



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HALL OF JUSTICE

ALEX VILLANUEVA, SHERIFF



December 13, 2021

Brian K. Williams, Executive Director
County of Los Angeles
Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission
World Trade Center
350 South Figueroa Street, Suite 288
Los Angeles, California 90071

Dear Mr. Williams:

PROPOSED LOS ANGELES COUNTY CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE POLICY TO BAN DEPUTY SUBGROUPS

Attached is the legal opinion I received from the Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs (ALADS) regarding the Civilian Oversight Committee's (COC) proposed policy to ban deputy subgroups. It is my understanding ALADS provided you this legal opinion during a meeting last week.

As I have stated to you in multiple letters, your proposed policy is concerning as it violates the Constitution, exposes the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department) to litigation, and cites a study which is not peer reviewed or academically acceptable. This legal opinion confirms my position and indicates your policy would not pass constitutional muster.

I must also remind you I am the only Sheriff in the Department's history to address this issue left by past administrations. I crafted a constitutionally sound policy addressing deputy cliques, which was implemented on February 14, 2020. In addition, I created a video shown to all Department members reinforcing my stance on the subject and have instructed my command staff to continually brief the policy.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

ALEX VILLANUEVA
SHERIFF

211 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

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