

PATROL SPECIALS PROGRAM

9.13.23



SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY & COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO





Members of the Patrol Specials in 1895.

The San Francisco Patrol Special Police is a private special police force that was founded in 1847 and is governed by the City Charter. | Source: Courtesy San Francisco Patrol Specials

Patrol Special Police Officers

SF Charter – Article IV, Section 4.127

- The Charter gives the Police Commission authority over the Patrol Special Police Officers including:
 - To appoint, suspend, and dismiss Patrol Special Police Officers.
 - Regulate Patrol Specials by establishing requirements for and procedures to govern the position.
 - These requirements include providing the Chief of Police with the power to suspend a patrol special police officer pending a hearing on charges.

Patrol Special Police Officers Beat Assignments

- Currently there are specific areas designated as “Patrol Specials Beats”.
- The Commission may designate Patrol Specials as the owners of a certain beat or territory established or rescinded by the Commission.
- These owners, or their legal heirs or representatives, may transfer their owned beat to a person of good moral character - once that person is approved by the Police Commission and eligible for appointment as a Patrol Special Police Officer.
- These designated beats or territories shall not affect the ability of private security companies to provide on-site security services on the inside or at the entrance of any property located in the City and County.

Patrol Special Police Officers Appointment Process/Minimum Qualifications

- A current Patrol Special Officer must sponsor and nominate applicants for Assistant Patrol Special Officer.
- Applicants must be 21 years of age and of good moral character as defined by P.O.S.T.
- Letter of nomination and sponsorship by a current Patrol Special Officer.
- High School Diploma or GED test certification.
- Completed private background investigation package of applicant.
- Applicant is required to submit to a fingerprint check to disclose criminal record.

Patrol Special Police Officers Appointment Process/Minimum Qualifications

- Letter, signed by private physician, certifying candidate to be free from any physical, emotional, or mental condition which adversely affects the applicant for duty as an Assistant Patrol Special Officer.
- POST Basic 832 course certificate or higher issued within the last 3 years. The applicant must be able to be appointed before the certificate expires.
- Valid exposed firearm permit.
- Valid guard registration card.
- Valid identification, California driver's license, U.S. passport, etc.

Patrol Special Police Officers Hiring Approval

- There is no hard timeline for a Patrol Special Background to be completed due to each applicant being unique and having a varied life experience.
- When the background investigation is complete, the background investigator will submit the background investigation packet to the Chief of Police for review and recommendation.
- After the Chief of Police makes their recommendation, the background investigation packet will be submitted to the Police Commission who will approve or disapprove the applicant.

Patrol Special Police Officers Training

- Patrol Officers are trained in the classroom and on the Police Department range.
- Officers attend 24 hours of instruction each year, according to standards and on topics set by the Chief of Police. Training occurs at the San Francisco Police Academy Regional Training Center or the equivalent thereof.
- Patrol Special Officers have met medical standards of the Police Department and have passed an extensive police background investigation before being appointed by the police commission.

**THANK YOU.
ANY QUESTIONS?**

