



SFPOA President Calls Out Boudin Lying About his Own Record

San Francisco, CA—San Francisco Police Officers Association President Tony Montoya issued the following statement in response to disparaging remarks made by San Francisco District Attorney candidate Chesa Boudin:

Yesterday, in response to SFPOA campaign materials truthfully informing the voters of District Attorney candidate Chesa Boudin's dangerous platform, Boudin told the San Francisco Examiner: "They are suggesting to voters that I am unwilling to seek severe punishment in cases of serious crimes," Boudin said. 'In no part have I said that.'"

That's a lie.

Mr. Boudin has proudly run on a 'criminals first' platform that he promises to bring to the District Attorney's Office. Now that his own words are being exposed to voters, and the real-life implications of his words potentially becoming policy are being exposed, he wants to retreat to his ivory tower and drop the race card. As a gay Latino, I find it deplorable that Chesa Boudin is attacking me and the rank and file police officers of our city for telling voters what he has said numerous times during his campaign to be DA. Darkening my image in Boudin's deceitful video response to our efforts is an attempt to scare voters and should be condemned as a racist tactic intended to divide our city. It's shameful.

Here are the facts:

Boudin's Absolute Refusal to Charge Gang Enhancements

A central component of Boudin's criminals first platform is not charging gang enhancements, which carry longer sentences, on violent gang members. This comes straight from his [website](#): "**No more prosecuting racist gang enhancements,**" and "**We don't need racist gang enhancements, with their additional potential prison time, to keep San Francisco safe.**"

After being a criminal defense attorney for a whopping 6 years, and never prosecuting a single case, let alone a gang case, Mr. Boudin has stated he will throw away an important tool to hold violent criminal gang members accountable.

Why are gang enhancements important? Because criminal prison and street gangs intimidate witnesses and literally terrorize neighborhoods through violence as a routine course of business. They also seek to fund their criminal enterprise off of the misery of others through human trafficking, drug sales, burglary and theft rings, and protection rackets on local business owners. Going to jail or prison for a short time is not a deterrent, in fact, it will boost a gang member's prestige. The discretion to add longer sentences is a tool for prosecutors to keep guilty gang members from returning quickly to the neighborhoods they seek to control. Boudin is handing criminal gangs a win if he is elected.

Refusal to Contest Early Release of Prisoners for Parole

Boudin has promised not to contest the early release from prison for anyone who has taken any sort of plea bargain for a felony, unless they committed crimes in prison (and that's a maybe). At a UCSF candidate forum on September 19, 2019, Boudin stated, "*Now, for me, personally, as a district attorney, I'm going to stop having lawyers in my office go to parole hearings and advocate against release, except in exceptional circumstances. If there's some reason a*

person was involved in criminal activity in prison, sure, we can look at opposing release. But for people who serve the time that we agreed to as part of a plea deal it is a waste of resources. I think it's frankly, questionable whether it's not a violation of a contract."

As a criminal defense attorney who has negotiated plea bargains over his short career, Mr. Boudin knows that often times prosecutors offer plea bargains for lesser crimes in the interest of protecting crime victims from having to relive the terror of the crimes perpetrated upon them. This is especially true of sexual assault victims (particularly minors), for example.

Prosecutors, even though they may have a strong case, are reluctant to put a child on the stand in order to undergo humiliating and traumatizing cross examination from criminal defense attorneys', like Boudin. It's a compassionate solution for a victim. That convicted criminal most likely will later qualify for an early release, especially if the crime meets the criteria for Proposition 57—which allows for even earlier release of a litany of crimes that most non-defense attorneys would consider violent. Mr. Boudin can explain to every rape and sexual assault victim he is supposed to speak for that he will either not accept any plea deals to ensure a violent predator stays behind bars for the crime they actually committed or that they should put their trauma to the side and testify no matter what. We think that's a dangerous strategy that re-victimizes crime victims.

Soft on Drunk Driving

Mr. Boudin has stated repeatedly that he would not take first-time DUI offenders who did not cause an accident to trial. He called this type of crime "victimless" as described in [this news article](#). He is the only DA candidate to take this position. His position was reconfirmed as recently as October 23, 2019 in the San Francisco Chronicle. Mr. Boudin has been criticized by all of his opponents for his position.

Inexperience as a Prosecutor

The SFPOA has stated that Chesa Boudin has never prosecuted a case. This is a fact. Mr. Boudin has never served as a prosecutor. In fact, by most standards he would be considered a relatively inexperienced attorney as well. He was only admitted to the California Bar in 2012 and has worked as a criminal defense attorney for only approximately six years. He is running to be the top prosecutor of an office with over 200 employees.

Chesa Boudin seems to be perfectly comfortable with all of his positions until someone points out how it may actually impact public safety or crime victims. It's obvious in his response and his positions that he considers safety and victims as an afterthought. What's more telling is that once his position is challenged, he's quick to demean his opposition, primarily by playing the race card. As a person of color, I find this despicable. The men and women of the San Francisco Police Department work daily to protect all of our residents, all of them, and they are very concerned with the policies that Mr. Boudin champions.

Tony Montoya
President