



DANIEL LURIE
MAYOR

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
POLICE DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS
1245 3RD Street
San Francisco, California 94158



DERRICK J. LEW
CHIEF OF POLICE

May 6, 2026

Dear Honorable President Clay,

RE: DGO 5.23 – *Interactions with Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals*

On March 5, 2024, the voters approved Proposition E ("Prop E"), an initiative ordinance requiring the Commission and the Police Department to engage in a community engagement process before the Commission may agendize "any proposal to establish, modify, or abolish policies or procedures related to Department operations." (Admin. Code § 961.1(a).) The community engagement process is intended to help the Commission and Department receive public feedback on whether proposed changes to policies and procedures governing Department operations will impact the Department's ability to efficiently and effectively serve the community. The purpose of this process is to "describe the existing policies and procedures," "solicit feedback on their implementation and impacts," and "identify possible changes" rather than to consider or advocate for specific draft proposals. Prop E allows the Chief of Police to waive the community engagement process provided that certain conditions are met.

I, Derrick J. Lew, Chief of Police, have considered the following factors as required by Prop E:

- The amount of public feedback already received on the subject matter.
- The need for immediate action.
- Other factors - the proposed changes add definitions, clarity and detail which align with updated SFPD policies and procedures as well as industry best practices.

After considering all the factors, **I hereby waive the community engagement process for Department General Order 5.23, *Interactions with Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals*.**

Sincerely,

DERRICK J. LEW
Chief of Police