2015-16 Civil Grand Jury

Fire Safety Inspections in San Francisco

A Tale of Two Departments: Department of Building Inspection and San Francisco Fire Department

luno	2016	
Julie	2010	

CGJ Year	Report Title	Findings	Responding Dept.	2016 Responses (Agree/Disagree)Use the drop down menu	2016 Response Text
2015-2016	Fire Safety Inspections in San Francisco	F.III.1. DBI and SFFD inspect multi-unit residential buildings for many of the same fire safety hazards but do not coordinate any of their inspections or code enforcement efforts including not sharing information.	Fire Commission	Partially agree with finding (explanation in next column)	SFFD is always open and willing to foster and improve interdepartmental engagement and collaboration. In the particular case of DBI and SFFD, one must take into consideration the very different business models of DBI and SFFD: DBI has staffing dedicated to R2 inspections, whereas the SFFD Fire Suppression Truck and Engine Companies are first and foremost tasked with first responder duties. SFFD inspection of R2 occupancies is both an imperative and a responsibility that must be timed in a manner so as to not compromise health and safety emergencies. In spite of differing business models per above, there are key ways to enhance and drive greater collaboration. 1. Establish a perpetual, working committee (that meets with a regular cadence) and seeks to evaluate the Housing Code and the Fire Code *in parallel*, identify where there is a lack of overlap, and develop a referral process to support these areas in a proactive and transparent manner. 2. Implement a 21st century closed loop, digital solution that enables DBI and SFFD to seamlessly share data across departments and provide online access to interdepartmental referral tracking and reporting.

2015-16 Civil Grand Jury

Fire Safety Inspections in San Francisco

A Tale of Two Departments: Department of Building Inspection and San Francisco Fire Department

	June 2016							
CGJ Year	Report Title	Recommendations	Responding Dept.	2016 Responses (implementation) Use the drop down menu				
2015- 2016	Inspections in San Francisco	R.111.1 The Building Inspection Commission and Fire Commission should require a task force be formed to study DBI and SFFD inspection and code enforcement processes and make recommendations on how they can coordinate their efforts.	Fire Commission	The recommendation has not been, but will be, implemented in the future (timeframe for implementation noted in next column)	The Fire Commission will work with the DBI Commission to implement a task force. The goal is to have a task force in place by February 2017.			