

SHAMANN WALTON 華頌善

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, February 8, 2023 Contact: Tracy Gallardo, 415-509-7266, tracy.gallardo@sfgov.org

STATEMENT ON THREATS TO SUPERVISOR SHAMANN WALTON AND THE DISTRICT 10 OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – In recent weeks leading up to the scheduled Committee of the Whole on the Draft San Francisco Reparations Plan and Dream Keeper Initiative Updates, the District 10 Office has received multiple hateful and threatening calls and emails that are cause for alarm. These calls originate from residents in San Francisco, the greater Bay Area, and across the country. In addition to the Supervisor, office staff and interns have also received these threatening messages and some are fearful for their own lives.

Last Wednesday, an individual (who has harassed and stalked Supervisor Walton several times right outside of City Hall) harassed and threatened Supervisor Shamann Walton again at a rally for Tyre Nichols, after stealing a bullhorn. The individual threatened Supervisor Walton in an attempt to incite violence amongst the crowd during the rally. His individual attacks towards the Supervisor were not part of the protest. Although freedom of speech is a right, this individual's actions are a dishonor to the memory of Tyre Nichols and extremely disrespectful to the Black Community. This individual has a history of attacking Supervisor Walton, as well as other community members in San Francisco. After repeated attacks from this individual, Supervisor Walton raised his finger and flicked him off. This action from Supervisor Walton, as a result of continued harassment from this person, was wrong.

Supervisor Walton apologizes for his actions and has sought out advice from Black elders who have been the targets of threats and violence in their leadership. He is deeply pained for letting his guard down and reacting in this manner and kindly asks the public to please stand up to all these recent racist comments towards the Black community.

Member, Board of Supervisors District 10



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The continued threats and harassment from this individual demonstrate why some elected officials feel they need security. Supervisor Walton consistently spends time in his community by himself. This individual's history of violence will be taken seriously by this office.

Due to Supervisor Walton's history of fighting for justice reform, he will not be pressing charges on this individual, who has a pending case, nor will he seek a restraining order on this individual as recommended. These recent actions are additional proof of how Black leaders are treated and reacted to when they seek to change systems of oppression. It is evident that people from outside the San Francisco community believe they can come in and disrupt the strong unity of the various communities that stand behind Supervisor Walton's leadership. While we understand the passion for justice reform, Supervisor Walton's work on justice reform speaks for itself.

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