



LONDON BREED  
MAYOR

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
**Department of Police Accountability**

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SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103



PAUL DAVID HENDERSON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 30, 2021

**THE SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY KICKED OFF ITS 2021 SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

**SAN FRANCISCO** – On June 9, 2021, the San Francisco Department of Police Accountability (DPA) began its Law and Justice Reform Internship Program in partnership with the Mayor’s Opportunities For All (OFA) program. This year’s cohort is comprised of three high school students, two college students, and five law school students, making it DPA’s largest class ever. The majority of the interns also identify as youth of color.

The Cohort includes participants from the following schools.

- High Schools
  - Ruth Asawa School of the Arts High School
  - Freedom High school
  - Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep High School
- Undergraduate Colleges
  - UCLA
  - Gonzaga University
- Law Schools
  - Golden Gate University
  - University of San Francisco
  - UC Hastings
  - University of Michigan

“Our internship program is a unique and exciting opportunity for young people to grow as professionals,” said DPA Executive Director Paul Henderson. “Internships are the crux of professional development. Our goal is to cultivate the necessary skills and tools that will give our interns ample career opportunities and options, particularly, in leadership positions.”

The internship program runs from June 9<sup>th</sup> to August 5<sup>th</sup>, with a fusion between virtual and in-person work. Intern projects include (but are not limited to): assisting staff with relevant policy research, reviewing body camera footage and transcripts, participating in community outreach, and helping update the agency’s website.

The interns will also read *Biased* by Jennifer L. Eberhardt and will use it to formulate a final research project about San Francisco police reform. Further, the DPA will also collaborate with the San Francisco District Attorney’s Office’s “SF Young Defenders” program. This partnership will include hosting a speaker’s series with professionals around the city.

The DPA’s goal is to give young people the opportunity to gain practice experience in working at a police oversight agency. We are ecstatic about this year’s internship as well as exploring ways to continue the program’s growth.

***DPA Summer 2021 Internship Working Group:*** Tinnetta Thompson (Director of Recruitment and Attorney), Vilma Gamero (Project Manager) Kaneem Thornton (Public Service Aide), Javier Silva (Attorney) Luis Sanchez (Julius Turman Fellow)

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