



May 12, 2020

Sheriff Alex Villanueva
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept.
211 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Sheriff Villanueva:

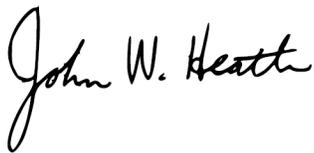
As President of United Homeowners' Association II ("UHA"), I write in collaboration with Ladera Heights Civic Association, ViewPark.Org and a host of neighbors across the County to inform you that UHA and many thousands of your constituents are vehemently opposed to your proposal to close the Marina and Altadena stations in response to your department's budget shortfall. You allege that this shortfall is the result of rising operational costs and years of being underfunded by the Board of Supervisors, and you argue that the closure of these two stations will not adversely affect public safety and that our areas will receive the same coverage levels that we currently enjoy. However, our sources indicate that both response time and patrol unit coverage will be adversely impacted if our patrol units are based at the South LA Station instead of the Marina Station. Furthermore, your own public statement released on April 29th acknowledges that "cuts will be made to patrol in unincorporated areas...which means less deputies will be on the streets."

While we share your concerns about potential overreach by the Board of Supervisors with respect to underfunding the Sheriff's Department and we are very concerned anytime funding for public safety becomes caught up in a political battle, we believe that there are far better ways to achieve the budget reductions you seek without causing tragic public safety consequences in our communities. If you are seeking a 10% overall reduction in costs across all unincorporated patrol areas, why not make those reductions evenly across all stations instead of forcing our communities to disproportionately suffer from these reductions for a mere \$16 million in annual savings?

Another question that our members have is why aren't you implementing the proposed budget mitigation measures recommended by the County CEO last year? We are reaching out to the County CEO's office to obtain more information about these details, and to hopefully understand in greater detail exactly what the CEO has recommended and why you have not adopted those recommendations. We also reached out to the Executive Director of the Civilian Oversight Commission and we look forward to participating in the Town Hall they are hosting this Wednesday to address the proposed station closures. Many members of our community are also very concerned about allegations of misconduct leveled against members of the Sheriff's Department and we trust that we can count on you to set an ethical example of proper conduct by law enforcement as Sheriff by making sure that those who break the rules are properly sanctioned.

On a personal level, I voted for you and I remain hopeful that you will continue speaking truth to power and hold all those accountable under your command who are not playing by the rules. I enjoyed meeting you last year when you attended the Town Hall in our community, and I was very encouraged to hear you describe your views regarding community policing and the importance of collaboration between law enforcement and the community. I'm sure that you do not want your legacy as Sheriff to be that political differences between you and the Board prevented you from implementing the many changes within the Department that you have publicly stated must be made. If there is an opportunity for us to help bring the responsible parties together to explore mutually acceptable alternatives to these challenging budgetary issues, please don't hesitate to contact us at (323) 248-1699 or via email at info@uhawhvp.org. Thank you.

Sincerely,



John W. Heath, Esq.
Board President
United Homeowners' Association II

c: Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Sachi A. Hamai, Chief Executive Officer
LA County Auditor-Controller
Altadena Town Council
Altadena Chamber of Commerce
Altadena Coalition of Neighborhood Associations
Marina Del Rey Lessees' Association
Neighbors Building a Better Altadena
Ladera Heights Civic Association
ViewPark.Org
Various Block Clubs and Associations