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San Diego County Sheriff's Department

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William D. Gore, Sheriff

July 31, 2018

Sandra Arkin, Board Chairperson
Citizens' Law Enforcement Review Board
555 West Beech Street, Suite 505
San Diego, CA 92101-3819

CLERB CASE NUMBER: 17-147 / Moore

Dear Chairperson Arkin:

The Sheriff's Department welcomes and supports the Citizens' Law Enforcement Review Board's (CLERB) independent review of complaints alleging improper actions by members of this organization. We continuously strive to respond with professionalism and concern to the citizens we serve and the CLERB process provides invaluable input to that end.

The letter from CLERB dated June 28, 2018 recommended policy changes related to the Sheriff's Department Detentions policy J.5 *"Inmate Suicide Prevention Practices & Inmate Safety Programs."* Specifically, CLERB requested the following:

1. It is recommended that the San Diego Sheriff's Department (SDSD) revise its Detention Services Bureau Policy and Procedures (DSB P&P) entitled, "Inmate Suicide Prevention Practices & Inmate Safety Program," to establish a process for Court Services Bureau personnel to relay to Medical Services Division personnel life, death, and other sentencing information that, under the known circumstances, may be considered "severe."
2. It is also recommended that the SDSD communicate to pertinent external entities its desire to conduct suicide prevention evaluations on inmates who may be in need of them and facilitate processes to ensure those entities can communicate concerns as expeditiously and easily as possible.

These recommendations were thoroughly reviewed at all levels in this organization, to include the Suicide Prevention and Focused Response Team. Regarding the first recommendation, our Medical Services Division is currently working with the Court Services Bureau and the Public Defender's Office to create notification steps and offer training regarding inmates that are sentenced to life, death, or other "severe" sentences. Once these processes and training are in place, the Sheriff's Detentions policy will be updated.

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CLERB #17-147 / Moore

Policy Response

July 31, 2018

With regards to the second request, Suicide Prevention and Focused Response Team is working on education and advertisement of suicide prevention to include external stakeholders (ie: family, friends, and inmate peers.)

The Sheriff's Suicide Prevention and Focused Response Team is constantly reviewing jail suicides and suicide attempts in order to reduce the number of jail suicides. This is done through training and education to deputies, inmates, and medical staff.

In closing, we appreciate the time and effort of the Citizen's Law Enforcement Review Board. I would like to thank you for your service to the Citizens of San Diego County and the policy recommendations. It is our goal to provide the "Highest quality public safety services" to everyone in San Diego County.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM D. GORE, SHERIFF

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Gilmore', written over the typed name of David Gilmore.

David Gilmore, Lieutenant
Office of the Sheriff
Division of Inspectional Services

DG: adm