



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DECEMBER 8, 2021**

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The Coalition for Community Safety and Justice (CCSJ) Announces Janice Li as Inaugural Director

December 8, 2021 - San Francisco, CA—The Coalition for Community Safety and Justice (CCSJ) welcomes Janice Li as its new Director of the coalition. As Director, Janice will lead the efforts in developing AAPI community-based safety initiatives for the City of San Francisco. This will include programs and activities to address violence and racial inequity such as wrap-around services for victims and their families as well as long term investments that are preventative and strengthen communities.

"At our core, CCSJ is about reimagining community safety and it starts with working with impacted communities to center healing, prevention, and intervention. Janice not only shares this vision but has a demonstrated track record for doing impactful work. We look forward to her joining the CAA team," Cynthia Choi, Co-Executive Director of Chinese for Affirmative Action stated.

CCSJ is a coalition founded by San Francisco organizations Chinese for Affirmative Action, Chinatown Community Development Center, Chinese Progressive Association, and the Community Youth Center. The coalition was formed in response to the long-standing incidents of violence, crime, racial tensions, and the surge in COVID-19 related anti-Asian racism. Its focus is to work toward mitigating violence and hate in all communities of color as well as piloting community-centered cross-racial programs to solve root causes of violence. Collectively, the founding members have nearly 200 years of experience in leading progressive racial justice initiatives in the City of San Francisco.

Janice is a lifelong community organizer and joins CCSJ with a wealth of experience from her previous roles. In 2018, she became the first Asian American woman elected to the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Board of Directors, representing the west side of San Francisco. Since 2013, she has worked at the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, where she leads the organization's advocacy and policy work to advance the mission of promoting the bicycle for everyday transportation. Born in Hong Kong and raised on the East Coast, Janice previously spent time at

PUSH Buffalo and founded the Grant Street Neighborhood Center, a youth-driven community space on the west side of Buffalo, New York.

“This new coalition is poised to make a real, tangible and meaningful difference in the lives of Asian Pacific Islander residents in San Francisco to put an end to hate and violence targeting our community. I’m ready to jump in and be a part of this movement that is built upon the backs of four incredible and powerful San Francisco community-based organizations that already do so much to serve our diverse community,” Janice stated as she described her excitement entering this new role.

The Director announcement comes with the release of the 2021 CCSJ Semi-Annual Report. To read more, please visit: www.ccsjsf.org

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