



UNION SQUARE
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT
DISTRICT

Retail Theft Prevention Meeting

Tuesday, October 1st, 2019

9:00AM-10:30AM

King George Hotel
334 Mason Street

MEETING MINUTES

1. **Networking**

2. **Welcome, Introductions, & Brief Announcements**

Chris Boss, Director of Services of the USBID called the meeting to order at 9:15am and thanked Michaela and the King George Hotel for their hospitality. Introductions were made.

3. **Public comment**

None

a. **Brief Announcement**

Brief announcement regarding the Art & Wine Walk on October 17 was made.

4. **ACTION to approve committee meeting minutes from 06/04/19**

Action: The committee meeting minutes from 8/06/19 were unanimously approved by the committee as moved by Carlos Delgado and seconded by Euan Taylor.

5. **Updates:**

a. **San Francisco District Attorney Candidate Forum**

A brief summary was provided in regards to the San Francisco DA Candidate Forum hosted by Hilton San Francisco. Brief discussion took place among committee members regarding the background of each candidate and their stance on how to address increasing numbers of retail crimes and aggressive behaviors on the streets.

b. **Security Camera**

An update was provided regarding the USBID's security camera program, and upcoming overnight live security camera monitoring and 24/7 Member Services dispatching starting in January 1. Brief update was provided regarding the drafted Overnight Monitoring Policy. Brief discussion took place among members regarding ways for the community to continue working closely together on these services.



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c. Private Investigator Feedback

Feedback was solicited from committee members regarding their interests in the hiring of a private investigator to assist with retail theft case management and investigation. Discussion took place among members and the San Francisco Department regarding the benefits of having a private investigator, related policies and protocols, and other related law enforcement databases.

6. SFPD Union Square Area Introductions, Updates, & Reports

a. Central Station Updates

Committee members were directed to the crime stats summary provided by Central Station; an update regarding retail theft, robbery, and burglary trends were provided. A brief update regarding the station's plan on recentralizing their teams and departments was also provided.

b. Tenderloin Station updates

An update regarding retail theft, robbery, and burglary trends were provided. Members were advised that the Tenderloin Station has seen an increase in staffing level since the beginning on September. Members who have questions regarding specific cases were encouraged to reach out to representatives at the Tenderloin Station.

c. Thau Long, Crime Analysis Unit, SFPD

Long introduced himself to committee members and provided a brief background of his expertise in analytics and crime trends. Long provided an update on his Unit's plan to provide more accurate crime stats and data to reduce the discrepancy between crime data seen at the Police Department and reports generated by retailers and other businesses. Discussion took place among members regarding ways to streamline the reporting process.

7. District Attorney's Updates

a. Alex Nocon, DA's Office

Tom Ostley provided an update on the success of a multi-agency, national operation: Operation Wrecking Ball that targeted organized retail looting groups that could be traced to other regions, states, and countries. Brief discussion also took place regarding the Western State Information Network and its role in deconflicting conflicted investigations, events, and operations. Tom also provided an update on his new responsibilities on Retail Theft Prevention at the DA's Office. Discussion took



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place regarding the importance of merchants sharing reports and suspects' information with each other.

b. Karin Shaw, DA's Office

No other updates provided.

8. Introduction and Discussion to ALTO

a. Cristian Lopez and Bill Williams

Cristian Lopez, CEO of ALTO provided a presentation to committee members about the history of ALTO, their product and services, their global and international impacts, and other successful case studies. ALTO is a tool and a "concierge service" one-stop shop crime reporting platform with their own community attorneys and legal assistances; available on mobile devices and in apps. Discussion took place among members regarding some of the product's features, timeline for implementation, and other technical and legal details. The Retail Theft Prevention Committee will solicit feedbacks from committee members regarding the presented product and decide next steps at the Services Committee before presenting to the Board.

9. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 10:32am.