[Administrative Code - Approval of Surveillance Technology Policy for the Fire Department]

Ordinance approving Surveillance Technology Policy governing the use of social media monitoring software for the Fire Department.

NOTE: **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain Arial font.
Additions to Codes are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.
Deletions to Codes are in ~~*strikethrough italics Times New Roman font*~~.
Board amendment additions are in double-underlined Arial font.
Board amendment deletions are in ~~strikethrough Arial font~~.
Asterisks (* * * *) indicate the omission of unchanged Code subsections or parts of tables.

Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

Section 1. Background.

(a) Terms used in this ordinance have the meaning set forth in Administrative Code Chapter 19B ("Chapter 19B").

(b) Chapter 19B establishes requirements that City departments must follow before they may use or acquire new Surveillance Technology. Under Administrative Code Section 19B.2(a), a City department must obtain Board of Supervisors (Board) approval by ordinance of a Surveillance Technology Policy before: (1) seeking funds for Surveillance Technology; (2) acquiring or borrowing new Surveillance Technology; (3) using new or existing Surveillance Technology for a purpose, in a manner, or in a location not specified in a Board-approved Surveillance Technology ordinance; (4) entering into agreement with a non-City entity to acquire, share, or otherwise use Surveillance Technology; or (5) entering into an oral or written agreement under which a non-City entity or individual regularly provides the department with data or information acquired through the entity's use of Surveillance Technology.

(c) Under Administrative Code Section 19B.2(b), the Board may approve a Surveillance Technology Policy ordinance under Section 19B.2(a) only if: (1) the department seeking Board approval first submits to the Committee on Information Technology (COIT) a Surveillance Impact Report for the Surveillance Technology to be acquired or used; (2) based on the Surveillance Impact Report, COIT develops a Surveillance Technology Policy for the Surveillance Technology to be acquired or used; and (3) at a public meeting at which COIT considers the Surveillance Technology Policy, COIT recommends that the Board adopt, adopt with modification, or decline to adopt the Surveillance Technology Policy for the Surveillance Technology to be acquired or used.

(d) Under Administrative Code Section 19B.4, the City policy is that the Board will approve a Surveillance Technology Policy ordinance only if it determines that the benefits that the Surveillance Technology ordinance authorizes outweigh its costs, that the Surveillance Technology Policy ordinance will safeguard civil liberties and civil rights, and that the uses and deployments of the Surveillance Technology under the ordinance will not be based upon discriminatory or viewpoint-based factors or have a disparate impact on any community or Protected Class.

Section 2. Surveillance Technology Policy Ordinance for Fire Department Use of Social Media Monitoring Software.

(a) Purpose. The Fire Department seeks Board authorization under Section 19B.2(a) social media monitoring software to: (1) publish the Fire Department's content on social media; (2) communicate with social media users about Fire Department news and share information on services offered through various social media channels; (3) analyze data gathered from social media sources and print media to assess the effectiveness of outreach and optimize messaging to the public to achieve the Fire Department's communication

objectives; and (4) respond to social media users' posts about possible emergencies, fire code violations, and other situations in the purview of the Fire Department.

(b) Surveillance Impact Report. The Fire Department submitted to COIT a Surveillance Impact Report for Social Media Monitoring Software. A copy of the Fire Department Surveillance Impact Report for Non-City Entity Surveillance Cameras is on file with the Clerk of the Board in File No. 260414 and incorporated herein by reference.

(c) Public Hearings. On August 24, 2023 and September 21, 2023, inclusive, COIT and its Privacy and Surveillance Advisory Board (PSAB) conducted two public hearings at which they considered the Surveillance Impact Report referenced in subsection (b) and developed a Surveillance Technology Policy for the Fire Department's use of social media monitoring software. A copy of the Surveillance Technology Policy for the Fire Department's use of social media monitoring software ("San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD) Social Media Monitoring Software") is on file with the Clerk of the Board in File No. 260414 and incorporated herein by reference.

(d) COIT Recommendation. On September 21, 2023, COIT voted to recommend the SFFD Social Media Monitoring Software Policy to the Board for approval.

(e) Findings. The Board hereby finds that the stated benefits of the Fire Department's use of social media monitoring software outweigh the costs and risks of use of such Surveillance Technology; that the SFFD Social Media Monitoring Software Policy will safeguard civil liberties and civil rights; and that the uses and deployments of social media monitoring software, as set forth in the SFFD Social Media Monitoring Software Policy, will not be based upon discriminatory or viewpoint-based factors or have a disparate impact on any community or a protected class.

Section 3. Approval of Policy.

The Board hereby approves the SFFD Social Media Monitoring Software Policy.

Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective on the 31st day after enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within 10 days of receiving it, or the Board overrides the Mayor's veto of the ordinance.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
DAVID CHIU, City Attorney

By: /s/
Sarah Fabian
Deputy City Attorney

4902-3038-5313, v. 1

City and County of San Francisco
Tails
Ordinance

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File Number: 260414 **Date Passed:** October 27, 2026

Ordinance approving Surveillance Technology Policy governing the use of social media monitoring software for the Fire Department.

October 05, 2026 Rules Committee - RECOMMENDED

October 20, 2026 Board of Supervisors - PASSED ON FIRST READING

Ayes: 9 - Chan, Dorsey, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Sauter, Sherrill, Walton and Wong
Excused: 2 - Chen and Melgar

October 27, 2026 Board of Supervisors - FINALLY PASSED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar, Sauter, Sherrill, Walton and Wong

File No. 260414

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was FINALLY PASSED on 10/27/2026 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Daniel Lurie
Mayor

10/30/2026
Date Approved