



SFPD Citizen Complaint Office

PROPOSITION A

Shall an Office of Citizens Complaints be established in the Police Department with authority to investigate complaints made by citizens of police misconduct and recommend action to the Chief of Police?

Analysis

By Ballot Simplification Committee

THE WAY IT IS NOW: The Police Department has an Internal Affairs Division within the Department. This Division, staffed by police officers, investigates citizen complaints against police officers and makes recommendations for action to the Chief of Police. There is a civilian investigator who also investigates complaints and reports to the Police Commission.

THE PROPOSAL: Proposition A would create an Office of Citizen Complaints in the Police Department. The Director, appointed by the Police Commission, and the investigators and hearing officers shall never have been members of the Police Department. The Office shall investigate citizen complaints of police misconduct and shall recommend action to the Chief of

Police. This proposition does not eliminate the Internal Affairs Division. It does not prohibit the Department from investigating and taking action now permitted by the Charter. The Office shall make monthly summaries of complaints and quarterly reports concerning possible changes and amendments in Department policies and practices.

A YES VOTE MEANS: If you vote yes, you want to create an Office of Citizen's Complaints within the Police Department.

A NO VOTE MEANS: If you vote no, you want complaints by citizens to continue to be handled by the Internal Affairs Division and the civilian investigator.

Controller's Statement on "A"

City Controller John C. Farrell has issued the following statement on the fiscal impact of Proposition A:

Should the proposed Charter amendment be adopted, the increase in the cost of government would be determined by the Office of Citizen Complaints' approved annual budget. For fiscal year 1982-83 the cost increase could not exceed \$625,000 adjusted thereafter for inflation.

How Supervisors Voted on "A"

On May 24 the Board of Supervisors voted 8-3 on the question of placing Proposition A on the ballot. The Supervisors voted as follows:

YES: Supervisors Harry Britt, Richard Hongisto, Willie Kennedy, John Molinari, Louise Renne, Carol Ruth Silver, Nancy Walker and Doris Ward.

NO: Supervisors Lee Dolson, Quentin Kopp and Wendy Nelder.

**THE FULL LEGAL TEXT OF PROP A
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