



**OFFICE OF CITIZEN COMPLAINTS**

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

**Asian Law Caucus**



Lawyers' Committee  
for **CIVIL RIGHTS**  
of the San Francisco Bay Area



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**For Immediate Release**

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### **NEW POLICY SEEKS TO BRIDGE COMMUNICATIONS GAP BETWEEN SFPD AND LIMITED-ENGLISH SPEAKERS**

*SFPD, Civil and Language Rights Activists Explore Policy in Detail at Community Briefing*

**WHAT:** Community Briefing on the recently adopted San Francisco Police Department's comprehensive language access policy, known as Department General Order (DGO) 5.20.

**WHEN:** Thursday, February 21, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. – The briefing will include a panel presentation by language access advocates who have worked to develop and advocate for this policy, followed by a Q & A.

**WHERE:** Chinese for Affirmative Action, Community Room, 17 Walter U. Lum Place, San Francisco

**WHO:**

Police Chief Heather Fong

Angela Chan, Staff Attorney, Asian Law Caucus

Philip Hwang, Staff Attorney, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights

Samara Marion, Attorney and Policy Analyst, Office of Citizen Complaints

Juana Flores, Co-Director, Mujeres Unidas y Activas

Ronnie Rhoe, Director of Community Development, CAA

Mark Schlosberg, Police Practices Policy Director, ACLU of Northern California

(partial list)

**WHY:** The San Francisco Police Commission voted last October to unanimously approve a groundbreaking new policy to ensure effective and accurate communication between the SFPD and the limited-English proficient (LEP) communities they serve. However, there is still a lot of work to be done in ensuring that LEP communities are aware of this new policy and of their rights in their interactions with the SFPD. This event is targeted towards informing community agencies, their LEP constituents, and the broader community of their rights under these new provisions.

The full language of the DGO can be found through the San Francisco Police Commission's website:

[http://www.sfgov.org/site/police\\_index.asp?id=60090](http://www.sfgov.org/site/police_index.asp?id=60090).

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