

## Why should we walk in the parade:

In 1972 there was the first parade that resembles what is now the SF Pride Parade. Looking back at that parade the Leather Community was part of the celebration and since then we have continued to be in the parade in one way or another. In 1999 a variety of kink/BDSM/leather groups were combined to be a single contingent. The Leather Pride Contingent encompasses all facets of the Kink Community and our marching in the parade represents more than just us. What everyone should understand is that we must be visible for all those who wish to learn that they are not alone. We walk to represent who we are now, who we were and who we will be. Yes the pride parade has changed but our goal hasn't, to be there and show the world that we are proud. We should walk in the parade if for no other reason honor the tradition of those who walked before us.

## 2015 Pride Parade Debacle - What Happened & Why:

In 2015 **Vehicles and Drivers** were required to be in the assembly area by **9:00 AM** due to street closures. Vehicles needed to be in our designated area before that time otherwise they would not be able to get into the parade.

**10:30AM Contingent Monitors and Leather Marshals** were requested to be there.

**Marchers** were given **11:00 AM** as an arrival time so that we can make sure that we have enough monitors for the parade and so they can participate in the medal **ceremony for our Leather Marshals that was held at 11:15AM.**

Our **estimated step off** time given to us from SF Pride was at **12:30PM**

**Actual time** that we lined up in assembly to move towards the parade route was: **2:07PM**

We reached Market Street and **start the parade** route at **2:48PM.**

We reached the **end** of the parade route at **4:41PM.**

**Average parade time: 20-30 minutes** or so. **2015 time: 1 Hour 51 Minutes**

**SF Pride Response:** *Last year was, I hope, an anomaly with regard to the wait time. Some things occurred that contributed to bog down the second half of the Parade, like construction in both the assembly and dispersal areas, as well as broken down vehicles creating stops and gaps.*

# SF Pride's Contingent Rotation:

## The Last 10 Years:

2006:	141 out of 198	(71%) Last Third
2007	119 out of 200	(59.5%) 2nd Third
2008	87 out of 189	(46%) 2nd Third or 1st Half
2009	138 out of 209	(66%) 2nd Third
2010	114 out of 180	(63%) 2nd Third
2011	108 out of 200	(54%) 2nd Third or Just over 1st Half
2012	186 out of 199	(93%) Last Third
2013	184 out of 236	(77%) Last Third or Little more than 3/4s back
2014	108 out of 221	(48%) 2nd Third or Just under 1st Half
2015	172 out of 236	(72%) Last Third or Just under 3/4s back

**Summary, of the last 10 parades we have been in the first half twice. In 2012 we were the furthest back that we've ever been and near the end of the parade. On average we are 64% of the way back (or somewhere between 6-7 tenths of the way through the parade.**

**SF Pride Response:** Leather Pride also presents a challenge in the following ways: Size, which limits where we can fit you in the Assembly Area. Number of your vehicles, number of your performance groups (which includes the horse races, additional motorcycles) — all these play into our timing for those who need to meet Main Stage set times.

There's the added concern from family groups who request placement away from contingents with nudity or overt sexual overtones.

**SF Pride to Previous Chairmen Response:** The first third is reserved for politicians, groups with children and animals. Groups with children or elderly are also given better placement as they cannot be in the heat for so long

## Volunteers being short staffed in Leather Alley:

My biggest goal is to work closer with Leather Alley organizers and see if we can't find a way to communicate and schedule volunteers better. At our last meeting on January 16th it was suggested that we create a volunteer sign up sheet that allows individuals to see both groups when signing up. I would also like to eliminate some of the vehicles that are used in our contingent in the parade. Not only does this push us further back in the parade but it also requires more wheel monitors pulling needed volunteers from other areas. We are currently only registered for 1 vehicle - the title holder truck. I'd like the DJ, emcee and title holders to ideally share the one vehicle. Organizations that choose to have a car within our contingent will be 100% responsible for their own wheel monitors, the past years I've allowed them to be short staffed and I've located volunteers for them. If they do not have enough wheel monitors the car will not be included in the parade.

<b>1 trained monitor for every vehicle wheel</b>	
<b>+</b>	
2-25 participants	2 trained monitors
26-50 participants	4 trained monitors
51-75 participants	6 trained monitors
76-100 participants	8 trained monitors
101-200 participants	10 trained monitors
201-300 participants	12 trained monitors
301-400 participants	14 trained monitors
<b>=</b>	
<b>Total number of trained monitors needed</b>	