



SHAMANN WALTON
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*****PRESS RELEASE*****

*****SUPERVISOR SHAMANN WALTON ELECTED**

AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS***

SAN FRANCISCO, CA — In a historic vote at the inaugural Board of Supervisors meeting on Friday afternoon, District 10 Supervisor Shamann Walton was elected unanimously by his colleagues as the new President of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Walton is the first African American man to serve as the Board President. He is the fourth African American Supervisor to be elected as Board President after the late Supervisor Doris Ward, Mayor London Breed and Supervisor Malia Cohen.

San Francisco is at a pivotal time when a unified voice has never been more important. This unanimous vote shows the unity that is needed to help San Francisco get through one of the biggest crises in our City's history and continue to fight for social justice and equity. Through the pandemic and the injustices towards Black people and people of color, this City has come together as a model for cities across the nation to prioritize equity and care for our communities, residents, workers, families, seniors, and children. This new Board reflects the best of San Francisco and the diversity of the city which makes San Francisco unique and home to many.

Supervisor Shamann Walton was elected to the Board of Supervisors in November 2018 to represent District 10, which includes Bayview, Dogpatch, Hunters Point, Little Hollywood, Potrero Hill, and Visitacion Valley neighborhoods. He was born in San Francisco and lived in public housing at an early age in Bayview and Potrero Hill. Prior to being elected as Supervisor, he worked in District 10 neighborhoods for decades and has witnessed firsthand the challenges that the community faces, from long-time residents being pushed out of the city, to losing childhood friends to violence and incarceration. As a Supervisor, he has spearheaded issues of reparations, racial equity, public safety, transportation, open spaces, illegal dumping, labor, and among many others.



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Supervisor Walton previously served on the San Francisco Board of Education prior to being elected to the Board of Supervisors. As Supervisor, he has served as the Vice-Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee and as a member of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee. He also serves as a Director on the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and on the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain).

“I am truly humbled and honored to be chosen to serve as your Board President,” said newly elected Board President Supervisor Shamann Walton. “Early 2020 started with a major pandemic and then we witnessed so many injustices for Black people and people of color, whether it was killings at the hands of law enforcement or a divisive leader in the White House trying to racialize COVID 19 and blame a specific community; this all led to a movement that brought everyone together to understand that the lives of Black people and people of color do matter. Through all those challenges, this Board of Supervisors has remained focused on addressing the issues and concerns that exist in all our communities. I hope to bring the voice of all communities to the table. This Board has taken a bold step entrusting me with collectively carrying out a vision of unity, for all of San Francisco, and sending a bold message that we can and will work together.”

“I look forward to working with Board President Shamann Walton,” said newly sworn-in District 1 Supervisor Connie Chan. “Together we will make sure we continue to empower working people, immigrants, and communities of color as we recover from the unprecedented public health crisis.”

“The events of recent days have made clear that we need responsible, accountable elected leadership at all levels,” said District 2 Supervisor Catherine Stefani. “Supervisor Walton is direct about what he believes in, he speaks truth to power, and he delivers results with his legislation. I am grateful for his perspective and the fierceness he brings to policy debates, and I am confident that all San Franciscans will be well served with him as Board President.”

“Supervisor Walton is not only a friend, but truly has become like a brother to me.” said District 3 Supervisor Aaron Peskin. “We respect each other, we genuinely enjoy collaborating, and we’re both deeply committed to working for the City that we love.”



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“In two years, Shamann has forged respectful and effective working relationships with the entire Board and distinguished himself as a voice for justice, compassion and equity.” said District 4 Supervisor Gordon Mar.

“I have enormous respect for Shamann Walton,” said District 5 Supervisor Dean Preston. “We’ve worked closely together in my short time on the Board and I know he’s a person of great integrity. President Walton is the right person to lead the board in this challenging time, and I’m excited for what the Board will accomplish under his leadership.”

"President Walton will be a leader for our Board that works with everyone to deliver solutions for our residents at one of the most challenging times in our city's history," said District 6 Supervisor Matt Haney. "He's no drama, no nonsense, all about results, collaboration and the work in front of us. That's what we need right now."

“I am so grateful to be able to nominate and support Supervisor Walton,” said newly sworn-in District 7 Supervisor Myrna Melgar, “As a new member of the Board, I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Supervisor Walton for many years when he was President of the Board of Education and through his work in the Bayview. He is hardworking with a kind heart and I know he will help us come together to get through these difficult times.”

“As San Francisco and the nation grapple with racial injustice, I’m proud to support my colleague Supervisor Walton as he makes history as the first Black man to serve as President of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors,” said District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman. “He has been a leader in reinvesting in the Black community and addressing gun violence and I know that he will continue that important work as Board President.”

“President Walton has all the qualities that make him the right Board President to lead us through the end of this pandemic and into recovery,” said District 9 Supervisor Hillary Ronen. “He is clear about why he wants a leadership role - to assist those that are suffering the most. He is brave and visionary and always operates with a profound respect for everyone he works with. I am proud that this Board chose the leader to best leverage the talents of every member of this Board as we rebuild our City following the pandemic and four years of the Trump administration.”



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“I’m proud to support Supervisor Shamann Walton as our next Board President,” said District 11 Supervisor Ahsha Safai. “He has been a tireless fighter for underserved communities and a true bridge builder. He is the right person to lead this Board as we help our City recover from one its worst public health and economic calamities.”

The Board of Supervisors has come together through adversity and along with Mayor London Breed will lead San Francisco through recovery from this pandemic and be a model for the nation as one San Francisco.

President Shamann Walton is a proud father to his three adult children, Monique, Malcolm, and Damani, who are all graduates of Bay Area public schools, one young son, Dominic, and a proud grandfather to his two grandchildren. He lives in Bayview with his wife Mesha and his youngest son who is currently attending a San Francisco Unified School District high school.

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