



Formerly Incarcerated Advisory (“FIA”) Board

Focus Areas

**Re-entry
Services**

**Mentoring At
Risk Youth**

**Social
Inclusion**

A Group of Thoughtful Change Makers

There is a growing movement in our country to better understand what effective and lasting criminal justice reform looks like. Essential to this movement is incorporating all of our perspectives, especially those of individuals who have experienced the system firsthand and are committed to making it more just for all.

This is exactly why our office created the first of its kind advisory board, for a prosecutor’s office, of formerly incarcerated individuals who are now reintegrating into our community. A group of thoughtful change-makers in positions of leadership, these members of our Formerly Incarcerated Advisory (“FIA”) Board come together regularly to meet with the DA to impact meaningful reform to our criminal justice system.

Focus Areas: Re-entry, Mentorship, and Challenging Prevailing Views

The FIA Board’s focus areas include working on creating supportive systems for safely and productively reintegrating recently released men and women into society, building robust mentorship programs to connect with at risk youth, and organizing forums to educate the public about their experiences within the criminal justice system.

Borne from the SFDA/San Quentin News Forum

Borne from our innovative program The SFDA/San Quentin News Forum, the FIA Board represents a new and valuable tool in our efforts to thoughtfully think about what true criminal justice reform requires. Our FIA Board focuses on reducing crime from their unique perspectives.

They bring a wealth of knowledge and nuance to our understanding of the types of supportive services that recently released men and women need to stay out of the criminal justice system; many of our members are navigating these systems themselves. At the same time, their ability (and credibility) to share their stories and insights with a variety of communities make them a powerful resource for impacting positive change.

For more information, please contact Marisa Rodriguez, Assistant District Attorney and Director of Community Relations, at marisa.rodriguez@sfgov.org