County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169

LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

April 4, 2006

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

Dear Supervisors:

APPROVAL TO DONATE SURPLUS COUNTY PROPERTY TO THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF SINALOA, MEXICO (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Approve the donation of surplus law enforcement equipment (200 ballistic vests) from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to the State Attorney General of Sinaloa, Mexico for issuance to the State Police Department.

2. Find that this donation of surplus property will benefit the general interest and welfare of the citizens of Los Angeles County, by way of narcotics trafficking enforcement by the Sinaloa, Mexico Police.

3. Waive the indemnity and insurance requirements generally associated with County donations of surplus property.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Sheriff's Department has received a request from the State Attorney General of Sinaloa, Mexico requesting assistance in obtaining 200 surplus ballistic vests. This equipment will be used to outfit the poorly equipped Sinaloa State Police Department.

The Sinaloa State Police Department currently lacks the necessary safety equipment to fulfill its mission. Each day, they provide law enforcement services in their community, some of which directly impacts Los Angeles County. They encounter fugitives from the United States and assist in the extradition of these individuals.

The United States experiences high levels of narcotics trafficking which originates from the country of Mexico. The Sinaloa State Police Department is charged with enforcing laws to combat the trafficking of narcotics, thus benefitting the welfare of those living in the United States.

This donation will enable the Sinaloa State Police Department to be more effectively equipped to perform the dangerous responsibilities of their jobs.

Implementation of Strategic Plan

The donation of surplus law enforcement equipment to the Sinaloa State Police Department supports the County of Los Angeles' Strategic Plan. The Department will be able to continue to realize Goal 1 - Service Excellence. The donation of surplus items for utilization by the Sinaloa State Police Department will provide them additional support in their efforts to protect their local citizens, as well as those individuals who reside in Los Angeles County. Criminals are not bound by jurisdictions, and all of law enforcement must work together to be more effective.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no fiscal impact on the County budget. The equipment to be donated to the Sinaloa State Police Department has outlived its service life with the Sheriff's Department.

No financing is involved. The Sinaloa State Police Department will assume all responsibility for the retrieval of any donated surplus equipment, as well as the removal of any County emblems. The Sinaloa State Police Deparment will also assume the costs associated with the transportation of the donated items.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

A gift of public funds is valid if the gift serves the public purpose of the donor. The gift must serve the general interests and welfare of the citizens of the County as a whole (Government Code Sections 25365; 25504). In

approving this donation, your Board must make the finding that this donation benefits the interests and welfare of the County. This gift serves this purpose, as the Sinaloa State Police Department is actively protecting its local residents, apprehending fugitives from the United States, and halting narcotics trafficking from making its way to the County of Los Angeles.

By approving this donation, the Board recognizes that the Sinaloa State Police Department is not in a position to indemnify the County against liabilities which might be incurred through the use of the donated items.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

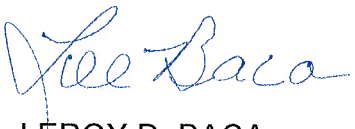
This action would have no impact on current services.

CONCLUSION

This is an opportunity for the County of Los Angeles to assist our neighboring country of Mexico and Sinaloa's State fledgling police force by providing essential protection to its law enforcement officers. It will also help ensure that their hard working efforts will benefit many of the Los Angeles County residents.

Upon your Board's approval, please send an adopted copy of this letter to the Sheriff's Department's Administrative Services Division, 4700 Ramona Boulevard, Room 330, Monterey Park, California 91754-2169.

Sincerely,



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SHERIFF