

From: [REDACTED]
To: [SFPD, Commission \(POL\)](#); [SFPD, Chief \(POL\)](#); [CMS, SFDPA \(DPA\)](#); [Youngblood, Stacy \(POL\)](#)
Subject: Strengthen SFPD's Language Access Policy (DGO 5.20) – Protect Our Immigrant Community
Date: Monday, March 30, 2026 5:59:23 PM

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Dear Police Commissioners, Chief Lew, and Department of Police Accountability,

I am writing to urge you to reject the current draft of Department General Order 5.20 on Language Access and commit to adopting a truly community-informed policy that meets San Francisco's legal and moral obligations to its immigrant and Limited English Proficient (LEP) residents.

Despite three public meetings between SFPD and community members, the current draft still fails to incorporate key community recommendations that would make this policy effective and equitable. Language access isn't an optional service—**it is a civil right and a public safety imperative**. One in five San Franciscans is LEP, and SFPD must ensure full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, state bilingual services laws, and the San Francisco Language Access Ordinance.

An effective DGO 5.20 must:

- **Mandate consistent training and oversight** to ensure officers understand their responsibility to provide language access during every public interaction.
- **Require clear reporting and accountability mechanisms** so compliance can be tracked and enforced.
- **Build trust and safety with immigrant communities** by clearly separating local policing from federal immigration enforcement, ensuring residents feel safe when seeking help or participating in investigations.

Without these protections, the proposed policy remains insufficient and risks undermining community trust. Please strengthen DGO 5.20 prior to adoption so that San Francisco can serve as a model for language equity and public safety.

I urge the Commission to stand with immigrant communities by adopting a meaningful, enforceable policy.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue and for your continued commitment to equitable policing practices.

Sincerely,

Erica Wang

Indivisible San Francisco

Showing Up for Racial Justice San Francisco

From: [REDACTED]
To: [SFPD, Commission \(POL\)](#); [Youngblood, Stacy \(POL\)](#); [SFPD, Chief \(POL\)](#); [CMS, SFDPA \(DPA\)](#)
Subject: Reject current draft of GO 5.20. Uphold language equity and immigrant rights.
Date: Wednesday, April 1, 2026 2:04:52 PM

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To:

Police commission; SFPD commission clerk Stacy A Youngblood; Police Chief Derrick Lew; Paul Henderson, Executive Director, Department of Police Accountability:

I am a San Francisco resident, voter and member of Indivisible, San Francisco. I am writing to demand a strong community informed language access policy. The language community members have worked hard to advance a policy that upholds language equity and immigrant rights. The current DGO 5.20 draft fails to meet these critical recommendations.

I am strongly urging the commission to reject this week DGO 5.20.

Language access is a basic civil right as well as a public safety concern. SFPD officers must know that language access is a right and shrine in law locally, in the state of California and federally. SFPD must comply with title seven of the civil rights act, state bilingual service laws as well as the San Francisco Language Access Ordinance.

As a nurse practitioner who has practiced in San Francisco city County, frequent training and evaluation of nursing practice is mandatory. The same standards must apply to SFPD officers who are public servants charged with protecting all of San Francisco's residence, especially including immigrants and limited English proficiency residents from harm.

Strong, clear language access policies build trust with immigrant communities through trusting relationship between them and local and federal law-enforcement like ICE and keeps San Francisco's safe.

I again urge you to reject the current draft of the DGO 5.20.

Sincerely,

Mary Scheib

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Youngblood, Stacy \(POL\)](#)
Subject: Need for stronger language on DGO 5.20 - Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, April 1, 2026 8:49:45 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Stacy Youngblood,

The current DGO 5.20 is weak and needs to be stronger. The posted draft does not include critical community recommendations discussed in three public meetings with SFPD.

Language access is a civil right and is a public safety issue. One in five San Franciscans is limited English proficient (LEP). Officers need to be aware that language access is a local, state, and federal right, enshrined in law. SFPD must comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, state bilingual services laws, and the San Francisco Language Access Ordinance.

Frequent training and oversight need to be mandatory: The DGO must ensure consistent, frequent training, reporting, and compliance to protect immigrant and LEP residents from harm.


Trust and Safety: Strong language access policies build trust with immigrant communities and prevent confusion between local police and federal enforcement agencies like ICE.

Please revise the community language access to make it stronger.

Thank you,

Priscilla Marquis, Bilingual Neuropsychologist

Priscilla Marquis, Ph.D.
[REDACTED]



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