



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Alan Byard, President, Patrol Special Police Officers Association  
P. O. Box 590241, San Francisco, CA 94159-0241  
Phone: (415) 221-9450 atbyard83@yahoo.com  
Member, Special Neighborhood Policing: a support organization of and for  
Patrol Special Police

Websites: <http://sfpatrolspecpolice.com/>  
<http://www.sfspecialneighborhoodpolicing.org>

### **San Francisco Patrol Special Police Join with City on Saturday, February 4 to Unveil Permanent Memorial Plaque Naming Plaza in the Castro for Officer Jane Warner**

**(San Francisco, CA - Thursday, February 2, 2012)** – San Francisco’s Patrol Special Police Officer Association President Alan Byard is pleased to announce that at 2 pm on Saturday, February 4, Patrol Special Police Officers will join with City and State leaders and residents to unveil a long-awaited permanent plaque at a Castro pedestrian plaza honoring Officer Jane Warner. Officer Byard will acknowledge the generous financial contributions of many private San Francisco individuals and organizations that entirely funded and made the memorial plaque possible.

The ceremony will be attended by State Senator Mark Leno, San Francisco District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener, and former Supervisor Bevan Dufty. The public is invited to attend.

Officer Warner known to all as “Officer Jane,” a beloved and well known 18-year veteran neighborhood police officer in the Castro, Noe Valley, and Mission neighborhoods, and past President of the Patrol Special Police Officers Association, passed on May 8, 2010 after a brief illness.

Thereafter former Supervisor Bevan Dufty sponsored a unanimously-approved Board of Supervisor’s resolution authorizing the honor. Dufty presided over a November 7, 2010 ceremony to name the plaza and unveil a prototype of the plaque that will be dedicated on Saturday.

The plaque says in part: “(Officer Jane) was dedicated not only to the business owners who contracted with her for private neighborhood safety services, but also to protecting the residents and visitors in the areas she patrolled.”

Dawn Warner, Officer Jane’s life partner and wife, has been invited to unveil the permanent plaque. Warner notes that her partner “chose community policing because she believed in its power to unite a community and make a difference in the quality of people’s lives.”

Alan Byard, President of the Patrol Special Police Officers Association, remembers that “Jane strived to do her best for everyone and to treat all people fairly and with dignity and respect. She was genuinely concerned about this district and helped to elevate its problems and find solutions to them, always ready with a helping hand and to offer assistance to everyone.”

Patrol Special Police Officer John Fitzinger now serves the Castro District.

“A Hero Is”  
By Eric DeRenzis

One Who Never Hesitates to Tackle the Most Difficult Problems,  
One Who Is Always By Your Side,  
One Who Knows Right From Wrong,  
One Who Acts With Pride,  
A Hero Touches Everyone of Us,  
Whether it be Word or Deed,

Always Tending To Those Who Find Themselves in Need,  
When A Hero Leaves This Earth, Yes It's Sad But True,  
All Too Many Times the Hero Is Dressed In Blue

### **About San Francisco Patrol Special Police**

San Francisco Patrol Special Police are the only private neighborhood safety service in the city that is legally permitted to patrol San Francisco's streets as well as private locations under the city's Municipal Police Code Sec. 1750 and is on police radio frequencies.

Patrol Special Police officers are screened by background checks conducted by the S.F.P.D. are trained annually at the San Francisco Police Academy and/or other police training organizations, regulated by the Police Commission and supervised by the S.F.P.D.

Throughout more than a century-and-a-half of unique neighborhood policing, Patrol Special Police have supported the City's public safety needs. Since the Gold Rush Days, Special Police, later known as Patrol Special Police have aided the city.

Special Police were first sworn in by Police Chief Marshal Malachi Fallon in 1851. Five years later the force was written into the City Charter in 1856. Special Police have assisted city authorities with controlling historical criminal gangs, such as the infamous Hounds of San Francisco. Over the years they also maintained public safety during labor strikes, riots, and natural disasters - including the devastating 1906 earthquake.

Today, Patrol Special Police augment the S.F.P.D. by providing neighborhoods with cost-effective and crime prevention services and safety education. Patrol Special Police resolve disturbances at an early stage with a view toward the welfare of all. Their early intervention and visible presence unburden S.F.P.D. officers to address other law enforcement needs.

Patrol Special Police services are financed by private clients who include merchants, professionals, homeowners' associations, individual residents, street fair and special event organizers, government agencies, and other business and private organizations.

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