

Member, Board of Supervisors  
District 3



City and County of San Francisco

AARON PESKIN

May 8, 2018

Dear Madame Clerk Calvillo,


On May 1, 2018, the Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution formally condemning the recent inhumane treatment of Filipino activist Jerome Succor Aba, on file with your office in File No. 180432. Under the unlimited power of inquiry assigned to the Board of Supervisors in the City Charter and under the Sunshine provisions outlined in California Government Section 6253.1, I request the Office of the Clerk of the Board to submit a letter of inquiry on behalf of my office to obtain the following information from the San Francisco International Airport (SFO), where the interrogation and detention took place for 28 hours:

- Does the SFO have a formal policy on the use of airport facilities for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to deny passengers their constitutional rights and their rights under the United Nations Charter and International Law? What about a formal policy on the use of airport facilities to detain passengers without access to legal counsel
- Does the SFO have specific quarters that are designated for detention and interrogation? Where are these spaces located at SFO and what do they look like? Who monitors what happens inside of these rooms and who has access to them?
- Immigrant detainees have reported that Customs and Border Protection (CBP) refer to the rooms where detainees are held as "iceboxes", the description of which closely resembles the description Mr. Aba used in his retelling of his detention experience. Does the SFO have stainless steel rooms or 4-sided metal meeting rooms anywhere on the premises? Where are they located? Do these rooms have windows or surveillance cameras? Who has access to these rooms? Who has access to the temperature controls?
- What federal offices and agencies are located at the SFO airport facilities? What Department of Homeland Security (DHS) agencies, offices and divisions are at the SFO?
- What is the nature of the binding relationship between the federal government agencies and the SFO, whether regulatory, legislative or statutory, and the nature of lease and tenancy contracts? What is the nature of the relationship with the DHS and CBP, in particular?
- Does the DHS lease space with conditions or own and operate its space outright? Does the SFO receive rent from federal agencies for use of SFO space or resources, including security staff, facilities or cameras?
- What kinds of conditions does the SFO place on its relationship with federal agencies operating out of the SFO airport, including the DHS and CBP?

- What role does the Airport Commission have in overseeing any of these conditions and inter-agency agreements? Are SFO facilities tenants made aware of the City's Sanctuary City and Due Process For All laws?
- Does the SFO receive any regular reporting from federal agencies utilizing SFO facilities on the use of this space for security purposes, including how many individuals are detained per month? Where are civil rights complaints filed and who responds to violations by federal agencies or SFO tenants against civilians?

Staff should respond to this inquiry by the start of Budget and Finance Committee on May 10 at, 2018 at 1:00 pm and copy Sunny Angulo in my office.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Aaron Peskin". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the "Thank you," text.

Aaron Peskin