



City and County of San Francisco

Sunshine Ordinance Task Force Complaint Committee

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,
Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Meeting Minutes

Members: Dean Schmidt (Chair), Laura Stein, and Saul Sugarman

Clerk: *Patricia Petersen*
(415) 554-7719 ~ patricia.petersen@sfgov.org

Tuesday, January 20,
2026

5:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting

City Hall, Room 408

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND AGENDA CHANGES (00:01:36)**

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. On the call of the roll, Chair Schmidt, Vice-Chair Stein, and Member Sugarman were noted present. Administrator Pat Petersen was present. There was a quorum.

The members discussed that the supporting documentation for Item 9 was omitted from the Agenda packet.

Action: Moved by Chair Schmidt, seconded by Vice-Chair Stein, to continue Item 9 re File No. 26001 to February 2026 Complaint Committee meeting.

Public Comment: None

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 – Schmidt, Stein, Sugarman

Noes: 0 – None

Absent: 0 - None

2. **Approval of the December 16, 2025, Sunshine Ordinance Task Force Complaint Committee Regular Meeting minutes (00:09:56)**

Action: Moved by Member Sugarman, seconded by Chair Schmidt, to approve the December 16, 2025 Complaint Committee Regular Meeting minutes.

Public Comment: None

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 - Sugarman, Schmidt, Stein

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 0 - None

3. **Public Comment:** Members of the public may address the Committee on matters that are within the Committee's jurisdiction but not on today's agenda. (00:10:54)

Public Comment: Patrick Monette-Shaw stated that he will be using his computer and its read aloud audio playback feature for his matter (Item 6).

4. **File No. 25128:** Complaint filed by Mark LaCroix against San Francisco Fire Commission for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.8-1, by failing to record audio or audio and video of closed sessions and retain all such records for at least ten years, Section(s) 67.14, by failing to audio record each regular and special meeting, and Section(s) 67.21, by failing to respond to a public records request in a timely and/or complete manner. (00:12:35)

Mark LaCroix (Petitioner) provided a summary of his position and stated that after his request for audio or video records of either open or closed 2022 separation hearings, most of the recordings became unavailable.

Kathy Aguas-Aclan (Respondent) provided a summary of the department's position, and stated that transcripts prepared by a certified court reporter of the open-session portion of the separation hearing have been provided to Petitioner, that no further records were found, and that the department is expects a response from IT by 10/21/2025 as to whether they have in their archives any of the recordings requested.

A question-and-answer period occurred.

Action: Moved by Vice-Chair Stein, seconded by Member Sugarman, that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and recommends a finding that the San Francisco Fire Commission violated Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section 67.21, for failing to respond to a public records request (PRR) in a timely manner since part of the PRR was responded to late; i.e letting petitioner know whether audio and video recordings existed. The Committee also recommends finding a Section 67.14(b) violation since the meetings were audio-recorded but were later destroyed after 360 days. The Committee finds that the sessions, which occurred during the Mayor's Orders on Covid, were recorded remotely by Webex, but later destroyed by Webex and notes, however, that it was the responsibility of the Fire Commission to ensure they were kept for ten (10) years. The Committee recommends finding no Section 67.8-1 violation because separate audio recordings were made by the Fire Commission, though these are not disclosable at present. The Committee forwards the matter to the Consent Agenda, noting that written transcripts were provided. The Committee ordered that under Section 67.21,

Respondent is to produce any remaining audio tapes, including the 4/5/2022 recording available and the 3 items the commission secretary said she downloaded onto the computer but hasn't been produced. The Committee referred the matter to the Education, Outreach, and Training Committee to follow up with Webex to ensure that recordings of special meetings are retained as Section 67.14 requires and to ensure compliance with this order.

Public Comment: Michael Crotty, former San Francisco Firefighter, commented that other commissions do not appear to have a retention problem regarding recordings and that the ones that are missing are important to firefighters who are involved in litigation.

Patrick Monette-Shaw urged the Complaint Committee to follow up on Mr. Crotty's concerns.

Michael Petrelis stated his appreciation for questions about devices that are used to record meetings.

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 – Stein, Sugarman, Schmidt

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 0 - None

5. **File No. 25129:** Complaint filed by Anonymous (SFG) against Office of the Mayor for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.21, by failing to respond to a public records request in a timely and/or complete manner. (01:16:03)

Anonymous (SFG) (Petitioner) was not present.

Dexter Darmali, Office of the Mayor (Respondent) was present.

Action: Moved by Chair Schmidt, seconded by Vice-Chair Stein, to close the matter per Sunshine Ordinance Task Force Complaint Procedure Section C(7)(b).

Public Comment: None

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 - Schmidt, Stein, Sugarman

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 0 - None

6. **File No. 25130:** Complaint filed by Patrick Monette-Shaw against the Commission Streamlining Task Force, Ed Harrington, Sophia Kittler and Deputy City Attorney Jon Givner for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.7, by failing to post an agenda at least 72 hours before a regular meeting containing a

meaningful description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed at the meeting. (01:20:05)

Patrick Monette-Shaw (Petitioner) provided a summary of his position and stated that Ed Harrington introduced a motion to bring back the Reentry Council for at a future meeting for further discussion and action, that Sophia Kittler asked whether there was a Brown Act concern if the matter were discussed, that the Deputy City Attorney stated that the item could be discussed, and that ultimately a motion was introduced to restore the Reentry Council

Rachel Alonso (Respondent) provided a summary of the Commission's position and stated it has been made clear that decisions have been preliminary or tentative, that decision to date are available online in a decision log and are eligible for discussion, and that DCA Jon Givner said that the Reentry Council was in the scope of the Agenda Notice.

A question-and-answer period occurred.

Action: Moved by Vice-Chair Stein, seconded by Member Sugarman, to find that the Task Force that this is a public meeting under the Task Force's jurisdiction, and forward the matter to the full Task Force for consideration.

Public Comment: Michael Petrelis stated his support for Petitioner.

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 – Stein, Sugarman, Schmidt
Noes: 0 - None
Absent: 0 - None

7. **File No. 25133:** Complaint filed by Michael Petrelis against the Office of the Mayor for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.29-5, by failing to provide a Prop G calendar in a timely and/or complete manner. (01:40:17)

Michael Petrelis (Petitioner) provided a summary of his complaint and stated that disclosure forms on the Ethics Commission website show contacts by Pacific Gas and Electric with the mayor and these contacts have not been disclosed.

Dexter Darmali (Respondent) provided a summary of the department's position and stated that the disclosures at the Ethics Commission are with intermediaries who are disclosed if the lobbyist believes that the intermediary may inform the public official of the contact. Mr. Darmali further stated that the Prop G calendar is correct because the contacts were with the Mayor's Office Housing and Community Development and not the Mayor.

A question-and-answer period occurred.

Action: moved by Vice-Chair Stein, seconded by Chair Schmidt, to find that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and refers the matter to the Consent Agenda with a finding of no violation of Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.29-5 by the office of the Mayor because the meetings listed by the lobbyists on the Lobbyist Report were not with the Mayor but with his staff. The Committee further finds that no entry therefore needed to appear on the Mayor's Prop G Calendar.

Public Comment: None

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 – Stein, Schmidt, Sugarman

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 0 - None

The meeting was in recess from 7:33 p.m. until 7:45 pm.

8. **File No. 25134:** Complaint filed by Minh Cantarutti against Homeless and Supportive Housing for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.21, by failing to respond to a public records request in a timely and/or complete manner. (02:13:00)

Administrator Petersen stated that the Notice of Hearing had been sent to Petitioner at an incorrect email address, that Petitioner agreed to a continuance of the matter, and that Respondent accepted the continuance.

Action: Moved by Chair Schmidt, seconded by Vice-Chair Stein, to continue the matter to the 1/27/2026 meeting of the Education, Outreach, and Training Committee.

Public Comment: None.

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 – Schmidt, Stein, Sugarman

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 0 - None

9. **File No. 26001:** Complaint filed by Anonymous (MAN) against San Francisco Police Department for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.21, by failing to respond to a public records request in a timely and/or complete manner. (02:16:45)

See, action taken at Item 1.

10. **File No. 26002:** Complaint filed by Charles Denny against San Francisco Police Department for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.21, by failing to respond to a public records request in a timely and/or complete manner, 67.26, by failing to keep withholdings to a minimum, and 67.27, by failing to provide written justification of withholdings. (02:16:45)

Charles Denny (Petitioner) provided a summary of his complaint and stated that his request was for confirmation of whether the SFPD maintains any administrative systems used to track the handling of investigative case files including but not limited to file access logs, routing logs, digitization lots or custody transfer records, but that Respondent responded that his request was unclear and did not offer assistance.

Lt. William Heppler (Respondent) provided a summary of the Department's position and stated that the department was unable to search and produce records because Petitioner's request did not seek the identification of any specific record, and the department does not know what the complaint means by a general administrative record for case files maintained by numerous police department units over the course of more than 20 years. Lt. Heppler further stated that the department does not maintain a system of administrative handling of case files on a department-wide basis and any specific records would be tied to a time frame.

A question-and-answer period occurred.

Action: Moved by Schmidt, seconded by Vice-Chair Stein, to find that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and refers the matter to the full Task Force for consideration. There is no recommendation, but the Task Force should consider among other possible violations 67.21(c) 67.22(a) in its determinations.

Public Comment: None

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 – Schmidt, Stein, Sugarman

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 0 - None

11. **Hearing re Advancing Sunshine Ordinance Task Force Section 67.3 Roles.**

Chair Schmidt will agendize proposed changes to the Task Force Bylaws for the March 2026 Task Force meeting.

12. **Announcements, Comments, Questions, and Future Agenda Items by Members of the Complaint Committee.**

Member Sugarman stated that he found the request to justify the Complaint Committee's agenda punitive.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

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DRAFT