



JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL
of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin, Sonoma, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties

For Immediate Release
December 12, 2017

Contact: Jeremy Russell
Communications Manager
jrussell@jcrc.org

JCRC Statement in Response to Tragic Death of Mayor Edwin M. Lee

The San Francisco-based Jewish Community Relations Council expressed profound sadness at the tragic and untimely death of San Francisco Mayor Edwin M. Lee. An advocate for civil rights and former city administrator who embraced San Francisco's status as a sanctuary city, Mayor Lee, 65, reportedly died at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital last night.

"Mayor Lee understood just how sacred is San Francisco's diversity and represented all of its citizens well. He was a friend to our Jewish community and shared our values and concerns. We are grateful for his partnership on the first-ever celebration of Jewish American Heritage Month in City Hall, an inaugural event that would not have been possible without his enthusiastic support. He will be deeply missed," JCRC Executive Director Abby Michelson Porth said.

As the city's 43rd mayor, Lee worked tirelessly in defense of the rights of both workers and homeless. Before his career in government he was on the Intergroup Clearinghouse, a nonprofit that worked to develop strong relations and eliminate tension between diverse racial, ethnic and faith communities. He will be remembered as much more than the city's first elected Asian-American mayor. Our condolences to his wife, Anita, their two daughters, our friends at City Hall and the entire City Family.

###