
MAYOR LURIE TAKES ACTION TO PROTECT SAN FRANCISCO'S IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES, SUPPORT IMMIGRANT LEGAL DEFENSE

From: Chan, Angela (PDR) [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 4:12 PM
To: [REDACTED] Friedman, Jennifer (PDR) [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: MAYOR LURIE TAKES ACTION TO PROTECT SAN FRANCISCO'S IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES, SUPPORT IMMIGRANT LEGAL DEFENSE

Hi [REDACTED],

Apologies for my delay in responding as I was out for part of last week. Yes, this press release from the Mayor's Office was in regard to the funding from Crankstart. There hasn't been additional funding. The Mayor's Office did not coordinate with us regarding this press release.

Best wishes,
Angela

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 2:57 PM
To: Friedman, Jennifer (PDR) [REDACTED] Chan, Angela (PDR) [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: MAYOR LURIE TAKES ACTION TO PROTECT SAN FRANCISCO'S IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES, SUPPORT IMMIGRANT LEGAL DEFENSE

That was the first thought I had given the timing. Thanks, Jennifer, for your quick response. If it turns out that there is additional funding coming to your office, please let me know. Thanks, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Principal, [REDACTED] and Nonprofit Consultant
Consulting

On Tue, Aug 5, 2025 at 2:52 PM Friedman, Jennifer (PDR) [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi [REDACTED]

Its my understanding that we didn't know that this press release was coming but as far as I can tell, its the Crankstart funding. I'm certainly not aware of any other new funding coming to us.

Thanks,
Jennifer

Jennifer T. Friedman

(she/her)

Deputy Public Defender, Immigration Defense Unit

San Francisco Office of the Public Defender

555 7th Street

San Francisco, CA 94103
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 2:42 PM

To: Friedman, Jennifer (PDR) [REDACTED]; Chan, Angela (PDR) [REDACTED]

Subject: Fwd: MAYOR LURIE TAKES ACTION TO PROTECT SAN FRANCISCO'S IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES, SUPPORT IMMIGRANT LEGAL DEFENSE

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Dear Jennifer and Angela,

Is this new funding for the Office of the Public Defender or the funding pending from Crankstart?

Thanks for clarifying, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Philanthropy, Movement and Nonprofit Consultant
Principal, [REDACTED] Consulting

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Michael Pappas

Date: Tue, Aug 5, 2025 at 1:43 PM

Subject: Fwd: MAYOR LURIE TAKES ACTION TO PROTECT SAN FRANCISCO'S IMMIGRANT

COMMUNITIES, SUPPORT IMMIGRANT LEGAL DEFENSE

To: [REDACTED]

FYI

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From: **Press Office, Mayor (MYR)** <mayorspressoffice@sfgov.org>

Date: Tue, Aug 5, 2025 at 1:18PM

Subject: MAYOR LURIE TAKES ACTION TO PROTECT SAN FRANCISCO'S IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES, SUPPORT IMMIGRANT LEGAL DEFENSE

To: Press Office, Mayor (MYR) <mayorspressoffice@sfgov.org>



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 5, 2025

Contact: Charles Kretchmer Lutvak, 415-575-5617, mayorspressoffice@sfgov.org.

**MAYOR LURIE TAKES ACTION TO PROTECT SAN FRANCISCO'S IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES,
SUPPORT IMMIGRANT LEGAL DEFENSE**

Secures More than \$3 Million in Philanthropic Dollars to Bolster City's Immigrant Legal Defense

Marks Another Step from Mayor Lurie to Support Immigrant Community Despite Historic Budget Deficit

SAN FRANCISCO – Mayor Daniel Lurie today announced another step taken to protect San Francisco's immigrant communities, securing \$3.4 million in philanthropic funding to support immigrant legal defense work. The new funding will allow the San Francisco Public Defender's Office to hire additional attorneys and staff to support immigration legal defense efforts. With the additional support from philanthropic partners, San Francisco is now funding immigrant legal defense at higher levels than the previous budget.

The new funding builds on Mayor Lurie's work to protect the immigrant community, even during an historically difficult budget cycle. In July, the mayor signed his budget for Fiscal Years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027—[preserving important support for legal services](#) for the city's immigrant community, LGBTQ+ community, and families while closing an \$800 million deficit.

"In this year's budget, we protected critical funding to provide legal defense services for our immigrant neighbors—even while closing an \$800 million deficit that required painful cuts in other areas. Now, we've secured more than \$3 million to build on this work through the Public Defender's Office, ensuring that immigrants can access legal counsel, even in deportation proceedings," said **Mayor Lurie**. "Under our city's longstanding policies, local law enforcement does not assist with federal immigration enforcement. These policies help everyone in our city feel comfortable working with our police officers, they make all of San Francisco safer, and as mayor, I will continue to uphold them."

"San Francisco has always been a beacon for immigrants, and amidst growing threats of deportation from our federal government our immigrant communities deserve to feel safe and protected," said **District 5 Supervisor Bilal Mahmood**. "I was honored to cosponsor this legislation to ensure we increase funding and staffing for our Public Defender's Immigration Defense Unit and ensure residents have increased access to proper legal representation and a fairer chance to fight their deportation cases."

The legislation—sponsored and signed by Mayor Lurie and cosponsored by Supervisor Mahmood—authorizes the San Francisco Public Defender's Office to accept and expend a \$3.4 million philanthropic grant to expand the capacity of the Immigration Defense Unit to meet the increased demand for immigration defense services until March 2029. The grant will allow the unit to add four new positions to work on issues of immigration defense.

In addition to protecting important support for legal services in the budget, Mayor Lurie's administration is:

- Maintaining and reaffirming city and state policies that prohibit law enforcement and city departments from engaging in, supporting, or facilitating immigration enforcement activities.
- Working with local law enforcement agencies to ensure that all sworn and civilian staff receive updated training on the city's sanctuary policy and ensuring all city staff are aware of the resources and services available to the community.
- Directing San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) leadership to immediately notify the Mayor's Office if SFPD is ever called to the scene of an immigration enforcement action to protect public safety—allowing the Mayor's Office to help maintain open lines of communication with the public and prevent confusion.
- Conducting regular emergency preparedness exercises with SFPD, San Francisco Sheriff's Office, San Francisco Fire Department, Department of Emergency Management, and other city departments to prepare to respond in the event of particular scenarios related to federal immigration enforcement in the city.
- Convening meetings with heads of local law enforcement agencies, community leaders, and immigrant-serving organizations to open direct lines of communication, monitor community impact, and receive feedback.
- Ensuring local law enforcement continues to protect the safety and rights of every San Franciscan to peacefully practice their First Amendment rights.

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Michael G. Pappas, M.Div
Executive Director

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