Board of Supervisors, District 6



City and County of San Francisco

MATT DORSEY

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STATEMENT

Supervisor Dorsey hails arrest of suspect in SOMA attack on AAPI community leader and longtime City commissioner

'There should be no place in San Francisco for this kind of violence,' which in the last couple of years is disproportionately targeting seniors in our AAPI communities,' Dorsey said

SAN FRANCISCO (Aug. 7, 2022) — Supervisor Matt Dorsey today praised the work of San Francisco police officers for locating and arresting a suspect in the attack on veteran City commissioner and AAPI community leader Gregory Chew.

Officers from SFPD's Tenderloin police district identified the suspect late this morning near the corner of 8th and Market Streets, and developed probable cause to arrest Derrick Yearby, 34, of San Francisco. The unprovoked attack on former Commissioner Chew occurred on the evening of Tuesday, Aug. 2, 2022, near 3rd and Folsom Streets. The 70-year-old District 6 resident was treated and released from the hospital for non-life-threatening injuries, according to a release from the San Francisco Police Department.

"There should be no place in San Francisco for this kind of violence, which in the last couple of years is disproportionately targeting seniors in our AAPI communities," said Dorsey. "San Francisco police reported a 567 percent increase in anti-Asian hate crimes in 2021. We must all do more to stop these attacks, and one way to deter violence like this is to send a strong message to would-be attackers that they'll be brought to justice in San Francisco."

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Earlier today, Dorsey joined City Attorney David Chiu, State Senator Scott Wiener and Asian American community leaders for a rally in Washington Square Park, urging stepped up action on crimes that appear to be targeted.

According to the San Francisco Police Department's statement, the suspect has been booked in San Francisco County Jail on charges of aggravated battery causing serious bodily injury (243(d) PC), assault with force likely to produce great bodily injury (245(a)(4) PC), elder abuse (368(b)(1) PC, and great bodily injury enhancement (12022.7(c) PC). The SFPD case number is #220-514-138.

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