Finding Aid to the Larry Bush Papers, SFH 580

Finding aid prepared by Tami J. Suzuki.
San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library
2020
100 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
sfhistory@sfpl.org
URL: http://www.sfpl.org/sfhistory
Title: Larry Bush Papers
Date (inclusive): 1974-2003
Date (bulk): 1992-1995
Identifier/Call Number: SFH 580
Creator: Bush, Larry
Physical Description: 15 cubic feet (15 boxes)
Contributing Institution: San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library
100 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
sfhistory@sfpl.org
Abstract: Contains paper records documenting Larry Bush's work as a journalist and ethics watchdog, mainly following his time as an aide to former Assemblyman and former Mayor Art Agnos.
The collection is stored off site.
Language of Material: Collection materials are in English.
Access
The collection is available for use during San Francisco History Center hours. Collections that are stored offsite should be requested 48 hours in advance.
Restricted Document
A single document is restricted. A review will take place in 2029.
Publication Rights
All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the City Archivist. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the San Francisco Public Library as the owner of the physical items.
Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Larry Bush Papers, (SFH 580), San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library.
Provenance
Material in the first record group was donated by Larry Bush on June 8, 2013. Additional materials were donated by Larry Bush on April 29, 1998 and July 20, 2006; and by Art Agnos on May 11, 2006 and Oct. 11, 2013.
Related Materials
See also San Francisco Ethics Commission minutes; SFH 46, Art Agnos Papers; SFH 471, San Francisco Common Cause Records; and SF SUB COLL, San Francisco Ephemera Collection; and the library catalog.
Related Collection
Processing Information
Biographical
Larry Bush, 1946- , is a journalist and former political aide and government administrator. He was the Washington D.C. correspondent for The Advocate, and the first openly-gay reporter accredited by the White House. He published articles in both gay and straight publications including the New York Times, Washington Post, Village Voice, and Playboy, and also published the Bush Report, which was concerned with gay political and cultural issues. He was also the Washington liaison for the National Gay Task Force.
Bush served as a legislative aide to and speechwriter for Art Agnos, both on the Assemblyman's and Mayor's staffs, (1984-1988 and 1988-1992, respectively). He continued to work with Agnos, at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, serving as Public Affairs Officer for the Pacific/Hawaii region. He also edited CitiReport, a San Francisco political newsletter which later operated as a blog (at www.citireport.com).
His efforts influenced the creation of the San Francisco Ethics Commission, the establishment of voluntary spending limits for San Francisco candidates, electronic filing of campaign reports, and conflict of interest reporting for City Hall aides.
Scope and Contents
This collection has personal papers of Larry Bush, mostly after his work as an aide to former Assemblyman and former Mayor Art Agnos. A few documents from his time as a journalist in Washington DC are included. Materials include CitiReport files and publications, his San Francisco ethics research and reform work, and subject files on topics including the City
Budget under Mayor Frank Jordan, police interrogations, and a living wage.

**Arrangement**


**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Bush, Larry -- Archives

Political ethics -- California -- San Francisco -- 20th century.

San Francisco (Calif.) -- Politics and government -- 20th century.

San Francisco Ethics Commission

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**box 1**

Series 1 CitiReport, 1992-1995

Scope and Contents

Has newsletters and some business files.

Newsletters, 1992-1995

Physical Description: 5 folders


Follow-up

Publicity

Renewal Letters

**box 1**

Series 2 Ethics Series 2 1990-1999

Scope and Contents

Has documents related to Bush's ethics reforms work in San Francisco, including

San Francisco

Commission Business, 1995-1999

Physical Description: 4 folders

Ammiano, Tom, 1997-1998

Board of Supervisors

Brown for Mayor, Willie, 1995

Campaign Contributions, Proposition G, 1996-1997

Campaign Finance Reform, Proposition N, 1999

Campaign Handbook


Competitive Bidding, 1996

Complaints and Investigations

Violation Reportings 1992-1996

Physical Description: 2 folders

Democratic Central Committee Campaign Statement 1996

Frank Jordan Election Committee 1996

Police Officers Association 1996

Series 2 Ethics Series 1990-1999

Supervisors Teng and Leno 1998
San Franciscans for Sensible Government v. Ethics Commission 1999
Industrial Waste Ordinance, 1997
Lobbyist Ordinance, 1998
Lobbyist Registrations, 1996-1997
News Articles
Notes, [1998?]
Soft Money

California
Campaign Contribution Limits, Proposition 208, 1996-1998
Fair Political Practices Commission: Political Reform Act, 1997
Los Angeles, 1990-1996
Physical Description: 3 folders

Reporting Requirements and Restrictions on Lobbying
Soft Money, Proposition 208, 1997-1998
New York, 1995-1996
Physical Description: 2 folders

Series 3 Research Files, 1974-2001

Scope and Contents
Mainly documents Bush's work after leaving Mayor Agnos' office, but includes a few files from his time in Washington DC.

Arrangement
Organized alphabetically by subject.

box 1
A-I

Agnos' Record, 1990-2000
Physical Description: 2 folders

Campaign Literature
City Budget, 1993-1994
Physical Description: 2 folders

City: Technology Concerns, 1995
Fan Mail, 1993-1994
Immigration [Washington DC Work], 1979-1983
International [Washington DC work], 1974-1983

box 2
I-W

Interviews [Washington DC work]
Living Wage, 1999
National Association of Business Councils [Washington DC Work], 1982
News Clippings, 1992-1998
Police Interrogations, 1992
Press Pass, 1991
"What I Saw from Art Agnos' Office" Article
Wong, Walter, 2000-[2001?]

Scope and Contents

Has some of Bush's files from his time as a journalist in Washington, D.C., as well files as a journalist and good government advocate following his time as an aide to Assemblyman and Mayor Art Agnos. Includes CitiReport files. (Bush edited the publication beginning in 1992.) Focuses on ethics in San Francisco government and campaign finance reform.


Scope and Contents

Original boxes were marked "Book." Files may have been set aside for a publication. Subjects include Agnos' Mayoral accomplishments, polling, political issues, bond rating drop, and an ethics complaint against Mayor Frank Jordan's inaugural committee. Has some articles authored by Bush as well as draft text for position pieces and article ideas and speeches.

Arrangement

Organized alphabetically.

box 2

A-H

Affordable Housing Editorial and Speeches
Agnos Biographical, 1989-2001
Physical Description: 5 folders

Agnos Editorials and Letters to Editor, January 1992-[199-]
Agnos Speeches, 1984-1998
Assembly, 1984-1985
Bay Counties Statistics, 1992-1993
Brown, Jr., Willie L., 1996
Bush Articles, Columns and Editorials, 1989-1994
Physical Description: 3 folders

Bush Biographical, 1982-[?]
Bush Book Proposal, The Revolt of the Commuter Class, no date
Bush Personal Correspondence, 1964-[1992]
Bush Reporting Services, 1981-1985
Physical Description: 2 folders

Budget/Bond Rating Drop, 1994
CitiReport Stationery
Committee on Jobs, 1991-1996
Physical Description: 2 folders

Consultants, 1990-1995
Embarcadero Freeway, 1991-1994
Geneva Towers, 1994
Health, 1990
Home Ownership, 1990-1996
Homeless Paper (Mayor's Office of Economic Planning), April 1992
Housing, 1990-2001
Housing and Urban Development (HUD), 1992-2000
Physical Description: 3 folders

box 3

L-W

Laguna Honda, 2000-2001
Mayoral Choices Poll, 1994
Mayoral Staff (Agnos'), 1988-1991
Mission Bay Development, 1990-1996
Newspaper Clippings, 1982-2002

Physical Description: 2 folders

Olympics Bid, 1998-2002
Police and Fire, 1990-2001
Proposals (Newspaper Story Ideas), 1983-2000
Russian Jews, 1984-1988
San Francisco Housing Authority, Report and Five-Year Work Plan, May 1993
State Legislature, 2000
USS Missouri Homeporting, 1987-1993

Physical Description: 3 folders

Welform Reform, 1994

box 3  Series 5 CitiReport Production Files, May-December, 1992
Scope and Contents
Material for specific issues.
Arrangement
Organized chronologically, by issue.

box 4  Series 6 Notebooks and Videos, [1992-1995?]
Scope and Contents
Contains handwritten notes on legal pads, and two videotapes.

Notebooks
Public Housing Ownership, [199-]  
CBS News Story on Berkeley and San Francisco Homelessness, [1999]

Series 7 Research Files, 1992-1995
Scope and Contents
Covers people and subjects, likely for CitiReport publication and Examiner articles. Includes press releases, articles written by Bush, and financial statements of candidates and political committees. Subjects include Economy, Fire Department Consent Decree, Gays, Key Votes, Lobbyists, Elections (under November Elections), Police, Shanti, and Unions. Includes IRS 990 filings of organizations including Frends of San Francisco Public Library, Friends of Recreation & Parks, San Francisco Convention & Visitors Bureau, San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, Friends of San Francisco Police, Friends of Health Department, and Friends of San Francisco Fire Department.
Arrangement
Organized into two sub-series, which are each alphabetically organized. Some files are labeled. Contains many unorganized papers.

Sub-series A, 1992-1995
box 5  A-F
box 6  G-M
box 7  M-P
box 8  P-W

Sub-series B, 1992-1995
box 8  B
box 9  B-I

Scope and Contents
Focuses on Bush's investigations into possible ethics violations, particularly on Frank Jordan; as well as coverage of San Francisco Ethics Commission work. Includes finance statements of elected officials.

Arrangement
Not organized. Some files are labeled. Contains many unorganized papers.

box 10-11
Frank Jordan and Wendy Paskin, 1990-1995

Physical Description: 1.5 Cubic Feet

box 11
Other Subjects, 1990-1995
Mayoral Election, 1995
Actenberg Financial Statements, Roberta, 1990-1992
Alioto Financial Statements, Angela, 1994
Hedleston, Carl
Housing Authority
Patrol Specials Lawsuit

box 12
Other Subjects, 1991-2003
Campaign Committees
Executive Director's Reports, 1995-1997
Opinions from City Attorney, 1992-1997
Electronic Filing (of Election-Related Financial Information)
Political Contractor Laws, 1996
Campaign Finance Reform, San Francisco Laws, 1995-1996
Major Donors, 1996
Ethics Commission Regulations, 1996-1997
City Charter, 1996-1997
Lobbyist Manual, 1996
Candidate Manual, 1996
Ammiano FPPC Request on Lobbyist Issues, Tom, 1996-1997
Fair Political Practices Commisidion Bulletins, 1993-1996
California Campaign Laws, 1996-1997
Kilroy's Directory of SF's Politically Active Groups, 1994
Bush Review of Ethics Commission minutes, 1995
John Doe v Gavin Newsom for Mayor Campaign, 2003
Committee to Build the Boulevard, 1999

box 13
Other Subjects, 1995-2003
Scope and Contents
Mostly loose papers including complaints filed by Bush and documents for court cases including Clint Reilly for Mayor vs. City and San Franciscans for Sensible Government vs. City; campaign consultants' quarterly reports, Commission memoranda and reports from director. Subjects include lobbyist restrictions, campaign finance and public financing of campaigns.
box 14  Other Subjects, 1991-1995

Scope and Contents

box 15  Other Subjects, 1990-1996

Scope and Contents


Physical Description: .67 Cubic Feet
Arrangement
Folders are labeled but not organized.
Scope and Contents
Research files from Bush's work and volunteerism in Washington D.C.