](#)

---

San Francisco Department on the Status of Women | [DOSW@sfgov.org](mailto:DOSW@sfgov.org) | (415) 252-2570 |  
<http://sfgov.org/dosw/>

See what's happening on our social media sites:

