

October 7, 2002

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**REQUEST BUDGETED AND ORDINANCE POSITIONS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT  
OF THE OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND  
REQUEST BUDGETED AND ORDINANCE UNCLASSIFIED  
EXECUTIVE POSITIONS**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Approve the addition of the Office of Homeland Security as a new component of the existing Patrol Budget Unit in the Sheriff's Department.
2. Approve addition of the recommended ordinance and budgeted positions to create the Office of Homeland Security Headquarters Unit in the Sheriff's Department and interim authority to fill such positions under Section 6.06.020 (B) (1) of the County Code.
3. Approve the addition of ordinance and budgeted positions for one (1) Assistant Sheriff and three (3) Division Chiefs to the Sheriff's Department's budget as a result of a voter approved County Charter change in the March 2002 election and interim authority to fill such positions under Section 6.06.020 (B) (1) of the County Code.

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

On September 11, 2001, we all witnessed the horrific attack upon America perpetrated by terrorists who had taken up residence within the United States. We were shocked and saddened at the tragic loss of thousands of innocent lives and the billions of dollars in property loss. The fact that terrorists could successfully target two of our country's major commercial and government centers with such impunity was a clear indication that drastic action had to be taken to insure the integrity of our country's "Homeland Security."

This attack upon our country also clearly demonstrated that emergency personnel first on scene can make a significant contribution in the rescue of severely injured victims and the restoration of public order. In this instance, "first responders" from local government entities were the only public safety personnel on scene for several hours. Should an incident or disaster of this magnitude occur in our county, many of the first responders will be the men and women of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Therefore, it is essential that our Department embark upon a pro-active effort to enhance our Department's response to potential threats related to local homeland security and terrorist threats. This will be accomplished by creating a special office to command those bureaus and units within our Department that have a nexus to local homeland security. This office will also provide for the appropriate liaison with federal and state agencies that are currently committed to the prevention and investigation of terrorist acts and other significant major disasters. This effort will be an expansion on your Board's previous commitment for increased public safety from the threat of terrorism with the funding for the Sheriff's Department Terrorist Early Warning Group.

This new office will be designated as the Office of Homeland Security and will report directly to the Office of the Sheriff. It will be comprised of the following:

- Emergency Operations Bureau
- Community Law Enforcement Partnership Unit
- Aero Bureau
- Office of Security Management
- Operations Bureau
  
- Reserve Forces Bureau
- Safe Streets Bureau

Special Enforcement Bureau

The members of this office will be committed to the pursuit of a coordinated strategy of preparedness to ensure the readiness of Los Angeles County's first responders, who are ultimately entrusted with the mission of protecting all the citizens of our county. As Sheriff of Los Angeles County and Director for the Emergency Services for Region 1 and 1A in the State of California, it is my duty and responsibility to insure that all residents of our county are adequately protected from the threat of any and all forms of terrorism.

In the March 2002 election, Los Angeles County voters approved the restructuring of the Sheriff's Department to increase the oversight of the Department by adding one (1) Assistant Sheriff and four (4) Division Chiefs. The new Assistant Sheriff position will oversee Technical and Administrative Services Divisions. It is the intent of the Sheriff's Department to appoint three (3) Division Chiefs immediately and recruit a new Assistant Sheriff. One of these Division Chief positions will oversee the Office of Homeland Security.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The requested action will implement Strategic Plan Goal #1: Service Excellence, to provide the public with easy access to quality information and services that are both beneficial and responsive, as well as Strategic Plan Goal #3: Organizational Effectiveness, ensuring that service delivery systems are efficient, effective, and goal-oriented. In addition, we are working collaboratively with other County departments to identify how the County of Los Angeles can minimize vulnerability to potential threats to homeland security.

**FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The Sheriff's Department will fund the Office of Homeland Security and additional executive positions at an estimated cost of \$1 million in Fiscal Year 2002-03 through operational efficiencies. Full year funding will be included in the Department's 2003-04 Fiscal Year budget.

**FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

Many of the bureaus that will make-up the Office of Homeland Security currently are in existence. However, there is a need for operational/administrative staff that will make-up the Headquarters Unit for the Division. The requested positions include:

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>No. of Positions</u></b>
Commander	1
Lieutenant	1
Sergeant	1
Operations Assistant III	2
Management Secretary V	1
Senior Secretary V	1

In March 2002, voters approved an amendment to the County Charter authorizing the Sheriff to expand the unclassified number of Assistant Sheriff's from two (2) to three (3) and the unclassified Division Chief's from eight (8) to twelve (12). It also provided the Sheriff with the flexibility of filling the Assistant Sheriff position with a civilian from outside the Sheriff's Department.

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The requested changes will increase oversight, streamline and enhance the provision of law enforcement services to the citizens of Los Angeles County as well as create a special office, the Office of Homeland Security, that will command those bureaus and units within the Sheriff's Department that have a nexus to local homeland security. Additionally, the Sheriff's Department's Office of Homeland Security will interact with both the State's Office of Homeland Security and the proposed Federal Office of Homeland Security, expected to be enacted by Congress in the near future. This departmental restructuring will result in a vastly improved level of interaction and communication with all levels of government involved in the efforts to prevent the occurrence of terrorists activities in our communities.

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**CONCLUSION:**

Upon Board approval, please return an adopted copy of this Board letter to the Sheriff's Department, Administrative Services Division Headquarters.

Respectfully submitted,

LEROY D. BACA  
SHERIFF

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LDB:VR:KA:aa  
(Administrative Services Division)

c: Paul Tanaka, Chief  
Doyle Campbell, Chief  
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Karen Anderson, SOAI  
Board file