



# OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

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**Ross Mirkarimi**  
SHERIFF

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## SAN FRANCISCO SHERIFF DEPARTMENT'S FIVE KEYS CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONIES JUNE 19, 2014

Sheriff Ross Mirkarimi announces the San Francisco Sheriff Department's Five Keys Charter High School graduation ceremonies to be held at the Hall of Justice, located at 850 Bryant St, 6<sup>th</sup> floor auditorium.

At 10:00 a.m. a ceremony will be held to recognize the achievements of 18 inmates in the San Francisco County Jail who have earned their high school diploma or equivalency while incarcerated. At 1:30 p.m. a Community Partners ceremony will be held to recognize an additional 38 students who will be awarded a diploma or equivalency.

These ceremonies, which mark the 18<sup>th</sup> graduating class and the 2<sup>nd</sup> graduating class of 2014, will be attended by family and friends of the graduates, as well as teachers, school officials, and San Francisco Sheriff's Department Command staff.

The San Francisco Sheriff Department's Five Keys Charter High School, now celebrating its eleventh year anniversary, was founded in 2003 as a program of the San Francisco Sheriff's Department. Five Keys Charter High School is the first-in-the-nation public charter high school to operate in a county jail. Five Keys now operates at 16 community locations throughout San Francisco and 5 in Los Angeles. This year Five Keys will serve over 9,000 students and over 1357 students daily. Five Keys serves 25% of the San Francisco jail population and interweaves the concepts of their motto; community, family, recovery, education, and employment into its school curriculum and workforce development programs while deputy sheriff's provide a law enforcement presence and balance the safety needs of the jail. To date, Five Keys has awarded over 800 Diploma's, GEDs, and Certificates of Completion.

This year, Five Keys was honored at the annual California Charter Schools Conference (CCSA). The CCSA takes the time to honor outstanding achievements from across the movement through the presentation of the Hart Vision Awards. The 2014 Hart Vision Award recognizes schools that have made significant contributions to the CCSA's

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mission to increase student achievement by supporting and expanding California's quality charter public school movement.

"Education is life and lives that are made better through the rigor of the Five Keys Charter High School," stated Sheriff Ross Mirkarimi. "Immersing a high school in a jail is so radical that it actually makes sense".

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