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1245 3<sup>rd</sup> Street San Francisco, CA 94158

November 10, 2015

**Dear Police Commissioners:** 

In January 2015 The Bar Association of San Francisco (BASF) convened the Criminal Justice Task Force (Task Force), which is composed of prosecutors, defense attorneys, civil rights attorneys, law professors, the judiciary, members of law enforcement (police and sheriff) and police oversight agencies. The Task Force formed several subcommittees to examine current practices impacting racial bias and discrimination in the criminal justice system in San Francisco. One of the sub-committees was formed to review Body Camera Protocols in light of the city's intention to equip all officers of the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) with body worn cameras. Teresa Caffese, a member of the Task Force and BASF Board of Directors, participated in the Police Commission's Working Group to establish a Body Camera Protocol for SFPD.

We have been informed that a protocol for body worn cameras has been referred by the Working Group to the Police Commission for review and public comment. Of considerable importance to us is whether an officer should have the opportunity to review body camera footage prior to authoring a police report. We are aware that the Police Commission has received correspondence, testimony and public comment on this issue.

BASF's Criminal Justice Task Force members have had extensive discussions on this issue. After a robust debate, we have reached a consensus. BASF believes an officer should not review body camera footage in two specific instances: (1) in any case where there is any use of force by an officer; and (2) if the officer is the subject of any criminal or administrative investigation. In these two situations, BASF believes an officer should not be allowed to review body worn camera footage prior to making any report or statement, as recording the officer's perception of these events without any outside



influence is essential. BASF strongly supports this position and requests the Police Commission include this provision in the protocol policy.

BASF also encourages the Police Commission to require periodic review of the protocol. These reviews would provide an opportunity for additional research and study to ensure that SFPD has the most effective and efficient body worn camera protocol available. The reviews should focus on the financial impact of allowing officers to bill overtime to watch video footage prior to writing their reports. It also should assess whether the policy impedes the officers' independent recollection of the events. A critical study of these areas should be done to ensure that the most effective protocol is established.

Sincerely,

Timothy Moppin 2015 President

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## Members of BASF's Criminal Justice Task Force

Chairs:		•	
Tom	Meyer	Attorney	Civil rights/defense attorney, national expert - grand/petit juries
Sharon	Woo	District Attorney's Office	Chief Attorney, SF District Attorney's Office
BASF Liaisons:	<b>T</b>	TI D A	Di si Si DiC Co si Busanana Attanzana minata amatika
Julie	Traun	The Bar Association of San Francisco	Director of LRIS Court Programs, Attorney private practice
Raquel	Cabading	The Bar Association of San Francisco	CLE Director
Betsy	Wolkin	The Bar Association of San Francisco	Attorney Administrator, Indigent Defense Administration Executive Director and General Counsel of The Bar Association of San Francisco/ Executive Director and General Counsel of the Justice &
Yolanda	Jackson	BASF and The Justice & Diversity Center	Diversity Center Of The Bar Association of San Francisco
TF Members			,
Yonina	Alexander	Sanford Heisler Kimpel, LLP	Sanford Heisler Kimpel, LLP - Attorney
Laurel	Beeler	United States District Court	US District Court Federal Magistrate Judge
Teresa Commander	Caffese	Law Offices of Teresa Caffese	Private defense attorney, BASF Board, current chair, BASF's CJAC
Toney	Chaplin	San Francisco Police Department	Commander, Investigations Bureau, SFPD
Kate	Chatfield	Law Offices of Reisman and Chatfield	Private defense attorney
Susan	Christian	District Attorney's Office	Chair, SF Human Rights Commission
Nanci	Clarence	Clarence Dyer & Cohen LLP	Private defense attorney, former BASF President
Edwin	Lindo		Law school graduate
Manuel	Fortes	Office of Citizens Complaints	Office of Citizens Complaints - Trial Attorney
Eric	Fleming	District Attorney's Office	Managing Attorney of Homicide, SF District Attorney's Office
Matt	Gonzalez	Office of the Public Defender	Chief Attorney, SF District Attorney's Office Private defense attorney, Former BASF Board, former Chair, BASF's
Stuart	Hanlon	Law Offices of Stuart Hanlon	CJAC
Paul	Henderson	San Francisco Mayor's Office	Deputy Chief of Staff, Public Safety, Office of the Mayor
Cloey	Hewlett	Nossaman LLP	Legislation and policy work, former BASF Board
Joyce	Hicks	Office of Citizens Complaints	Executive Director
Chris	Hite	San Francisco Public Defender's Office	Deputy Public Defender, Co-Chair, Racial Justice Committee - PD Office
Teri	Jackson	San Francisco Superior Court (Incoming Presiding Judge)	
Erin	Katayama	HAP (Homeless Advocacy Project) of BASF	HAP Staff Attorney
Frank	Leidman	Law Offices of Frank Leidman & CTLA Rep	private defense attorney
Whitney	Leigh	Gonzalez & Leigh LLP CA Department of Justice - Office of the Attorney	private attorney, civil rights President of SF Police Commission (Office the California Attorney
Suzy	Loftus	General	General)
Sharon	Meadows	University of San Francisco - School of Law	USF, Professor, Criminal Clinic
Felicia 	Medina	Sanford Heisler Kimpel, LLP	Plaintiff's attorney and JDC Board Member
Tim	Moppin	Bassi Edlin Huie & Blum ACLU- American Civil Liberties Union of Northern	2015 BASF President
Alan	Schlosser	California	Attorney - Senior Counsel
Brian	Stretch	U.S. Attorney's Office	Interim US Attorney, Northern District of California
John	Trasviña	University of San Francisco - School of Law	Dean, USF School of Law
Freya	Horne	San Francisco Sheriff	Attorney to Sheriff

SF Public Defender

SF District Attorney

Grand Juries, Officers complaints

Jeff

Judge (Ret) LaDoris

George

Adachi

Cordell

Gascon

San Francisco Public Defender's Office

District Attorney's Office

Independent Police Auditor, City of San Jose