



**VISION  
ZERO  
SF**

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Through Vision Zero SF we commit to working together to prioritize street safety and eliminate traffic deaths in San Francisco by 2024

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# **VISION ZERO SF:** ***ELIMINATING TRAFFIC DEATHS BY 2024***

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**OCTOBER 3, 2017**

# VZSF TRAFFIC FATALITY RESPONSE



San Francisco Bay Area

## Families for Safe Streets



***SF Bay Area Families for Safe Streets:*** Thank you to Alvin Lester and Julie and Paul Mitchell for candidly sharing their experiences with us to inform more coordinated support to the families of victims of traffic deaths on San Francisco streets. Thank you to Natalie Burdick of Walk SF for bringing the issue to our attention, and for coordination to advance this work.

## VZSF TRAFFIC FATALITY RESPONSE

**February 2017:** Initial Meeting with Bay Area Families for Safe Streets

**February 2017 – June 2017:** Coordination meetings with SF Police Department, SF Dept. of Public Health, District Attorney's Office, Medical Examiner's Office

**June 2017:** Follow Up Meeting with Bay Area Families for Safe Streets

**July 2017 – Present:** Pilot Launched, Protocol Refinements Ongoing

# VZSF TRAFFIC FATALITY RESPONSE

## Feb. 2017 Meeting with SFBAFFSS

### What we heard:

- Death notification/confirmation process difficult to navigate, not transparent for families
- Communication gaps between and within City Agencies
- No offer of support services

## VZSF TRAFFIC FATALITY RESPONSE

### What we did:

- SFDPH, SFPD, District Attorney's Office and Medical Examiner's Office met multiple times to understand existing processes and develop coordination protocol – *high level of commitment from all agencies*
- Pilot of the protocol launched July 1, 2017
- Revisions ongoing – follow up calls within a week after every traffic death to review response, needed protocol refinements
- City staff continuing to institutionalize the protocol through staff trainings, etc.

## VZSF TRAFFIC FATALITY RESPONSE

### *Current Protocol:*

- Activated when a **traffic fatality occurs on the scene of a collision or in the emergency room** immediately following a collision.
- Coordinating agencies include: the San Francisco Medical Examiner's Office, the San Francisco Police Department, the San Francisco Department of Public Health, and the District Attorney's Office.

## VZSF TRAFFIC FATALITY RESPONSE

### ***Successes:***

- **Increased collaboration between City agencies** in responding and providing services to victims and their family members
- **Strengthened communication between service providers and family members** to access support services and referrals
- **SFPD Collision Investigators are supported by SFDPH Crisis Counselors at the collision scene**
- SF District Attorney's Victim Services team able to **provide services much more quickly within the critical time windows for grieving families**

## VZSF TRAFFIC FATALITY RESPONSE

### *Lessons Learned*

- Protocol revised to have **SFDPH Comprehensive Crisis Services notified when a traffic fatality occurs through the SFPD's Department Operations Center (DOC)**, to ensure consistent and timely notification so they can respond to the scene.
- **SFDPH Comprehensive Crisis Services now given the name and cell number of the SFPD Investigator** that will be the point of contact for them to reach out to regarding whether services are needed at the scene. *When services are not needed on scene, a referral to SFDPH Comprehensive Crisis Services is provided to the family by the Medical Examiner's Office and the District Attorney's Office.*



## VZSF TRAFFIC FATALITY RESPONSE

### ***Next Steps: Winter 2018***

Expanding outreach and services to the families of patients who die after being hospitalized due to transportation-related injury.

## THANK YOU

### ***SF Police Department***

Commander Robert O'Sullivan  
Captain Tim Oberzeir  
Acting Captain Joe Engler  
Inspector Lori Cadigan  
Sergeant Kevin Edison  
Sergeant Aaron Fischer  
Sergeant Ocean Embody

### ***SF Department of Public Health***

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Ana Validzic  
Megan Wier

### ***SF District Attorney's Office***

Gena Castro-Rodriguez  
Jacqueline Ortiz  
Karima Baptiste  
Maria Cava  
Delia Montiel  
Emily Burtch  
Peter Hyunh

### ***SF Medical Examiner's Office***

Michael Hunter  
Christopher Wirowek  
Krzysztof Barbrich  
Thomas McDonald  
Nina Fiore