

GG26 Taxpayer Dollars

Period: April 15, 2024 - July 2, 2026

Prepared: August 2026

SUMMARY

Total Taxpayer Cost: \$575,981 (Conservative) – \$652,737 (Best Guess)

26 Bay Area community members were arrested on the Golden Gate Bridge (GG26) on April 15th 2024 for protesting the use of US taxpayer dollars to fund weapons and technology used in the first 7 months of the genocide in Gaza.

Over 27 months (from arrest through jury verdict on July 2, 2026) the case cost San Francisco taxpayers over half a million dollars (does not include all estimates - see below).

What This Includes

- Arrest and processing
- Pretrial jail detention
- Police investigation and District Attorney Charging
- 27 court hearings before trial
- Trial (26 days: 19 active + 7 deliberation)
- Jury compensation and lost wages
- Some of the defense attorneys
- Court staff (judges, ADAs, clerks, reporters, bailiffs, interpreters)

What This Does NOT Include

- Most Pre-trial defense attorneys (public defenders or appointed)
- Some of the defense investigators and expert witnesses
- DA investigators and trial preparation work
- Prosecution experts and lab analysis
- Victim/witness services
- Court facility overhead and utilities
- Post-verdict sentencing and appeals

COST BREAKDOWN

Arrest & Initial Detention (April 15–August 12, 2024)

Item	Conservative	Best Guess	Notes
Arrests (4 hrs × 26 people, processing)	\$5,000	\$17,062.50	Police Officer Pay for responding: Police officers earn \$50–\$75/hour, with an average around \$65/hour. https://careers.sf.gov/classifications/?classCode=Q002 However, the actual taxpayer cost is higher due to benefits and overhead. Police departments typically calculate fully-loaded costs at 1.3–1.5x the base salary. Conservative: (\$50/hour avg pay officers responding) * (2 hours on average officer responding) * (~50 officers) = \$5,000 Best Guess: (\$65/hour avg pay officers responding) * (2.5 hours on average officer responding) * (~75 officers) * (1.4 loaded base salary) = \$17,062.5
Jail – First Hold (40 hrs × 26 people @ \$100–\$175/day)	\$4,333	\$7,583	https://www.lao.ca.gov/policyareas/cj/6_cj_inmatecost California state prison cost: Per the Legislative Analyst's Office (2025-26 budget), \$127,788 per person annually, or roughly ~\$350/day. County jails (pre-trial detention) are typically lower because they don't provide the same rehabilitation and medical services, but San Francisco's is more expensive than average. Roughly ~\$100–\$250/day. Conservative: (\$100/day per person) * (26 people) * (40 hours / 24 hours in a day) = \$4,333 Best Guess: (\$175/day per person) * (26 people) * (40 hours / 24 hours in a day) = \$7,583

Phone Investigation (3 months, warrant to data extraction)	\$2,500	\$9,900	Extraction took 3 months of "lengthy legal negotiation." Assuming 1-2 investigators × 40 hours/month × 3 months = 120–240 hours of detective work. San Francisco police investigators earn approximately \$100,000-\$120,000/year, or ~\$50-\$60/hour all-in. https://www.readysethire.com/job-search/position-salary-in-city/investigator-salary-in-san-francisco-ca Conservative: 50 hours * \$50/hour = ~\$2,500 Best Guess: 180 hours * \$55/hour = ~\$9,900
DA Charges Filed & Warrants (200–300 hrs @ \$75–\$80/hr)	\$15,000	\$24,000	Estimating DA + Police work is substantial for this case. It took about 3 months and included a several hundred page discovery document including 44 counts per 26 defendants. A list of work items is below. Most likely several people from the DA's office were involved in this process. A conservative estimate would put this work at about 300 hours total, if 2-3 DA staff spent 10-15 hours/week on this case (part of their caseload), which is about 250–500 hours. Given average salaries of people involved being around ~(50-100)/hour. We can estimate: Conservative: 200 hours * \$75/hr = \$15,000 Best Guess: 300 hours * \$80/hr = \$24,000
Jail – Second Hold (20 hrs × 26 people @ \$100–\$175/day)	\$1,083	\$2,275	Using estimate from above Conservative: (\$100/day per person) * (26 people) * (10 hours / 24 hours in a day) = \$1,083 Best Guess: (\$175/day per person) * (26 people) * (12 hours / 24 hours in a day) = \$2,275
SUBTOTAL	\$27,916	\$60,821	

Pretrial (August 2024 - April 2026)

Item	Conservative	Best Guess	Notes
Court Hearings (27 dates, staff + judges + Prosecution)	\$24,735	\$35,587	See detailed hearing table below
Police Testimony in Preliminary	\$2,400	\$5,460	Given the calculation above for hourly rate. Police testified for 3 days both in the preliminary and in the actual trial. So we can conservatively assume that 1 officer's pay check went towards 48 hours. More realistically, there was some overlap of officer's time, along with commute time. This puts the estimated hours at about 60 hours total. Conservative: (\$50/hour avg pay for officer) * (48 hours on average officer responding) = \$2,400 Best Guess: (\$65/hour avg pay officers responding) * (60 hours on average officer responding) * (1.4 loaded base salary) = \$5,460
Defense Investigator & Expert Funds	\$17,000	\$17,000	Granted Harris motion funds
SUBTOTAL	\$44,135	\$58,047	

Trial (May 1st, 2026 - July 2, 2026)

Estimates:

Judge

Conservative: \$110/hour

Best Guess: \$120/hour

Deliberation Days: Reduce to 25% (standby in chambers, handle motions only) = \$27–\$30/hour

Assistant District Attorney

Conservative: \$90/hour

Best Guess: \$150/hour (2× more hours outside of work, slightly higher salary)

Active Trial Days: 2 ADAs = \$180–\$300/hour combined

Deliberation Days: 1 ADA (standby) = \$90–\$150/hour

Court Clerk

Conservative: \$40/hour

Best Guess: \$43/hour

Deliberation Days: Same (\$40–\$43/hour)

Court Reporter

\$130,000 (low side) = \$62/hour

Conservative: \$60/hour

Best Guess: \$70/hour

Bailiff

Trial days require two bailiffs

Conservative: \$150/hour

Best Guess: \$250/hour

Interpreter

Conservative: ~\$52/hour

Best Guess: ~\$57/hour

Court Administrator

Conservative: ~\$44/hour per person

Best Guess: ~\$49/hour per person

Active Trial Days: 2 administrators = ~\$87–\$97/hour combined

Deliberation Days: 1 administrator = ~\$44–\$49/hour

Jurors Compensation

4 jurors × \$100 = \$400 (qualify for be the jury)

10 jurors × \$15 = \$150 (standard compensation)

Total juror pay/day: \$550

Item	Conservative	Best Guess	Notes
Active Trial Days (19 days, 8 hrs with \$1,139–\$1,337/hr staffing)	\$173,248	\$203,392	Standard trial day Conservative: \$1,139/hr Standard trial day Best Guess: \$1,337/hr
Deliberation Days (7 days, 8 hrs with \$811-\$922/hr staffing)	\$45,416	\$51,624	Deliberation day Conservative: \$811/hr Deliberation day Best Guess: \$922/hr
Jury Selection Lost Wages	\$36,000	\$36,000	Jury Selection “One-Time” Lost Wages during Voir Dire for each trial 90 potential jurors × 2 days × average wage (assume \$200/day) = \$36,000
SUBTOTAL	\$254,664	\$291,016	

Defense Attorneys for Trial

*does not include before February 2026 and only includes the 7 for trial

Item	Amount	Notes
Public Defender Work (2 PDs × 290 hrs, \$99/hr)	\$57,420	Feb 17-June 30, 2026 billed; earlier work not included

Private Felony Counsel, Harris Motion (5 attorneys × 290 hrs, \$155/hr)	\$224,750	Appointed private counsel, Feb 17-June 30
Transcripts (Preliminary hearing + trial appeal)	\$6,500	\$1,000 (prelim) + \$5,000–\$6,000 (trial)
DEFENSE ATTORNEY SUBTOTAL	\$282,170	All phases

DETAILED COURT HEARING SCHEDULE

27 hearings from August 14, 2024 – April 24, 2026

Date	Type	Duration	Location	Description	Cost (Conservative)	Cost (Best Guess)
8/14/24	Felony	1 hr	850 Bryant	Arraignment (time waived)	\$315	\$463
9/16/24	Misdemeanor	1 hr	850 Bryant	Arraignment, formal charges read	\$315	\$463
9/30/24	Felony	1 hr	850 Bryant	Prelim date set, continuance	\$315	\$463

10/17/24	Felony	2 hrs	850 Bryant	Motion to disqualify DA Jenkins	\$750	\$1,066
10/21–23 /24	Felony	24 hrs total	850 Bryant	Preliminary Hearing Days 1–3	\$9,000	\$12,792
10/24/24	Felony	—	—	Prelim Day 4 (postponed: strike)	\$0	\$0
11/15/24	Felony	8 hrs	400 McAllister	Preliminary Hearing Day 5	\$3,000	\$4,264
11/22/24	Felony	2 hrs	850 Bryant	Prelim Day 6, judge's decision (Zoom)	\$750	\$1,066
12/6/24	Felony	1 hr	850 Bryant	Arraignment on information	\$315	\$463
12/12/24	Misdemeanor	1 hr	850 Bryant	Motions to disqualify DA; dismiss; Murgia motion	\$375	\$533
1/6/25	Felony	1 hr	850 Bryant	Demurrer	\$375	\$533

2/20/25	Felony	1 hr	850 Bryant	Challenge GGB restitution claim (\$160K)	\$315	\$463
3/13/25	Felony	1 hr	850 Bryant	Felony arraignment	\$315	\$463
4/15/25	Misdemeanor	1 hr	850 Bryant	Motion under Racial Justice Act	\$375	\$533
4/28/25	Felony	1 hr	850 Bryant	Hearing (purpose unknown)	\$315	\$463
7/11/25	Felony	1 hr	850 Bryant	Hearing (purpose unknown)	\$315	\$463
7/25/25	Felony	1 hr	850 Bryant	Hearing (purpose unknown)	\$315	\$463
9/24/25	Felony	1 hr	850 Bryant	Hearing (purpose unknown)	\$315	\$463
11/7/25	Misdemeanor	2 hrs	850 Bryant	Restitution hearing	\$630	\$1,066

11/19/25	Felony	1 hr	850 Bryant	995 motion	\$375	\$533
1/23/26	Felony	1 hr	850 Bryant	17(b) hearing (continued)	\$315	\$463
2/17/26	Felony	2 hrs	850 Bryant	17(b) hearing (completed, answer delayed)	\$630	\$926
3/9/26	Felony	1 hr	850 Bryant	17(b) denied; time pulled	\$315	\$463
4/2/26	Felony	1 hr	850 Bryant	Hearing (purpose unknown)	\$315	\$463
4/15/26	Felony	1 hr	850 Bryant	Hearing (purpose unknown)	\$315	\$463
4/23/26	Felony	2 hrs	850 Bryant	DA motion to continue (witness unavailable)	\$750	\$1,066
4/24/26	Felony	1 hr	850 Bryant	Peremptory challenge to Judge	\$315	\$463

				PRETRIAL HEARINGS TOTAL	\$24,735	\$35,587
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TRIAL SCHEDULE (26 Days: May 1 - July 2, 2026)

Trial Phase Breakdown

Active Trial Days (19 days):

- Days 1–19: Jury selection, motions, opening statements, prosecution case, defense case, closings, verdict
- Hours per day: 4-8 hours
- Staffing cost per hour: \$1,139 (Conservative) / \$1,337 (Best Guess)

Deliberation Days (7 days):

- Days 20–26: Jury deliberations only
- Reduced court staffing (judge at 25% standby, 1 ADA standby vs. 2 active)
- Staffing cost per hour: \$811 (Conservative) / \$922 (Best Guess)

Date	Day	Phase	Hours	Location	Staffing Rate	Cost (Conservative)	Cost (Best Guess)
5/1/26	1	Scheduling, motions	4	850 Bryant	\$1,139/hr	\$4,556	\$5,348
5/4/26	2	Motions	8	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$9,112	\$10,696
5/5/26	3	Motions	8	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$9,112	\$10,696

5/6/26	4	402 hearing, motions	8	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$9,112	\$10,696
5/7/26	5	Jury selection (half-day)	4	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$4,556	\$5,348
5/8/26	6	Jury selection (half-day)	4	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$4,556	\$5,348
5/11/26	7	Jury selection, motions (half-day)	4	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$4,556	\$5,348
5/13/26	8	Review questionnaires, voir dire	4	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$4,556	\$5,348
5/18/26	9	Voir dire day 1	8	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$9,112	\$10,696
5/19/26	10	Voir dire day 2	8	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$9,112	\$10,696
5/20/26	11	Opening statements, prosecution day 1	8	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$9,112	\$10,696

5/21/26	12	Prosecution day 2	8	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$9,112	\$10,696
5/26/26	13	Prosecution day 3	8	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$9,112	\$10,696
5/27/26	14	Prosecution day 4	8	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$9,112	\$10,696
5/28/26	15	Prosecution day 5	8	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$9,112	\$10,696
5/29/26	16	Defense day 1	8	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$9,112	\$10,696
6/2/26	17	Defense day 2	8	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$9,112	\$10,696
6/3/26	18	Defense day 3	4	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$4,556	\$5,348
6/4/26	19	Closing day 1	4	400 McAllister	\$1,139/hr	\$4,556	\$5,348
6/5/26	20	Closing day 2, deliberations day 1	8	400 McAllister	\$811/hr	\$6,488	\$7,376

6/8/26	21	Deliberations day 2	8	400 McAllister	\$811/hr	\$6,488	\$7,376
6/9/26	22	Deliberations day 3	8	400 McAllister	\$811/hr	\$6,488	\$7,376
6/29/26	23	Deliberations day 4	8	400 McAllister	\$811/hr	\$6,488	\$7,376
6/30/26	24	Deliberations day 5	8	400 McAllister	\$811/hr	\$6,488	\$7,376
7/1/26	25	Deliberations day 6	8	400 McAllister	\$811/hr	\$6,488	\$7,376
7/2/26	26	Deliberations day 7 / verdict	5	400 McAllister	\$811/hr	\$4,055	\$4,610
				TRIAL SUBTOTAL		\$218,664	\$255,016

SOURCES & CITATIONS

Item	Source	URL/Reference
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SF Judge Salary	SF Superior Court Salary Schedule	https://sf.courts.ca.gov/general-information/human-resources/employment/salary-schedule
ADA Salary	SF Careers Portal (Class 8177)	https://careers.sf.gov/classifications/?classCode=8177
Public Defender Salary	SF Careers Portal (Class 8196)	https://careers.sf.gov/classifications/index.php?classCode=8196
Deputy PD Range (Glassdoor)	Glassdoor California ADA/PD Salary Survey	https://www.glassdoor.com/Salaries/california-assistant-district-attorney-salary
County Jail Costs	CA Legislative Analyst's Office, 2025–26 Budget	https://www.lao.ca.gov/policyareas/cj/6\cj_inmatecost
Police Investigator Salary	Ready Set Hire (SF Private Sector Benchmark)	https://www.readysethire.com/job-search/position-salary-in-city/investigator-salary-in-san-francisco-ca
Bailiff Salary Range	Salary.com (SF)	https://www.salary.com/research/salary/recruiting/bailiff-salary/san-francisco-ca

Case Docket & Hearings	GG26 Court Records (Case #)	[Local court filing system]
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