



**SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC DEFENDER**

Greater than one.

Presentation to
SF Sheriff Oversight Board

by Angela Chan
Assistant Chief Attorney, SF Public
Defender's Office

March 1, 2024

Overview of the San Francisco Public Defender's Office



What We Do

The San Francisco Public Defender protects and defends the rights of indigent adults and youth accused of crimes, and immigrants facing deportation.

We aspire to provide the highest level of legal advocacy, and to be the state and nationwide model for holistic public defense services.



Who We Are

Led by Mano Raju, California's only elected Public Defender, our team of 120 attorneys and 120 advocacy team members provide zealous, compassionate, and creative legal representation to over 20,000 people annually.



Fiercely defend individuals, confront state sponsored violence, and advocate for community power.

OUR
MISSION

Love, Compassion,
Courage, Excellence.

OUR
VALUES

OUR
THEORY OF CHANGE

When we fiercely defend individuals, confront state sponsored violence, and advocate for community power, then our communities are better able to resist injustice and fight for self-determination and freedom.

OUR
VISION

A world where collective humanity is cherished.



**SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC DEFENDER**

Public Defender

Chief Attorney

Assistant Chief Attorney |
Defend + Advocate

Felony

Misdemeanor

Mental Health

Youth
Defender

Specialty
Courts

Investigators

Immigration

Social Workers

Paralegals

Assistant Chief Attorney |
Confront + Advocate

Integrity

Communications

State & Local
Policy

Clean Slate

MAGIC
programs

The Freedom
Project

Assistant Chief Attorney |
Training + Operations

Training

Pretrial
Release

IT

Hiring

Research

Clerical

Chief of Staff |
Culture + Resources

Human
Resources

Intern, Fellow +
Volunteer Attorney
Programs

Diversity, Equity
+ Inclusion

Budget

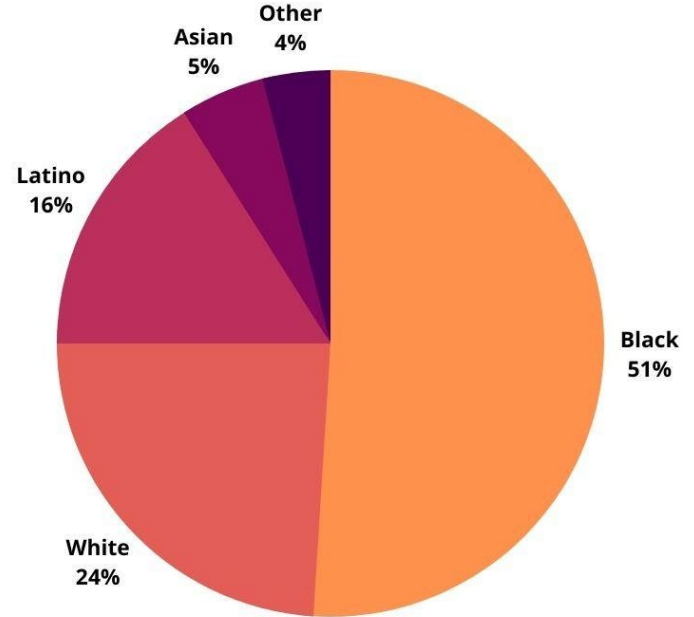
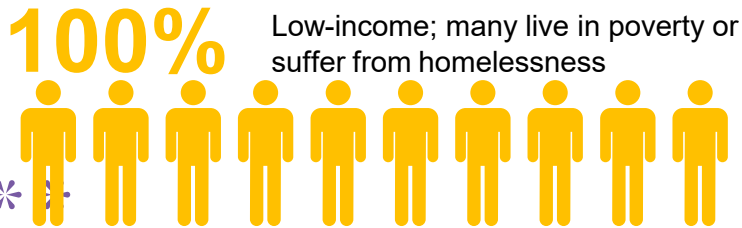
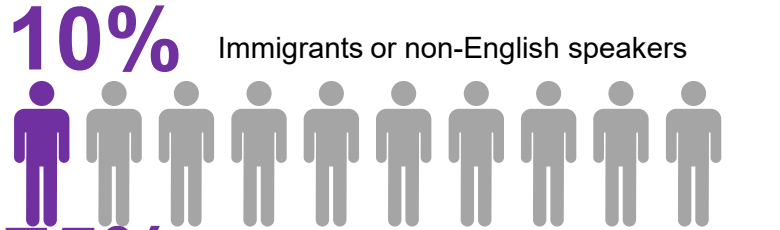
Payroll

Finance +
Accounting

Who We Defend



Our Community's Most Vulnerable and Disenfranchised



In The Courts

In 2023, our defense teams took **60** felony cases to trial.

- **40%** resulted in acquittals and hung juries
- **33%** resulted in mixed verdicts

Our attorneys also fought for and secured **2715** dismissals in felony and misdemeanor cases.

In addition to advocating for justice for our clients in the courtroom, we also:

- Connect clients to mental health, substance use, and other support services.
- Provide support and advocacy for clients in diversion programs.
- Support youth and their families with matters in the Juvenile Court System.
- Represent immigrants in removal proceedings to keep immigrant families together.
- Track misconduct and hold law enforcement accountable.



In The Courts

San Francisco Chronicle e-Edition

BAY AREA // CRIME

Homeless man not guilty of assaulting ex-S.F. fire commissioner after bear-spray defense

By David Hernandez
Updated Dec 22, 2023 6:51 p.m.

KRON4 Watch Live News Focus on Fentanyl Weather

BAY AREA

Jury acquits San Francisco woman who defended herself against stalker

by: Amy Larson
Posted: Aug 14, 2023 / 01:42 PM PDT
Updated: Aug 14, 2023 / 01:42 PM PDT

NEWS

San Francisco Police Used Force on Homeless People More Than 1,300 Times in 5 Years

Written by Noah Baustin and Michael Barba
Published Aug. 24, 2023 • 5:00am



THE SACRAMENTO BEE

Part of the McClatchy Media Network

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CALIFORNIA

Black man falsely accused of robbery in 'Karen' case, CA attorneys say. Jury acquits him


BY DANIELLA SEGURA
JANUARY 19, 2024 10:18 AM

KRON4 Watch Live News Focus on Fentanyl Weather Traffic Sports Community More Search

BAY AREA

Charges dismissed for man who was shot by San Francisco police

by: Amy Larson
Posted: Dec 21, 2023 / 02:50 PM PST
Updated: Dec 21, 2023 / 03:17 PM PST



Richard Everett smiles in the courthouse with his defense attorneys. (Image courtesy SF Public Defender's Office)

CRIME

Jury acquits homeless man accused in attack near San Francisco's Union Square

Updated on: November 13, 2023 / 1:41 PM PST / CBS Bay City News Service



SFGATE

NEWS | BAY AREA & STATE

Jury Acquits Man Wrongfully Jailed For 5 Months

Oct 29, 2023



Advancing Community Safety & Empowerment

In addition to fiercely defending low-income youth and adults in the courtroom, we advance community safety and empower communities through:

- **Magic Programs** empower youth and families in the Bayview and Western Addition/Filmore through summer literacy programs, backpack giveaways, holiday events, and regular community convenor meetings.
- **Legal Education Advocacy Program (LEAP)** advocates for marginalized youth to get their educational and safety needs met by visiting and advocating for youth in SFUSD schools every week.



Advancing Community Safety & Empowerment

- **End the Cycle Program** reduces recidivism through social workers connecting community members with services upon their first contact with the system.
- **Clean Slate Program** ensures second chances by assisting community members with obtaining expungements through daily walk-ins and monthly community clinics across the city.
- **College Pathway Project** connects our clients with opportunities to obtain a higher education at SF State and City College.



San Francisco Public Defender's Office
Announces a New Initiative With
SF State University & City College of SF



**COLLEGE
PATHWAY
PROJECT**

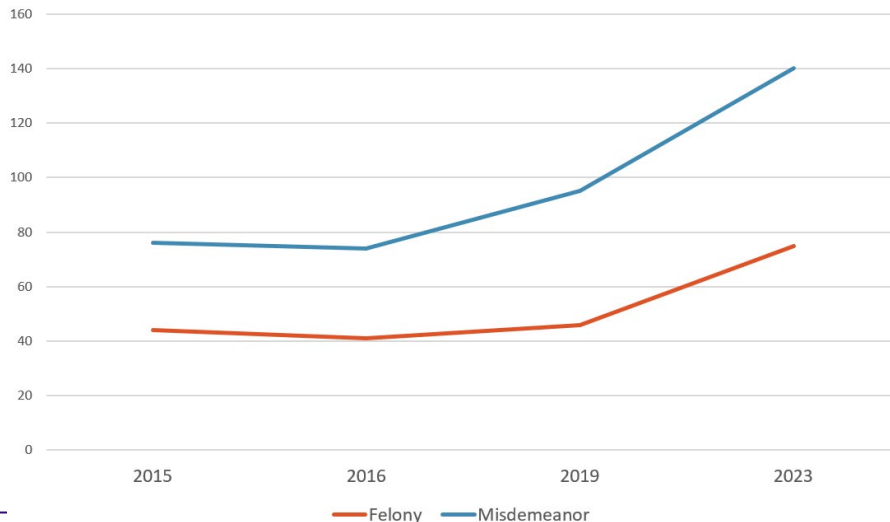


Connecting SF Public Defender system-
impacted clients with college opportunities



Challenges: Growing Workloads & Caseloads

Average Caseloads for Attorneys



Causes:

1. Trial Delays
2. Increase in DA filings
3. Decrease in DA referrals to diversion programs and specialty courts
4. Increased workloads due to changes in state law (e.g., Racial Justice Act and Mental Health Diversion) and body worn camera, video surveillance footage, and cell phone technology

Summer Sit-ins for Speedy Trials

San Francisco public defender office protests court case backlog

CBS NEWS BAY AREA

By Jose Martinez
June 9, 2023 / 5:35 PM PDT / CBS San Francisco



SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC PRESS

SEARCH NEWS SPECIAL REPORTS 'CIVIC' PODCAST KSFP RADIO NEWSPAPER NEWSLETTER ABOUT DONATE

State Supreme Court to Weigh In on Long Trial Delays

SF Public Defenders Denounce Superior Court's Failure to Uphold Right to a Speedy Trial



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TRUBLE

Judge vacations, Covid-19 rules leave more than 100 'languishing' in SF jails

1,000+ await trial; public defenders protest

by GRIFFIN JONES
JULY 12, 2023

San Francisco Chronicle e-Edition

POLITICS

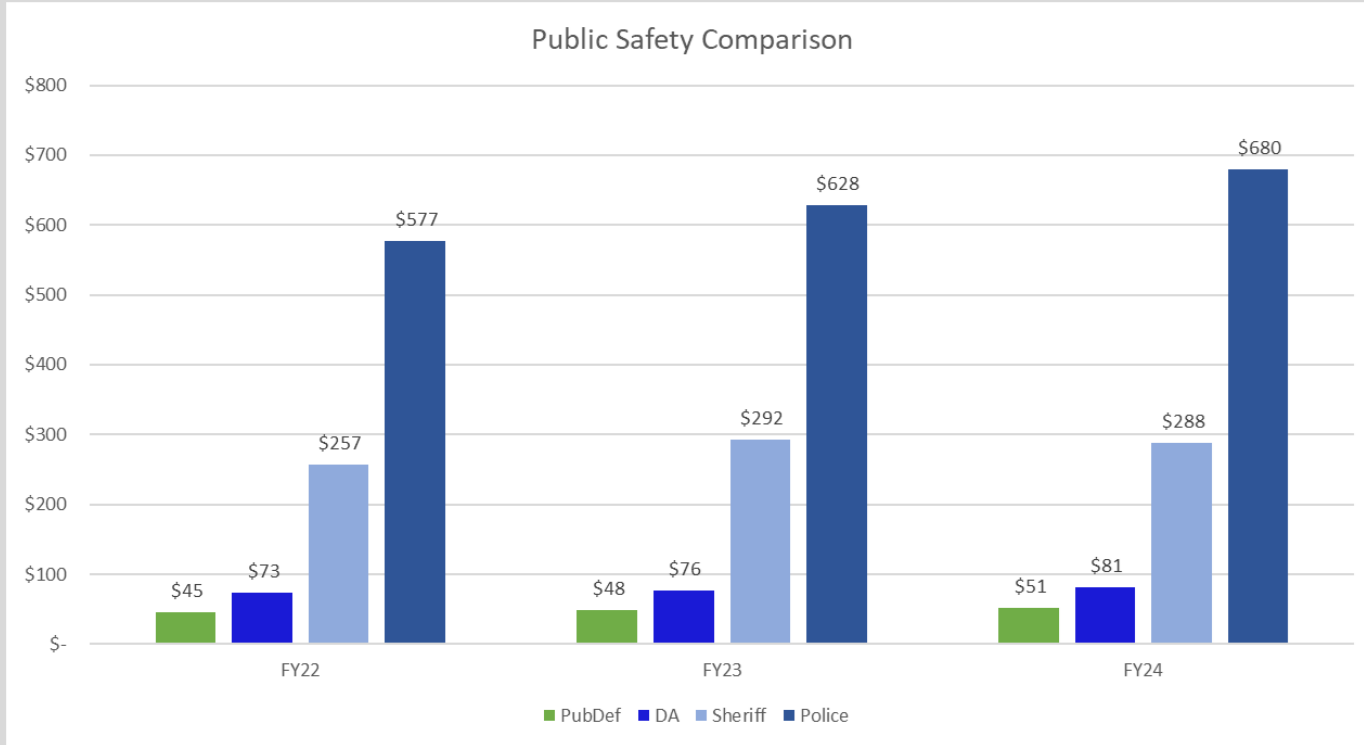
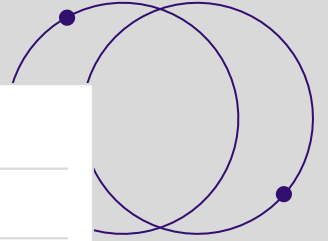
S.F. public defender, taxpayers can sue over COVID courtroom closures

By Bob Egelko
Updated June 9, 2023 4:54 p.m.

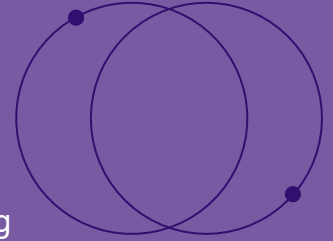
Gift Article



Challenges: Funding Disparities



Challenges: War on Drugs



No More Drug War Press Briefing
Oct. 2023

Available here:



SCAN ME



Jail Conditions



Challenges with legal visits

- Zoom visits

- In Person visits



Transportation to Court



Challenges with family visits and limited programming



Lack of sunlight & outdoor time



Questions and Contact Information

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www.sfpublisher.org

