



The Commission on the Status of Women

THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

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Commission Secretary

September 23, 2026

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear President Rafael Mandelman and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

The San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women writes to urge the Board of Supervisors to act immediately — not in the ordinary course of committee business, but with the urgency this situation demands — to vote on the removal of William M. Palmer II from his position as President of the San Francisco Sheriff's Department Oversight Board (SDOB).

Based on the San Francisco Administrative (Chapter 33A, Section 33.4, subsections (n)), the Commission is authorized to study and monitor City agencies and identify patterns and practices that have a discriminatory effect upon women and girls. The conduct and misuse of authority involving Mr. Palmer II and investigated by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is a grave concern for the wellbeing of residents in San Francisco.

The Office of the Inspector General's *Investigation Into Official Misconduct by William Palmer, President, San Francisco Sheriff's Department Oversight Board* report substantiated six separate instances of misconduct by Mr. Palmer, spanning fourteen distinct violations of the City's ethics code. Amongst multiple findings, finding #5 concluded that Mr. Palmer,

“Used his public position to seek something of value for his private benefit and used the prestige of his office and City resources for private gain or advantage. Specifically, according to the Inspector General’s report, Mr. Palmer communicated with staff at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital on July 8, 2026, identified himself as President of the Sheriff’s Department Oversight Board, and provided his business card in an effort to gain access to Jane Doe, a patient in a secure ward and a potential witness in an SFPD investigation involving him.”

The OIG concluded that this conduct violated San Francisco Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code Section 3.207(a)(1). This finding is among the multiple instances of misconduct and alleged abuse of public office documented in the report. Such findings raise significant concerns regarding the potential impact of the misuse of public authority on victims and survivors, particularly those who may already be in vulnerable circumstances.

Additionally, Mayor Daniel Lurie publicly called his continued service “unacceptable.” The San Francisco Deputy Sheriffs' Association has called for Mr. Palmer II’s resignation. Supervisor Stephen Sherrill has also stated that “the only remaining question is how to remove him in the quickest way possible.”

Furthermore, the Commission on the Status of Women asks the Board of Supervisors to act without delay and urges the Board of Supervisors to use their authority to remove Mr. William M. Palmer II immediately.

Sincerely,

Diane Jones Lowrey
President
San Francisco Commission on the
Status of Women

Ani Rivera
Vice President
San Francisco Commission on the
Status of Women