



SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

February 2018 Newsletter

We hope that the New Year has started out well and that you all had the opportunity to join either the Women's March here in San Francisco or a march in your own home town. We were delighted to see that the energy and commitment has not only sustained itself this past year but is growing and becoming focused on lasting change. In 2018, please reach out to our Commission and help us expand the work of women's equity, empowerment, and safety in San Francisco. Join us at our monthly meetings. Read through the Newsletter and find some events to attend and participate with us in 2018.

At the end of 2017, Commissioner Olga Ryerson resigned from the Commission, she was a constant source of inspiration and will be missed. We thank her for all she has done for our Commission and the City.

-The Department on the Status of Women

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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.

February 2018 Commission Meeting

The Commission on the Status of Women will meet on Wednesday, February 28, 2018 from 4 - 6 pm at City Hall, Room 408. At the meeting the Commission will hear about City employees and sexual harassment from the Department of Human Resources; the UN Women Safe Cities Campaign; and Project Heal, an organization that addresses eating disorder intervention. Commission resolutions will be presented to: Former City Assessor Doris Ward, and women who have broken silence on sexual harassment Susan Fowler, Adama Iwu, and Jennifer Kwart. The meeting will be adjourned in memory of March Fong Eu.

March 2018 Commission Meeting

The Commission on the Status of Women will meet on Wednesday, March 28, 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

[Commission/Department Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2016-2017](#)

[Commission/Department on the Status of Women 5-Year Strategic Plan FY2016-2020](#)

[San Francisco Family Violence Council 7th Comprehensive Report on Family Violence in San Francisco FY2016: Full Report](#)

[San Francisco Family Violence Council 7th Comprehensive Report on Family Violence in San Francisco FY2016: Highlights](#)

[2017 Gender Analysis of Commissions and Boards: Executive Summary](#)

[2017 Gender Analysis of Commissions and Boards: Full Report](#)

Featured Events



2018 Gender Equity Challenge Forum

Learn, Improve, and Inspire at the Gender Equity Challenge Forum!

The Gender Equity Principles Initiative invites you to join us for the annual Challenge Forum to be held **April 18, 2018** at the **Schwab Event Center, 211 Main Street, in San Francisco**. The Forum is the ideal opportunity for senior executives, human resources managers, and diversity and inclusion professionals to learn best practices and exchange resources to advance women in the workplace.

The Challenge showcases employers that are innovating for equity in the Bay Area. Join leaders from business, government, and academia to learn about these innovative programs and policies, share ideas, and get inspired to turn dialog into action!

[Register Here](#)



Emily Murase, Director of the San Francisco Department on the Status of Women, opens the 2017 Challenge Forum.

Upcoming Events

San Francisco Collaborative Against Human Trafficking Teen Summit to Close the 2018 Human Trafficking Awareness Campaign and Honor the Winners of the Teen Poster and Writing Contest

5 - 7:30 pm, Thursday, February 22

San Francisco Main Library

Koret Auditorium, 100 Larkin Street

San Francisco

This event is free and open to the public. RSVP Requested.

[Information](#)

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**Commission on the Status of Women Meeting**

4 - 6 pm, Wednesday, February 28

City Hall, Room 408

San Francisco

[Information](#)

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International Women's Day

Thursday, March 8

Watch for events

[Information](#)

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**Women's History Month Awards Ceremony:**

Nevertheless She Persisted: Honoring Women Who Fight All Forms of  
Discrimination Against Women

Tuesday, March 20

2:30 pm Board of Supervisors Presentation

Board Chambers, Room 250

City Hall, San Francisco

[Information](#)

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Department of Children, Youth and Their Families

San Francisco Summer Resource Fair

11 am - 3 pm, Saturday, March 10

County Fair Building, Golden Gate Park

1199 9th Avenue

San Francisco

[Information](#)

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**Commission on the Status of Women Meeting**

4 - 6 pm, Wednesday, March 28

City Hall, Room 408

San Francisco

[Information](#)

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Child Abuse Awareness Month Kick-off

11 am- 12 noon, Tuesday, April 3

City Hall, Polk Street Steps

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**GEP Challenge Forum**

8 am - 5 pm, Wednesday, April 18

Schwab Event Center, 211 Main Street

San Francisco

[Information](#)

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Commission on the Status of Women Meeting

4 - 6 pm pm, Wednesday, April 25

City Hall, Room 408

San Francisco

[Information](#)

Past Happenings



City Leaders, Commission and Department on the Status of Women, Friends of the Commission on the Status of Women, American Association of University Women and supporters rally on the steps of City Hall.

Salary Negotiation Workshops Initiative Launched

On December 11, 2017 at San Francisco City Hall, Supervisor Katy Tang, Assessor-Recorder Carmen Chu, Commissioner Marjan Philhour, the American Association of University Women (AAUW), the Friends of the Commission on the Status of Women, women advocates and elected officials announced the launch of AAUW Work Smart and Start Smart Salary Negotiation Workshops in San Francisco. These salary negotiation workshops train women to expertly negotiate their own salary and benefits.



Federal Administrative Judge Marianna Warmee, Director Emily M. Murase PhD, US Department of Labor Investigator Lonnie Holmes, Field Representative of Senator Diane Feinstein's Office Abigail Ellis, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Victim Assistance Specialist Nicole Beeson, Alameda District

Attorney Nancy O'Malley, SFOAHT Coordinator Antonia Levine, HSI Special Agent Melissa Saurwein, SFOAHT Co-Chair and Generations United Program Director Benita Hopkins, Supervising California Deputy Attorney General Maggy Krell, and Tara Anderson of the San Francisco District Attorney's Office kicked off Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

Winners of the 2018 Modern-Day Abolitionist Awards

On January 11, 2018 at San Francisco City Hall, the San Francisco Collaborative Against Human Trafficking (SFOAHT) held its annual press conference where leading anti-trafficking advocates, service providers, survivors and top government and law enforcement officials in the Bay Area announced their priorities for the year in fighting modern-day slavery. SFOAHT presented 3 Modern-Day Abolitionist Awards: the Leadership Award to Nancy O'Malley, Alameda County District Attorney; the Award for Human Trafficking Investigations to Melissa Saurwein, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Special Agent; and the Award for Survivor Support and Protection to Nicole Beeson, HSI Victim Assistance Specialist. The press event included remarks by Acting U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of California Alex Tse, San Francisco District Attorney George Gascón, Supervising California Deputy Attorney General Maggy Krell, HSI Special Agent in Charge Ryan Spradlin, Deputy Consul General of Mexico Guillermo Reyes, Director Emily M. Murase, PhD, Justice at Last Founder Rose Mukhar, Freedom FWD Co-Founder JaMel Perkins, and Claire's House Executive Director Leah-Kimble Price.

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Commissioner Andrea Shorter, Commissioner Julie D. Soo, former Mayor Willie Brown, Commission President Debbie Mesloh, Commission Vice President Breanna Zwart, and Commissioner Carrie Schwab-Pomerantz.

San Francisco Commissioners Luncheon

On January 23, 2018, several Commissioners on the Status of Women attended the 1st Annual San Francisco Commissioner's Luncheon with distinguished guest the Honorable Willie L. Brown. A group of Commissioners representing a large cross section of the City's Commissions created this annual event to celebrate Commissioner service and dedication to San Francisco, and to create an opportunity

for Commissioners to meet and mingle in a social context. It was also an opportunity to celebrate the extraordinary life of the late Honorable Mayor Edwin M. Lee.

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Commission President Debbie Mesloh, Women's Policy Director Minouche Kandel, Commissioner Andrea Shorter, San Francisco Police Department Captain Una Bailey, Director Emily M. Murase, PhD, San Francisco Police Department Commander of Investigations Greg McEachern .

Honoring Captain Una Bailey at the January 24 Commission Meeting

The Commission expressed its appreciation to San Francisco Police Department Captain Una Bailey for her leadership at the Special Victims Unit, and wished her the best in her new position at Park Station. Captain Bailey thanked the Commission and protested that she did not accomplish all of many initiatives by herself, but that it was a team effort with so many at the City and in the community. She particularly thanked her team at the Special Victims Unit and Commander Greg McEachern. Commander McEachern in turn thanked the Commission for recognizing the many accomplishments of Captain Bailey. Liz Aguilar-Tarchi, head of the Domestic Violence Unit at the San Francisco District Attorney's Office, also thanked Captain Bailey for her tireless efforts at the Special Victims Unit.

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Press conference on lactation accommodation was held at Stitch Fix corporate headquarters and attended by Senator Scott Wiener, Assemblymember David Chiu, Supervisor Katy Tang, Director Emily M. Murase PhD, Women's Policy Director Elizabeth Newman, Jenna Gerry of Legal Aid at Work, and many others.

Lactation Accommodation

On January 29, 2018, the Department attended a press conference with State Senator Scott Wiener, hosted by Stitch Fix CEO Katrina Lake, to announce a statewide lactation accommodation bill SB937, that is similar to the Ordinance passed by Supervisor Katy Tang last year. The bill would require a lactation room or location to include prescribed features and would require an employer to provide access to a sink and refrigerator in close proximity to the employee's work space. The bill would establish a procedure for an employer with fewer than five employees to apply to the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement for an undue hardship exemption from the lactation room or location requirement. The bill would also require an employer to develop and implement a policy regarding lactation accommodation and make it available to employees, as specified. To read about the bill [click here](#).

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Deputy Director of Family and Children's Services Sylvia Porto, Family Violence Council (FVC) Tri-Chair Katie Albright, Sheriff Vicki Hennessey, Director Emily M. Murase PhD, FVC Tri-Chair Shawna Reeves, Deputy Director of Programs at Department of Aging and Adult Services Jill Nielsen, Commissioner Andrea Shorter, Women's Policy Director Minouche Kandel, Commission President Debbie Mesloh, and FVC Tri-Chair Beverly Upton announced the release of the latest Family Violence Council Report.

San Francisco Family Violence Council 7th Comprehensive Report on Family Violence in San Francisco FY2016 Released

On January 30, 2018 the Family Violence Council (FVC) held a press conference for the release of the *7th Comprehensive Report on Family Violence in San Francisco FY2016*. The event was presented by the Department's Woman's Policy Director Minouche Kandel and the FVC Tri-Chairs: Katie Albright, Safe and Sound; Beverly Upton, Domestic Violence Consortium; and Shawna Reeves, Institute on Aging, Elder Abuse Prevention. Sheriff Vicki Hennessey, Supervisor Jeff Sheehy, Commission President Debbie Mesloh, Deputy Director of Programs at Department of Aging and Adult Services Jill Nielsen, Deputy Director of Family and Children's Services Sylvia Deporto, and Director Emily Murase spoke in support of the importance of this report for San Francisco. The new report includes information from 14 City public agencies and 27 community-based organizations. Key findings on child abuse are: an increase in child abuse investigations by police and an increase in child abuse prosecutions; lower rates of child abuse reports by school reporters; black and Latinx children disproportionately victimized; and that there has been a continued decline in foster care entries. Key findings on intimate partner violence are: an increase in domestic violence Calls to 911 involving a deadly weapon; an increase in stalking calls to 911; better screening for intimate partner violence at department of public health clinics; lesbian, gay and bisexual students more at risk for intimate partner violence; and black and Latinx people are disproportionately victimized. Key findings on elder abuse are: an increase in number of elder abuse cases and services; self-neglect case increase; and black and Latinx people are disproportionately experiencing elder abuse.



Associate Director Carol Sacco, Director Emily M. Murase PhD, and Wellness Champion Herschell Larrick.

Department Receives Top Honors; Wins a Wellness Program Award

On Wednesday, February 6, 2018, Department staff accepted a Soaring Award from the Health and Human Services Department Wellness Program for efforts to engage

staff in healthy behaviors. One of the activities highlighted during the awards ceremony was the DOSW Photo Scavenger Hunt in which staff hunted down 24 places located within one mile of Department offices from posted photos. The hunt encouraged staff to explore the neighborhood individually or in group walks and concluded with a healthy potluck.

Commission & Board Openings

Leadership Opportunities on Boards and Commissions:

We have 1 vacancy on the Commission on the Status of Women. 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](#)

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See what's happening on our social media sites:

