

# SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC DEFENDER

**MANOHAR RAJU** – PUBLIC DEFENDER  
**MATT GONZALEZ** – CHIEF ATTORNEY



March 9, 2020

Sheriff Paul Miyamoto  
City Hall, Room 456  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Sheriff Miyamoto,

As you are aware, on Friday, March 6, 2020, Mayor London Breed, the San Department of Public Health, and the Department of Emergency Management announced “aggressive new recommendations” for San Francisco to reduce the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in the community in light of the confirmation of two cases of COVID-19 among San Francisco residents.

I am writing to express my serious concern about the individuals incarcerated in the San Francisco County Jail, many who my office represents. The constant flow of both staff and detainees in and out of the jails – where large numbers of people are housed in close proximity – means that a powerful virus like COVID-19 can take over quickly and easily.

I am therefore requesting that you provide me – and the public – with the specific plans and protocols currently in place to avoid a COVID-19 infection in the jail and protect detainees, advocates from my office, and staff. Such protocols should go beyond existing protocols for responding to the common flu and include the screening process for people working in the jail or being booked into a jail facility, the circumstances in which a person must be transferred to a hospital for further testing by medical professionals, and what special steps are being taken to protect the safety of vulnerable populations. Additionally, all bathrooms under your control – including all bathrooms in all County Jails and at 850 Bryant Street – should be fully stocked at all times with soap and paper towels.

Disclosure will assist with public safety as well as address the concerns our clients, their loved ones, and their communities.

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**Adult Division - HOJ**  
555 Seventh Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
P: 415.553.1671  
F: 415.553.9810  
[www.sfpublicdefender.org](http://www.sfpublicdefender.org)

**Juvenile Division - YGC**  
375 Woodside Avenue, Rm. 118  
San Francisco, CA 94127  
P: 415.753.7601  
F: 415.566.3030

**Juvenile Division - JJC**  
258A Laguna Honda Blvd.  
San Francisco, CA 94116  
P: 415.753.8174  
F: 415.753.8175

**Clean Slate**  
P: 415.553.9337  
[www.sfpublicdefender.org/services](http://www.sfpublicdefender.org/services)

**Community Justice Center**  
P: 415.202.2832  
F: 415.563.8506

**Bayview Magic**  
P: 415.558.2428  
[www.bayviewmagic.org](http://www.bayviewmagic.org)

**MoMagic**  
P: 415.567.0400  
[www.momagic.org](http://www.momagic.org)

I look forward to your prompt response to this letter.

Sincerely,

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

Mano Raju  
Public Defender

cc: Mayor London Breed, City and County of San Francisco  
Dr. Grant Colfax, Department of Public Health  
Mr. Chesa Boudin, San Francisco District Attorney