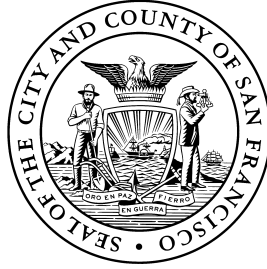


City and County of
San Francisco



Board of Supervisors,
District 6

MATT DORSEY

麥德誠

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Matt Dorsey
Matt.Dorsey@sfgov.org

For immediate release:
Saturday, May 28, 2022

San Diego Pride’s agreement with LGBTQ+ uniformed first responders renews hope for an inclusive S.F. Pride Parade

Citing need to recruit more LGBTQ+ first responders, Gay supervisor lauds San Diego Pride for showing ‘that common ground can be found’ between first responders, activists

SAN FRANCISCO (May 28, 2022) — Citing a [news report](#) by the *Bay Area Reporter* yesterday that San Diego Pride officials reached a compromise that will allow law enforcement officers to march in uniform in that city’s pride parade in July, San Francisco Supervisor Matt Dorsey praised the organization’s leaders “for showing all of us that common ground can be found between LGBTQ+ first responders and activists,” adding: “This news makes me very hopeful that we can still forge an acceptable compromise” with officials from San Francisco Pride.

Dorsey, who became the San Francisco Board of Supervisors’ second gay member when he was sworn in as Mayor London Breed’s pick to fill the District 6 vacancy earlier this month, has asked the Pride board to reverse its decision barring uniformed first responders from the City’s police, fire and sheriff’s departments to march in the parade. Dorsey plans to meet with City and community leaders next week to push for a mutually agreeable compromise that would send a more welcoming and inclusive message to prospective LGBTQ+ job candidates in order to meet widespread public safety staffing shortages in San Francisco.

Supervisor Dorsey's remarks were first published in a [multi-part thread on Twitter](#), which is included here:

(1/10) I'm grateful to @SanDiegoPride for showing all of us that common ground *can* be found between LGBTQ+ first responders and activists. This news makes me very hopeful that we can still forge an acceptable compromise with @SFPRide.

<https://twitter.com/outtoprotect/status/1530556163565113345?s=21&t=HqEqCuIO7Ctw5Uz6xSjk3w>

(2/10) At a time when most U.S. cities are struggling to not only fill, but to *diversify* the diminishing ranks of our sworn public safety agencies, excluding S.F.'s uniformed LGBTQ+ first responders from the @SFPRide Parade sends exactly the wrong message.

(3/10) As a gay S.F. supervisor, I want prospective LGBTQ+ police, firefighters, EMTs and sheriffs to choose San Francisco — not San Diego — to pursue public safety careers where their service will be valued and celebrated.

(4/10) The way we can attract more LGBTQ+ qualified first-responder candidates to San Francisco is by welcoming them, not by shunning them — showcasing our city's core values of diversity, equity and inclusion.

(5/10) A policy of exclusion, which prohibits LGBTQ+ first responders and allies from marching in uniform in the @SFPRide Parade, sends exactly the wrong message — and at a time when S.F. can ill afford to do so.

(6/10) That's why I applaud the leadership of San Francisco Mayor @LondonBreed, San Diego @MayorToddGloria, and, yes, Tenderloin Mayor Del Seymour...



(7/10) ...for sending the *right* message to LGBTQ+ first responders and prospective public safety candidates.

(8/10) I feel strongly that we should be celebrating the service of our first responders, not stigmatizing it. That's why I, too, stand in solidarity with our LGBTQ+ police, firefighters, EMTs, sheriffs and their allies.

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:25e76a34-5f51-3ed9-97e2-bfeb120a5dcc>

(9/10) It's important to remember: for sworn public safety personnel, uniforms aren't merely a dress code. They're what we require of those who put their lives on the line every day to keep us safe.

(10/10) Let's honor their service and sacrifice. Let's especially celebrate LGBTQ+ community members who've so bravely led change from within our sworn public safety ranks for decades. And let's find common ground — as @SanDiegoPride did — for an inclusive @SF Pride in 2022.



The San Francisco Pride Parade for 2022 will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 26, 2022. More information is available at <https://sfpride.org>.

###