



TO:

Mayor London Breed, SF City Attorney David Chiu,  
Sheryl Davis, Supervisor Dean Preston,  
Supervisor Matt Dorsey, SFFD Chief Jeanine Nicholson  
& SFPD Chief William Scott,

DATE:

August 21, 2023

I have had the pleasure of working with many of you in my three decades of activism. During that time I have worked with all your offices and departments as a partner & collaborator in community policing in the Western Addition.

I am writing this email to enlist your support to remedy an ongoing issue. I have been openly discriminated against by the Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association. HVNA President, Jen Laska and Bob Barnwell, Chairman of HVNA Public Safety Committee have routinely censored my comments and openly prevented me from participating in their Public Zoom meetings. They have given themselves license to freely abuse their power to discriminate, stifle free speech, and determine who is able to participate in their public meetings.

This behavior is unacceptable. It is undemocratic and self-serving in the pursuit of their own narrow agendas.

I am hoping you can provide any information regarding city laws or ethical guidelines that prohibit city departments from attending public meetings in which shareholders are prevented from providing input, thus disenfranchising the communities they represent. If there are not any rules, laws or guidelines on the books to prevent this type of discrimination, I seek your assistance to resolve my complaint so others will not be subjected to the experience I have received.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to your feedback and input.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richard Johnson

Co- Founder Hayes Valley Safe

Co-Founder Community Partners United  
Founding Member, Former Board Member  
& Current Member of Hayes Valley  
Neighborhood Association

Hayes Valley, San Francisco, CA  
[www.hvsafe.com](http://www.hvsafe.com)