



# OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HALL OF JUSTICE

ALEX VILLANUEVA, SHERIFF



March 15, 2022

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

Dear Supervisors:

## ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT FOR A SIGNIFICANT SALARY INCREASE OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF PERSONNEL

I am aware you are currently engaged in contract negotiations with the employee labor unions representing my personnel. I ask you to fully support them by providing a significant salary increase.

Currently, you are sitting on an astronomical \$2.5 billion surplus, largely obtained from a substantial increase in tax revenue. The factors which led to the surplus are forecast to continue trending upward.

President Biden recently stated, *"We should all agree: the answer is not to defund the police – it's to fund the police. Fund them!"* When he made this statement, he was speaking not only to the American people, but directly to other elected officials who have championed the cause for the defund law enforcement movement. Several Board of Supervisors (Board) were vocal supporters of a "defund law enforcement" mentality over the last few years. As time has now revealed, this was the wrong direction. It is time for each of you supervisors to move in the right direction. It is time for you to prove to your constituents and the members of this great Department that you appreciate, value, and support law enforcement.

Your Board not only controls the budget of my Department, you also fully control the salary and benefits of my employees. In essence, as one supervisor told me early in my term, "we control the purse strings."

211 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

*A Tradition of Service*  
— Since 1850 —

I believe my personnel are the best in the nation. They perform phenomenally under tough and demanding situations. My Department is suffering a massive loss of personnel, which is extremely harmful to the residents of Los Angeles County and the employees of this Department. Support my personnel by lifting the hiring freeze and giving them a substantial pay increase.

Should you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please feel free to contact me directly at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alex Villanueva', with a stylized flourish at the end.

ALEX VILLANUEVA  
SHERIFF