



**The San Francisco Black Film Festival
2019 Media Briefing & Tribute to Jeff Adachi**
Wednesday, June 12, 2019
4:00-6:00 p.m.
Cinemark Century 9 & XD Theatre
Westfield San Francisco Centre

Program Agenda

Welcome & Introductions

Mayor London Breed (Invited)

Supervisor Vallie Brown, District 5

Festival Overview/Special Announcement

Video-“Jeff Adachi, A Friend of the San Francisco Black Film Festival”

Jeff Adachi (1959-2019)-“A Filmmaker by Night” and the late Public Defender of the City and County of San Francisco by Day, was the only elected Public Defender in the state of California, and was one of few elected public defenders in the United States. Adachi, a U.C. Berkeley and Hastings Law School graduate, oversaw an office of 93 lawyers and 60 support staff. Under his leadership, the office represented over 23,000 people each year charged with misdemeanor and felony offenses, providing panoply of innovative programs to its clients, including Drug Court, Clean Slate expungement services, and a full-service juvenile division. Adachi tried over 150 jury trials, including numerous serious felony and homicide cases, and handled over 3,000 criminal matters throughout his career. Adachi was past president of the Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area and the San Francisco Japanese American Citizen’s League. He taught with BAR/BRI bar review and published five books on passing the bar exam. Adachi was the recipient of numerous legal and civic awards including the California State Bar Association’s Hufstedler Award. His wife Mutsuko and daughter Lauren, his colleagues, The San Francisco Black Film Festival and many friends in the arena of social justice mourn him.

Screening

“Disparity” Directed & Written by Justin Givens; Lead Actor, Jeremy Givens

“Neko Wilson Social Biography” by Raj Jayadev & Silicon Valley DeBug”

Prison Reform Panel Discussion

Karen Clopton- San Francisco Human Rights Commissioner Karen Valentia Clopton is a lifelong champion of civil and human rights. She is currently General Counsel and Vice President of Access and Inclusion for Incendio International. She has had a career of many historic “firsts.” She was the first African American Chief Administrative Law Judge for the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and served for nine years. The American Bar Association awarded her the Robert B. Yegge Award for Outstanding Contributions to the field of judicial administration in 2017. The National Association of the Administrative Law Judiciary elected her to its Board of Governors in 2017. In addition to national recognition from the American Bar Association, Commissioner Clopton has received many awards throughout her career, including the 2013 Silver SPUR Lifetime Achievement Award from the nation’s pre-eminent urban planning and research organization. In recognition of her work at the CPUC and throughout her more than 25-year career, the

American Bar Association awarded Chief Judge Clopton the 2010 Mary C. Lawton Award for Outstanding Government Service. She received the 2011 Trailblazer Award from the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, San Francisco Chapter. The first Jack Berman Distinguished Service to the Legal Profession and the Public Award by the California Young Lawyers Association of the California State Bar is also among her awards. Commissioner Clopton graduated cum laude in Political Science and Hispanic Studies from Vassar College. She studied in the Vassar Wesleyan Program in Madrid, Spain and is fluent in Spanish. Commissioner Clopton earned her Juris Doctor from Antioch University School of Law.

Pamela Price- Pamela Y. Price graduated from Yale and Boalt Hall Law School. In 1977, Price joined Alexander (Price) v. Yale, the first sexual harassment case brought under Title IX. Her case established that sexual harassment in education is illegal and led to the establishment of grievance procedures nationally. In 1991, Price founded a law firm in Oakland, specializing in sexual and racial harassment and discrimination. **In 2002, she made legal history in Morgan v. Amtrak by winning the appeal in the Ninth Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court.** Price successfully argued the case before the Supreme Court and was named the 2002 California Lawyer Attorney of the Year in Employment. Every year since 2004 she has been a Northern California "Super Lawyer." In 2007, she served as the Interim Executive Director of the S.F. Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights (LCCR). She also served two terms as Co-Chair of LCCR's Board of Directors. Pamela is in private practice in Oakland. In 2018, she became the first Black woman and the first person to run for Alameda County District Attorney in more than 50 years. Her victories at trial and tenacity have become legend in the Bay Area legal community.

Jacq Wilson- A magna cum laude graduate of the California State University, Fresno, received his Juris Doctorate from University of California, Hastings College of Law in 1999. An integral part of the law firm, Allan M. Schuman & Associates, Wilson has earned a reputation for taking on complex cases that other attorneys have refused. He has assisted in and achieved numerous six-figure and million dollar settlements and awards. Originally from Modesto, Jacq with his twin brother Jacque, also a practicing lawyer in the Bay Area, started the Advocates For Justice (AFJ) program to provide Pro Bono Legal representation and assistance. AFJ's mentor program was formed to substantially reduce suspensions and expulsions in Modesto City Schools (MCS), to eliminate disparities in education, and to put an end to the school-to-prison pipeline in our community. Wilson has received the NAACP, Stanislaus County Branch, Human & Civil rights Recognition Award and others for his civic and community service. He is married to the love of his life, Gina Wilson, and they have two beautiful children.

Special Thanks: Mayor London Breed; Supervisor Vallie Brown; Commissioner Karen Clopton; Atty Pamela Price; Atty Jacq Wilson & Cinemark

About The San Francisco Black Film Festival

Ave Montague (1945-2009), arts impresario, fashion industry executive, publicist, founded the San Francisco Black Film Festival in 1998. Ave Montague founded the San Francisco Black Film Festival, a 501c3 nonprofit, with the artistic vision to provide a platform for Black filmmakers, screenwriters, and actors to present their art. As a competitive film festival, SFBFF identifies filmmakers, screenwriters, and actors that are emerging as talents and established artists who are contributing to the cinematic legacy of African Americans. SFBFF conscientiously expands the notions of "Black film-making" to a global perspective. The San Francisco Black Film Festival has screened more than 10,000 films from around the world. The San Francisco Black Film Festival co-directors are Kali O'Ray (son of Ave Montague) and his wife Katera Crossley, both formerly of Atlanta, Ga.

The Mission of the San Francisco Black Film Festival is to celebrate African American cinema and the African Cultural Diaspora and to showcase a diverse collection of films – from emerging and established filmmakers. This is accomplished by presenting Black films, which reinforce positive images and dispel negative stereotypes, and providing film artists from the bay area in particular and around the world in general, a forum for their work to be viewed and discussed. SFBFF believes film can lead to a better understanding of and communication between, peoples of diverse cultures, races, and lifestyles, while simultaneously serving as a vehicle to initiate dialogue on the important issues of our times.

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