

1 [Lowering the jail visiting age to 16 and establishing an online inmate locator]

2           **Resolution promoting family unity for youth with incarcerated parents and urging the**  
3 **lowering of the visiting age in San Francisco county jails to age 16 and the establishment of an**  
4 **online inmate locator tool**

5           WHEREAS, 53% all U.S. inmates in 2007 were parents of one or more children under the age  
6 of 18; and

7           WHEREAS, according to the Center for Youth Wellness, incarceration is one of the most  
8 adverse of childhood experiences; and

9           WHEREAS, visitation is a mediating factor in the adverse effect of parental incarceration; and

10           WHEREAS, the paperwork and supervision required for 16 and 17 year olds to visit their parent  
11 is time consuming and may present barriers to youth maintaining a relationship with their parent; and

12           WHEREAS, Federal government permits persons 16 years age and older to visit inmates in  
13 federal prisons; and

14           WHEREAS, Call-in requests to locate a parent or loved one often take very long time; and

15           WHEREAS, federal prisons, California state prisons, and several county jail systems including  
16 Sacramento and San Bernardino already have their online inmate locators; and

17           WHEREAS, there are now more people being detained at county level due to realignment; and

18           WHEREAS, this increase in San Francisco is more cause to have an inmate locator; and

19           WHEREAS, Sheriff Mirkarimi has already undertaken efforts to lower phone call prices for  
20 people incarcerated in San Francisco County jails to promote family unity; and

21           WHEREAS, the Sheriff along with HSA, Community Works, and SFCIPP are already working  
22 to expand contact visits for children and youth under age seventeen; now therefore be it

23           RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Youth Commission commends Sheriff Mirkarimi's self-  
24 evident commitment to maintaining and promoting relationships between youth and their incarcerated  
25 parents; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the Sherriff's Department to  
2 lower the visiting age in SF county jails to 16 years old.; and be it finally

3           RESOLVED, the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the Sherriff's Department to create  
4 an accessible online inmate locator.

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