



MEMORANDUM

Date: July 13, 2009

To: Lindy Funkhouser
Assistant County Administrator for
Justice and Law Enforcement

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "CH Huckelberry", is written over the typed name "C.H. Huckelberry".

Re: **Public Safety First Initiative**

Please obtain a copy of the certified Initiative from the City Clerk and ask the County Attorney Civil Division to review the Initiative. Determine whether the Initiative is simply adopting an ordinance by initiative process, or amending the City Charter. There is a difference.

Further, I would ask for a more detailed analysis to be undertaken regarding future costs that will be incurred by the County. While the costs provided by various Criminal Justice agencies are useful, the analysis needs further background review, information, and detail. In particular, the analysis of the Courts should be founded in detailed analysis as opposed to e-mail.

It would also be instructive to determine if other communities have been subject to such an initiative process. Unfortunately, initiatives that specify minimum government performance standards without a dedicated funding or revenue source are at the root of potential state government bankruptcies in California and even Arizona. This would appear to be a local initiative that is similar.

Also determine how the minimum standard of 2.4 police officers as well as the fire response standard were obtained. What types of studies and analyses support such an initiative legislated standard? Can there be a true measure of improved or increased community safety in relationship to the number of sworn law enforcement officers in a particular community?

I would also request that you ask the Justice Coordinating Council to more fully discuss, in detail, the potential impacts of such an initiative on the workloads of the existing Criminal Justice System in all areas financed by the County, including the courts, probation, prosecution, defense, detention, housing, and any other related costs. It is important that there be a factual analysis of this matter. The first step is simply to obtain the actual Initiative filed and have a legal review performed so that we have a clear understanding of the impacts that may occur on the workload requirements of the County Criminal Justice System if the Initiative passes.

Lindy Funkhouser
Public Safety First Initiative
July 13, 2009
Page 2

Finally, appropriate contingency budget plans should be developed if the Initiative passes at the November election. Without the ability to immediately increase revenues, expense reductions from existing programs will be necessary. Please review with each County justice agency what program funding shifts can be made to accommodate the service demands caused by the Initiative passing. For example, the County Attorney Victim Witness program would appear to cost approximately the same as the prosecution cost impacts from the Initiative. Could this program be eliminated to fund the Initiative? The same logic could be used for the Conciliation Court and certain programs at Juvenile Court. Please prepare budget contingency plans regarding the cost impacts of the Initiative on the County Criminal Justice System.

CHH/jj

- c: The Honorable Jan Kearney, Presiding Judge, Superior Court
- The Honorable Chairman and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
- The Honorable Clarence Dupnik, Pima County Sheriff
- The Honorable Barbara LaWall, Pima County Attorney
- Amelia Cramer, Chief Deputy County Attorney
- Martin Willett, Chief Deputy County Administrator
- Robert Hirsh, Public Defender
- Isabel Garcia, Legal Defender
- Kent Batty, Superior Court Administrator
- Tom Burke, Finance and Risk Management Director
- Thomas House, Budget Manager, Finance and Risk Management
- David Smutzer, Legal Administrator, County Attorney's Office