



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

July 10, 2024

Sent Via Electronic Mail Only – Pamela.price@acgov.org

Honorable Pamela Y. Price
1225 Fallon Street, Suite 900
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Offer to Place California National Guard Resources with the Alameda County District Attorney's Office

Dear District Attorney Price,

In early February of this year, our office reached out to you to offer attorneys and other resources from the California National Guard (Cal Guard) to assist with criminal investigations and prosecutions in Alameda County. Attorney General Bonta similarly offered resources to bolster criminal prosecutions. In particular, our hope was that these resources could be used to support efforts to prosecute violent and drug-related crimes and meaningfully improve public safety in Alameda County. Despite our outreach, your office has yet to make use of these resources.

Shortly after our joint statement on February 8, a Legal Advisor from the Cal Guard's Counterdrug Task Force reached out to your office to coordinate support and work through administrative and logistical issues. He provided a draft memorandum of understanding laying out the terms of the partnership. On April 5, following up on earlier conversations, the Cal Guard's Legal Advisor offered to be deputized to work in your office, under your supervision, and identified another Judge Advocate who could be deputized to support the single person in your office assigned to handle narcotics cases. Both of these individuals are experienced assistant district attorneys from other counties serving on active duty with the Cal Guard. Our expectation was that after they were in place, additional Cal Guard attorneys could be deputized to serve in your office as they completed other assignments.

This mission was intended to follow the model of the Cal Guard's successful mission with the San Francisco District Attorney's Office, pursuant to which three Cal Guard



attorneys have been placed in that office for the last year handling felony drug prosecutions, including trials involving significant trafficking operations.

After several months of communications, however, including fulfilling requests from your office for resumes and interviews, you have not taken the initial steps of finalizing the memorandum of understanding or deputizing Cal Guard attorneys to work in your office. Accordingly, we have decided to shift these resources to the Attorney General's Office, where they will be utilized to work on state-led prosecutions originating from Alameda County. Additionally, the Cal Guard will continue to support public safety efforts by providing criminal analysts embedded with the federal Northern California High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force.

As you know, the Governor has also directed the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to focus efforts in Oakland and Alameda County, in partnership with the Oakland Police Department, to crack down on criminal activity, including vehicle theft, retail theft, and violent crime. Those efforts have included a temporary surge of CHP officers in the area, as well as deployment of specialized units and advanced investigative technology. And those efforts have shown tangible results. Since February, CHP officers have recovered more than 1,000 stolen cars, seized more than 50 guns linked to crimes, and arrested more than 500 suspects.

To improve public safety in Alameda County and throughout California, the Governor is committed to leveraging state resources to ensure they are used effectively to achieve the best possible outcomes for all Californians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ann Patterson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ann Patterson
Cabinet Secretary
Office of Governor Gavin Newsom

EC: Haaziq Madyun, Communications Director
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