COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

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December 2, 2004

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:

BOUMAN v. BACA/EQUITY OVERSIGHT PANEL
ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS
(3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Extend the current Equity Oversight Panel members' contracts by an additional thirty days to February 2, 2005.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On November 3, 2004, the Board approved extension of the existing EOP members' contracts for sixty days through January 3, 2005 and instructed our Office to reopen discussions with Class Counsel regarding the composition of the EOP.

Pursuant to your instruction we have met with Class Counsel and informed him of the need to identify another candidate for the EOP. It is our understanding that he will identify and we will present to the Board a new nominee for consideration. However, in light of the ongoing process, we have concern that the new recommendation will not be ready in time for your meeting of December 14, 2004, the last scheduled Board meeting for the year.

To ensure continuity of the EOP's ongoing efforts we request that the contracts for the current EOP members be extended an additional thirty days.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Funds for this action are available in the Sheriff's Department proposed Fiscal Year 2004-2005 budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Equity Oversight Panel (EOP) is a critical component of the Policy of Equality and related Procedures and it remains a necessary step toward bringing the Department into compliance with the Court orders governing this matter.

This action is required in order to continue to staff the EOP whose function is to make findings and recommend discipline following investigations of harassment and discrimination in the Sheriff's Department, to monitor investigations of harassment and discrimination complaints and to evaluate the effectiveness of the Policy of Equality as required by Court orders in the Bouman case.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

Approval of the Recommended action will allow the EOP to continue to operate in compliance with the Bouman court orders.

CONCLUSION

Your Approval of these matters is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

RAYMOND G. FORTNER, JR.
County Counsel

RGF:DBK:gp

c: Sheriff Leroy D. Baca
David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer
Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Dennis A. Tafoya, Director, Office of Affirmative Action Compliance

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