

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC DEFENDER



**WE ARE
COMMUNITY
SAFETY**

2024 CALENDAR



MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

In 2023, the San Francisco Office of the Public Defender strengthened our client- and community-centered approach, achieved excellent legal outcomes for our clients, and provided innovative support to our communities. Many of our indigent clients and their families are impacted by our city's public health and affordable housing crises. Everyone deserves to feel safe, and we know that so many of our shared struggles come from people not having their basic needs met. Public defenders are uniquely positioned to play a key role in community safety because of the trust we are privileged to build with our clients, which allows us to help identify what they need to be healthy and safe.

In this year's calendar, our clients generously shared their stories to illustrate what community safety looks like. Their stories are ones of joy, sadness, struggle, and perseverance. Their successes inspire us. We thank them for their courage and willingness to be part of this calendar to demonstrate what can happen when people who have experienced the criminal system are supported and encouraged to thrive.

The Public Defender's Office plays a key role in advancing community safety through our holistic approach to client representation, which builds on our fierce courtroom advocacy. Our social workers and our Mental Health Unit connect our clients with culturally competent and language-accessible support services. Our MAGIC programs have established deep roots in disadvantaged neighborhoods, working with young people and supporting their families to keep them on a positive path. Our Clean Slate program, College Pathway Project and Freedom Project help to remove obstacles for system-impacted individuals seeking education, housing and jobs. And our Confront and Advocate team works for policy change at the state and local level, challenging inequities in the criminal legal system and expanding opportunities for vulnerable communities.

This year, our office fought hard for clients in and out of the courtroom. All 17 of our units work in tandem to challenge state violence, address the root causes of incarceration, and above all, foster community safety.

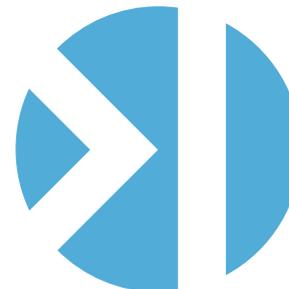
As we embark on a new year, I'd like to express gratitude for the brilliant minds, big hearts, and dedicated efforts of our Public Defender team. Our Office also extends gratitude to our clients who inspire us with their strength and resilience. We look forward to continuing to build a safer and more just community for us all!



In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mano Raju". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mano Raju
San Francisco Public Defender



**SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC DEFENDER**

Greater than one.

MISSION STATEMENT

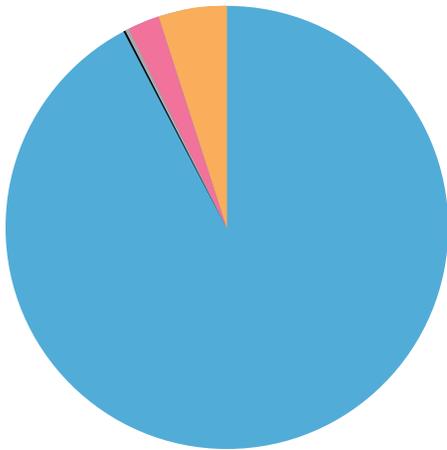
The San Francisco Office of the Public Defender delivers zealous, compassionate, and client-centered legal representation to more than 20,000 indigent persons accused of crimes, facing deportation, and/or involved in conservatorship matters in San Francisco, while advocating for systemic changes to benefit the City's most disenfranchised and disempowered.

BUDGET

Budget: In fiscal year 2022-2023, the budget for the Public Defender's Office was \$50,185,337 with 209.60 employees full-time employees.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES

91% of the Public Defender's FY2022-23 budget went to salaries and benefits. Services of other departments (5%), non-personnel services (4%), Programmatic Projects (1%) and materials and supplies (.29%) made up the remaining 9% of the budget.



SALARIES & FRINGE BENEFITS

\$45,511,255

SERVICES OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS

\$2,339,523

NON-PERSONNEL SERVICES

\$1,873,474

PROGRAMMATIC PROJECTS

\$314,276

MATERIALS & SUPPLIES

\$146,809

CASES FISCAL YEAR 2022-23

5,838	Felony	1,546	Collaborative Courts
4,636	Misdemeanor	351	Immigration
3,775	Youth Defender		Mental Health Unit:
2,306	Clean Slate	2,780	Civil
		476	Forensic

NEW INITIATIVES/PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Initiating the “End the Cycle” program: We hired two Social Workers to work in our Pretrial Release Unit (PRU), which meets with clients soon after they are booked into the jail, before their first court appearance. Additionally, due to the new social workers being Spanish-speaking, our Office was able to increase our support of Spanish-speaking and immigrant clients. We continue to connect as many clients as possible who are charged with lower-level felonies and misdemeanors with services, such as treatment, shelter or housing, and employment. We empower our clients to prevent the downward spiral so many indigent individuals and families face once they become ensnared in the criminal legal system.

Clean Slate Expansion: In May 2023, our Clean Slate Unit partnered with Californians for Safety and Justice to announce the rollout of SB 731, a new state law that furthers community safety by expanding expungement opportunities to millions of Californians with convictions that were previously ineligible. SB 731 implementation continues locally and statewide over the next year with new processes and a goal of automated expungements in many cases. Over the last several years, Clean Slate established partnerships leading to monthly community clinics at community-based organizations in underserved neighborhoods in San Francisco.

College Pathway Project: In September of 2023, we announced a new community empowerment initiative, the College Pathway Project, which formalizes partnerships with San Francisco State University's Project Rebound and City College of San Francisco's New Directions programs, to expand opportunities for current and former Public Defender clients to attend college. Programs like these are powerful tools for expanding job opportunities, keeping people out of the criminal system, and strengthening communities.

Summer Sit-ins to Open the Courts: To draw attention to the ongoing crisis of criminal trial delays in San Francisco Superior Court, our Office, along with community allies, took action this past summer. We gathered in front of courthouses on eight consecutive Fridays to bring attention to the number of individuals deprived of their Constitutional trial rights and educate the public about the trial delays and ongoing litigation efforts. Thanks to the work and pressure of so many people, the court has begun honoring the 60-day speedy trial deadlines in felony court. Even though some felony cases and many misdemeanor cases remain overdue, this is a significant step forward. We will continue to advocate to fully end the trial delays to defend our clients' Constitutional rights to a speedy trial.



GREG

“Part of my sentence involved finishing my degree. The Public Defender’s Office helped me clean my record so I’d have a fair chance in my life.”

JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <small>New Year's Day</small>	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 <small>Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday</small>	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 <small>Fred Korematsu Day</small>	31			

Greg was finishing his studies at UC Berkeley when he applied to have the SF Public Defender Clean Slate program help expunge his record. After graduation, he was released from probation and the court approved his expungement petitions. Then, we hired him as a Legal Process Clerk. Greg brought his own experience in the system to become a tremendous resource to our clients. His positivity, fastidiousness, and deep commitment to social justice allowed him to communicate with clients in a meaningful way and make a positive impact on the community.

MIGUEL

"Being in jail was a horrible experience, but thankfully public defenders were there for me."



FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
						Lunar New Year
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Lincoln's Birthday 					
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	President's Day					
25	26	27	28	29		

Miguel was just a young college student when he was arrested. The Public Defender Pretrial Release Unit met with him in jail to help him understand what to expect, and a social worker from our End the Cycle program was there to connect him to community resources after his attorney helped him get released. Miguel is excited to have a new job and is developing goals to better support his family (pictured here with his father) and future in his hometown of San Francisco.

AUDITORIUM

BELINDA

“My second chance means I get to cook for holidays with my daughter, take my grandson to swim lessons, and share other occasions big and small.”

STATE

MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 <small>Primary Election Day</small>	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

31

César Chávez's Birthday

The team at the San Francisco Public Defender Freedom Project worked with Belinda to navigate the complex legal process of resentencing. The Project's advocacy and guidance helped her to gain her freedom and reunite with her family after three decades in prison. Belinda worked hard inside to get her college degree and come to terms with why she was there.

The Freedom Project worked hard as well, helping judges, prosecutors, and parole commissioners understand that she has the tools, insight, and know-how to be a successful mother, grandmother, employee, and community member. In March 2022, she finally came home. Belinda has been taking additional college courses at SF State University through Project Rebound and helped our Office launch the College Pathway Project this year, giving a heartfelt speech. She now works with individuals in San Francisco who are getting back on their feet after being unhoused, and said she finds the work rewarding.



JOSE RUBEN

“The worst experience of detention was being apart from my family, and the fear of being deported. These days, I am enjoying every moment of being with my family: studying the Bible with my mother, being around my nephews, and enjoying the simple fact that I am free.”

APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 César Chávez Day Observed 	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Genocide Remembrance Day	25	26	27
28	29	30	<p>Immigration Unit client Jose Ruben has become a leader and warrior in the fight against unjust transfers of individuals who are released from state prison into U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement custody, and in challenging horrific treatment of people in ICE custody. While in prison, Jose Ruben took several anger management courses, furthered his education, and completed a very competitive firefighter training program. Upon his release, his dream of returning</p>			

to his family turned into a nightmare and he was transferred to an ICE facility, even though he lived in the U.S. as a lawful permanent resident since the age of 8. In ICE custody, Jose Ruben was subjected to horrific treatment, including sexual abuse, expired food, medical negligence, solitary confinement, and a paltry wage for being forced to work long hours. In early 2023, he and several others launched a hunger strike that lasted several weeks and was met with violent retaliation. Working with our Immigration Unit, Jose Ruben was able to gain his release from ICE on bond and has now filed a federal complaint against the government to seek justice and to prevent others from being subjected to the treatment he suffered.

A portrait of a woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a black blazer over a teal top. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred industrial or office setting with blue lighting.

ANDREA

“There’s a tremendous amount of power put into the hands of juries by our Constitution. It’s not something that should be taken on lightly. It’s definitely not something we should walk away from.”

MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
			Harvey Milk Day			
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	Memorial Day					

When Andrea was called for jury duty on a murder case, she did not expect to be selected, let alone made foreperson. After all, she worked as a defense attorney in the very courtroom where the trial would be taking place. But her experience serving as a juror was meaningful and profound, she said. This trial was the second for San Francisco Public Defender client Roy Lacy, who was accused of killing two people. Lacy, who was incarcerated on unrelated matters in Florida, said he falsely confessed to the killings as a way to escape Florida's brutal and violent prison conditions. Lacy was already serving a life term, so no matter what the outcome, he would remain in prison. The first trial's jury acquitted Lacy on one of the murder charges and hung on the second. Andrea's jury was trying him for the second time on the second charge and ultimately found he was not guilty under the law. "It was super clear that his attorneys, both women of color, didn't just care about the outcome, they cared about him as a human being."



KENNETH

“The San Francisco Public Defender’s office paralegal, Marcy, had the utmost confidence in me. Everything I accomplished is all due to her and the Public Defender’s Office having these programs to help people succeed and get a chance at life.”

JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 <small>Juneteenth</small>	27	28	29
30	<p>Kenneth grew up in Little Rock, Arkansas, where he graduated high school and attended trade school. He worked at his father's auto body shop but had a strained relationship with him. In his early 20s, Kenneth left Little Rock, settling in San Francisco. He worked off and on but slipped into substance abuse, and struggled with addiction for decades.</p>					

Kenneth completed substance use treatment several times with mixed success. In 2017, he was arrested on theft charges and with the assistance of his public defender and paralegal, was referred to treatment at the Golden Gate for Seniors residential program. He graduated in 2018 and has worked steadily—soberly—as a custodian at UCSF ever since. After living in a single-room occupancy hotel for years, Kenneth now has his own apartment. He fell in love and recently married.



JORDAN

“When I was in trial with my public defender, I was living in an RV and was addicted to meth and it was a difficult period for me in my life. With the help of my higher power, I’ve been able to get out of that.”

JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Jordan came to San Francisco from the Central Valley after falling in love with the city and its culture. He attended culinary school from 2006 to 2008 and worked as a chef. But over time, life grew more precarious, and he spent several years struggling with substances and living in a dilapidated RV with his dog, Doobie. In late 2020, he was arrested for misdemeanor theft and was represented by the San Francisco Public Defender. Following his conviction, Jordan worked hard on himself and has now been in recovery for 16 months. He was able to get an apartment as well as a job as a substance use counselor with a major nonprofit. Jordan said it's a wonderful job opportunity in "a subject that I have a lot of experience with. I'll be able to gain a rapport with a lot of people struggling with those addictions." And, he gets to remain in the city that captured his heart.



GREGORY

"I thought it was crazy when my public defender told me, 'I got this!' because this is my life, but I had to have faith."

AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Gregory was unjustly jailed for five months only to be acquitted at trial when it was revealed that he told police he was acting in self-defense against an attempted sexual assault, but the police never investigated his claim. Because the courts kept him jailed before trial, Gregory, a native San Franciscan and longtime Residential Counselor lost his job, and one of his sons dropped out of college to work to help cover his rent. Gregory is now fighting to keep his housing, get back on his feet, and help reinstate his son's scholarship so he can return to school.



KATIE

“When the law was threatening my future, my public defenders changed the law.”

SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 Native American Day 	28
29	30					

Katie was accused of a crime under the “felony murder rule” which through no fault of her own could have sent her to prison for life. Believing in her innocence and the unjust nature of the law, public defenders lobbied in Sacramento to amend the arcane statute. Katie was freed, but also inspired. She pursued her paralegal certification and now works in the SF Public Defender Clean Slate Unit, helping others shake free of the limits imposed on them by their criminal records.



MARY GRACE

"I used to be one of those kids lining up for the backpacks, so working with MAGIC was like coming full circle."

OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Indigenous People's Day 	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 Halloween		

Mary Grace applied for an internship in high school and ended up volunteering with the SF Public Defender's office for the whole school year. She loved it. After she graduated, she'd help with backpack giveaways too. Mary Grace said it was important to her to help out in the neighborhood where she grew up and could see herself in the children she worked with at MAGIC. She says she was "just a little kid from Hunter's Point." Now Mary Grace is at Sacramento State, majoring in criminal justice with a minor in ethnic studies. She's still figuring out her career, but she said she knows it will be in public service. "It's really important to give back. BMAGIC helped me stay grounded in my roots."

A man with short grey hair and a beard, wearing a red and white checkered button-down shirt and a black belt, stands smiling in front of a building with arched windows. In the foreground, there are several brown mailboxes. The entire image has a warm, orange-toned filter.

JONATHAN

“The system finally worked for me because I had people who believed in me.”

NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 Election Day	6	7	8	9
10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Transgender Day of Remembrance	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving Day	29 Post-Thanksgiving Day	30

Jonathan worked hard to recover from years of addiction, built his career as a tech recruiter, and was already in the business of giving back when he found himself facing new charges after an altercation. After growing up in foster care, Jonathan served in the U.S. Army, so he was eligible to participate in the Veterans Justice Court, a diversion program that affords services through the Veterans Administration. For the first time, he was able to acknowledge his PTSD and emotionally transform his life. VJC inspired him to expand his work connecting people coming out of homelessness and incarceration to homes and jobs.

555

A large group of diverse people, including men and women of various ethnicities and ages, are gathered in front of a building entrance. They are holding a large white banner that spans across the front of the group. The banner features the text "WE ARE COMMUNITY SAFETY" in bold, colorful letters. The building behind them has a large glass entrance with the number "555" displayed above the doors. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

**WE ARE
COMMUNITY
SAFETY**

DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Christmas 1st night of Hanukkah	26 1st day of Kwanzaa	27	28
29	30	31				

Everyone at the San Francisco Public Defender's Office is dedicated to serving our clients and communities. We believe that by fiercely defending individuals, confronting state violence, and advocating for community power, it will move us closer to our vision for a world where collective humanity is cherished. In the broader fight for freedom and justice, we lead with our values of love, compassion, courage, and excellence.

MAIN OFFICE

555 7th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
Front Desk: 415-553-1671
Website: sfpublicdefender.org

YOUTH DEFENDER UNIT

375 Woodside Avenue, Room 118
San Francisco, CA 94127
Front Desk: 415-753-7601

MAGIC

Bayview Office
Phone: 415-642-8017
Email: community@bayviewmagic.org
Website: bayviewmagic.org
Instagram: @BayviewMAGIC

Fillmore Office
Phone: 415-567-0400
Email: info@momagic.org
Website: momagic.org
Instagram: @mo_magic415

CLEAN SLATE PROGRAM

Phone: 415-553-9337
Email: PDR-CleanSlate@sfgov.org
You can apply for Clean Slate online at sfpublicdefender.org/services/clean-slate or use QR code to right.

In person or phone Tuesdays 9-noon by appointment only at 555 7th Street schedule at calendly.com/sfcleanslate/schedule.

First weekday of the month at Arriba Juntos, 1850 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

Every 3rd Wednesday of the Month, 10am-1pm at YCD – Inner City Youth, 200 Broad Street, San Francisco, CA, 94112

Every 1st Thursday of the Month 10am-12pm at Latino Task Force, 701 Alabama Street, San Francisco, CA 94110
For other locations check Instagram: @sfcleanslate

SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter: @sfdefender @ManoRajuPD
Instagram: @sfpublicdefender @ManoRajuPD
Facebook: San Francisco Public Defender's Office
facebook.com/sfpublicdefender
Mano Raju facebook.com/mano.raju.77

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Design Committee: Angela Chan, John Dunbar, Valerie Ibarra, Lyslynn Lacoste, Larry Roberts, Jessie Seyfer, Tyler Vu
Photographs by Tyler Vu

HOLIDAY KEY

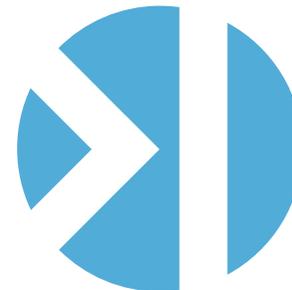
 Indicates courts are closed for a state holiday, but the Public Defender's Office is open.

 Indicates courts are open, but the Public Defender's Office is closed.

Holidays in **red**, the Public Defender's Office is closed.

Holidays in **blue**, the Public Defender's Office is open.

Clean Slate
Application QR



**SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC DEFENDER**

Greater than one.

This report was not printed at government expense.