


City and County of San Francisco
Carol Isen
Human Resources Director



Department of Human Resources
Connecting People with Purpose
www.sfdhr.org

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 28, 2022
TO: Carol Isen
Human Resources Director
FROM: Amalia Martinez
Director, EEO and Leave Programs 
SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2021/2022—Fourth Quarter Report on Harassment Complaints

This memo contains the quarterly report on harassment within the City and County of San Francisco's (City) workforce, in accordance with San Francisco Administrative Code Section 16.9-27 (Harassment Prevention Training and Reporting). This report shows the total number of harassment complaints filed with the Department of Human Resources (DHR) during the fourth quarter (April 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022) of fiscal year 2021/2022.

DHR received 59 complaints alleging harassment from employees in 20 City departments during the fourth quarter. (Table A). Of the 59 cases, 8 were closed and 51 remain open and are being investigated. The status and disposition of each complaint is contained in Table D.

This report also provides information about the basis of the harassment complaint (i.e. the protected category the harassment is based on), by department. (Table B). This additional information is part of DHR's ongoing effort to identify "hotspots" that may need additional resources to prevent harassment, and to advise City departments of any trends, concerns, or areas in need of improvement. In some cases, the complaint may have multiple bases, for example a complaint that the harassment was due to both sex and race.

In the fourth quarter, 32% of the harassment complaints received by DHR alleged sex as the basis. Table C provides a breakdown of the sex-based harassment complaints (*i.e.* complaints of harassment based on sex and sexual harassment).

Should you have any questions, please contact me at Amalia.Martinez1@sfgov.org.

Enclosure

Table A
Harassment Complaints by Department¹
Fourth Quarter of Fiscal Year 2021/2022
(April 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022)

Department	Total
Airport Commission	1
Building Inspection	1
City Administrator's Office	4
City Planning	1
District Attorney's Office	2
Elections	2
Emergency Management	1
Fine Arts Museum	1
Fire Department	6
Human Services Agency	7
Municipal Transportation Agency	7
Police Department	4
Port of San Francisco	2
Public Defender's Office	1
Public Health	5
Public Library	5
Public Works	1
Recreation and Park	1
Rent Arbitration Board	1
Sheriff's Office	6
Total Complaints	59

¹ All complaints of harassment, including sexual harassment, are included in these figures. These complaints were filed pursuant to the City's internal process. Complaints filed externally with the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) or the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) are not included.

Table B
Harassment Complaints by Protected Category Alleged and by Department²
Fourth Quarter of Fiscal Year 2021/2022
(April 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022)

Department	Age	Color	Disability/Med. Condition	Ethnicity	Gender Identity	Height	Marital or Domestic	Other	Race	Religion	Retaliation	Sex	Sexual Orientation	Weight
Airport Commission	1						1					1		
Building Inspection				1					1					
City Administrator's Office									3			2		
City Planning									1					
District Attorney's Office												2		
Elections								1				2		
Emergency Management									1					
Fine Arts Museum									1		1			
Fire Department				4				1	5			1		
Human Services Agency			1	1					3		1	3		
Municipal Transportation Agency	1					1		2	3	1		1	1	
Police Department				2				1	1			1		
Port of San Francisco		1									1			
Public Defender's Office									1			1		
Public Health			1		1			1	3			1		
Public Library		1			1						1	1	1	1
Public Works									1			1		
Recreation and Park								1						
Rent Arbitration Board									1					
Sheriff's Office		1		1				2	2			2	1	1
Total	2	3	2	9	2	1	1	9	27	1	4	19	3	2

² The quarterly reports reflect the harassment allegations filed with DHR EEO as of the close of that quarter. However, complainants may choose to amend their complaints to include additional protected categories as a basis for the alleged harassment after the close of quarter. Those amended complaints will be reflected in the annual report only. As a result, the annual report may contain more complaints than the combined total of the quarterly reports. Additionally, most complaints contain more than one allegation of discrimination.

Therefore, the total number of identified protected categories will exceed the total number of complaints. Table B contains a total of 85 protected categories stemming from 59 complaints.

Table C
Sex-Based Harassment Complaints by Department³
Fourth Quarter of Fiscal Year 2021/2022
(April 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022)

Department	Sexual Harassment	Harassment Based on Sex
Airport Commission		1
City Administrator's Office		2
District Attorney's Office	2	
Elections	2	
Fire Department		1
Human Services Agency	2	1
Municipal Transportation Agency	1	
Police Department		1
Public Defender's Office		1
Public Health		1
Public Library		1
Public Works		1
Sheriff's Office	1	1
Total	8	11

³ Sex-based harassment complaints may contain allegations of sexual harassment, harassment based on sex, or both. Sexual harassment is defined as:

- Any unwelcome sexual advance, request for sexual favors, and other physical, verbal, or visual conduct of a sexual nature; or
- Conditioning an employment benefit on the acceptance of sexual or romantic favors; or
- Making or threatening reprisals after a negative response to a sexual or romantic advance.

Sexual harassment is distinguished from harassment based on sex, as the latter is defined as physical, verbal, or visual conduct based on sex, but is not of a sexual nature. For example, a sex-based harassment complaint resulting from a colleague stating “females are not qualified to be firefighters” would be included in the Harassment Based on Sex column.

Table D
Status and Disposition of Harassment Complaints⁴
Fourth Quarter of Fiscal Year 2021/2022
(April 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022)

Department	Closed					Open
	Settled	Insufficient Evidence	Sustained	Insufficient Allegations/ Immediate Preventative Actions Taken	No EEO Jurisdiction or Withdrawn	
Airport Commission						1
Building Inspection						1
City Administrator's Office						4
City Planning						1
District Attorney's Office			1			1
Elections						2
Emergency Management						1
Fine Arts Museum						1
Fire Department						6
Human Services Agency						7
Municipal Transportation Agency				3	1	3
Police Department				1	1	2
Port of San Francisco						2
Public Defender's Office						1
Public Health						5
Public Library						5
Public Works						1
Recreation and Park						1
Rent Arbitration Board						1
Sheriff's Office					1	5
Total	0	0	1	4	3	51

⁴ **Definitions**

Settled: Complaint was resolved, without any admission or acknowledgement of liability.

Insufficient Evidence: A full investigation was conducted, and there was insufficient evidence to establish that conduct occurred in violation of City’s or SFMTA’s EEO Policy.

Sustained: A full investigation was conducted, and there was sufficient evidence to establish that the conduct occurred in violation of City’s or SFMTA’s EEO Policy.

Insufficient Allegations/ Immediate Preventative Actions Taken: Complaint alleged conduct that was within the purview of EEO’s jurisdiction (*i.e.* alleged conduct was based on a protected category or protected activity), but did not raise an inference of harassment; nonetheless, where the complaint alleged conduct in violation of the City’s or SFMTA’s EEO Policy, immediate preventative and/or corrective actions were taken; in these cases, DHR instructs departments to take immediate preventative or corrective action (*i.e.* issue City’s EEO Policy or Policy Regarding Treatment of Co-Workers and Members of the Public; obtain signed acknowledgement of receipt of policy; direct to take online Harassment Prevention Training/Implicit Bias Training/Cultural Humility Training/Management or Leadership Training, etc.; direct to conduct mediation; conduct review of analysis of department recruitment efforts; etc.). These actions are the same actions that DHR would recommend a department take if the allegation were sustained.

No EEO Jurisdiction or Withdrawn: Complaint did not allege conduct based on a protected category or protected activity, or allege conduct in violation of the City’s or SFMTA’s EEO Policy; complainant was not a City employee, applicant, volunteer, unpaid intern, or contractor; complaint was not against a City department; the complaint was untimely; or complainant declined to participate or withdrew complaint, and based on the information provided, DHR EEO was without sufficient detail to conduct a full investigation.