



**To: Mayor Lurie, Members of the Board of Supervisors, Sheriff Miyamoto and DA Jenkins**

**Cc: Sheriff Oversight Board, Commission on the Status of Women, Human Rights Commission**

Tuesday, December 16, 2025.

Dear Mayor Lurie, Members of the Board of Supervisors, Sheriff Miyamoto, and DA Jenkins,

**On behalf of over thirty human rights organizations, we are writing to you to express our profound and ongoing concerns regarding the treatment of women and trans people of all genders in the San Francisco County Jail. We are specifically troubled by the horrific [May 22nd mass strip search of women in the jail and the deeply troubling harassment of women that has followed](#). We are outraged by the degrading and inhumane treatment of our incarcerated siblings and demand substantive, and prompt change.**

Genuine public safety requires the protection of people who are the most vulnerable, including people who are incarcerated. City policies that have prioritized an extreme punishment approach to social challenges have filled our jails to capacity and are directly endangering cis-gender and trans women who have been caught in the system. We are also deeply

concerned that the Sheriff's Office is effectively condoning gendered violence in the jail by failing to take the reports of the mass strip searches seriously and by allowing the supervisors and deputies involved to remain in positions of authority over the impacted women. To date, our understanding is that no one involved has even been removed from Pod B. We urge you to address this situation with the utmost urgency.

Below is a set of immediate and necessary actions that we call on you to implement.

#### **Demands to the San Francisco Sheriff's Office**

- Immediately suspend all deputies and supervisors involved.
- Remove all deputies and supervisors involved from the jail during the investigation.
- Require a fully independent, community-informed investigation of the mass strip searches and the harassment of detained women that has continued. An internal review is not sufficient.
- Prioritize the safety and dignity of incarcerated women and trans people in all jail operations.
- Make community-based counseling available to the survivors of the strip-search. Survivors report serious trauma from what happened and urgently require counseling from independent providers which could be easily accommodated.
- Advocate to the DA for pre-trial release of all impacted women.
- Adopt a policy of only allowing strip searches in the jail if there is individualized reasonable suspicion that a person is concealing contraband that cannot be detected through a less intrusive search.
- Secure and restrict access to any body-worn camera footage of the May 22nd strip searches so that any personnel who were involved with the strip searches cannot view or alter it. Delete all footage after investigations by an independent investigation and litigation is completed.

#### **Demands to the District Attorney's Office**

- Support pre-trial release of the impacted women.
- Consider the strip searches and resulting trauma as mitigating factors in the impacted women's cases.
- Consider non-jail alternatives wherever possible in charging and resolution decisions.

#### **Demands to Mayor Lurie and the San Francisco Board of Supervisors**

- Fully fund the Sheriff's Oversight Board and hire a qualified and experienced independent Inspector General to ensure meaningful and sustained jail oversight.
- Withhold any new funding to the Sheriff's Office until the community's demands are met.
- Prioritize non-jail alternatives in all relevant city policies, initiatives, and budgeting decisions.
- Fund counseling and support services for women and trans people impacted by law enforcement violence.

We look forward to your response and to the concrete actions needed to protect the dignity, safety, and human rights of the women in San Francisco's jails.

Sincerely,

Julia Arroyo

Executive Director, Young Women's Freedom Center

On behalf of the organizations listed below:

Young Women's Freedom Center  
California Coalition of Women Prisoners  
Californians for Safety and Justice  
San Francisco Public Defender's Office  
Harvey Milk Democratic Club  
Latino Taskforce  
San Francisco Women's Housing Coalition  
Sister Warriors Freedom Coalition  
All of Us or None  
Legal Services for Prisoners with Children  
Ella Baker Center for Human Rights  
Roadmap to Peace  
Nuestra Causa  
CURYJ - Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice  
Anti Police Terror Project  
Critical Resistance  
Lavender Phoenix  
SF Women Against Rape  
WOMAN, INC.  
Coalition on Homelessness  
Silicon Valley De-Bug  
AROC Action  
Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights  
California Alliance for Retired Americans SF Action Team  
Black Women Revolt Against Domestic Violence  
Parent Voices  
Indivisible SF  
Youth Leadership Institute  
People's Budget Coalition  
La Raza Community Resource Center  
Center on Juvenile & Criminal Justice