



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Statement from San Francisco Pride on Demonstrators at 49th Annual SF Pride Parade

San Francisco, CA – San Francisco Pride is a nonprofit organization powered by dedicated volunteers and professionals. We strive to create an annual event that is inclusive of the many voices and viewpoints that make up the LGBTQ+ communities of the Bay Area and beyond. This past Sunday, San Francisco Pride marked the 49th anniversary of our event. SF Pride was founded as a commemoration of the protests that took place at Stonewall in 1969, as well as our own community's history of activism before Stonewall.

During Sunday's Parade, a group of protestors broke through the route's barricades and temporarily halted the parade. Police responded and the situation quickly escalated. Once at the scene, SF Pride team members were able to assess the demonstrators' grievances. A compromise was found to get the police to retreat their presence. Pride volunteers joined hands to create a protective space around the demonstrators so that they could openly verbalize their actions. The demonstrators' criticisms of Pride were brought forward, and the Parade was ultimately able to continue.

An event of the scale of SF Pride would be impossible without the collaboration of all local agencies, yet we believe that systemic changes need to be made in police departments. We support change in a law enforcement system, both locally and nationally, that unfairly targets trans individuals and people of color. Regarding the incident Sunday, SF Pride has been in contact with the District Attorney's office and SFPD and are eager to hear the results of any pending investigation. We encourage a resolution in which all possible charges against demonstrators are dropped. We look forward to supporting the work that will be done to understand challenges faced by all in our evolving movement, and we reaffirm our commitment to the pursuit of equity and freedom from oppression.

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About the San Francisco Pride Celebration Committee

The San Francisco Pride Celebration Committee is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded to produce the SF Pride Celebration and Parade. The mission of the organization is to educate the world on LGBTQ issues, as well as commemorate the heritage, celebrate the culture, and liberate the people of all LGBTQ communities. A world leader in the Pride movement, SF Pride is also a grant-giving organization through its Community Partners Program. Since 1997, SF Pride has granted over \$2.5 million dollars in proceeds to local nonprofit LGBTQIA organizations and organizations working on issues related to HIV/AIDS, cancer, homelessness, housing rights, and animal welfare.

For More Information or to Become a Member

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