

Key, Lori

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Sent: Monday, October 11, 2021 4:05 PM
To: ClerkoftheBoard
Subject: ITEM # 31

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Dear Board of Supervisors,

I'm deeply concerned about our whole county being safe from crime. Thus I urge you to do whatever is in your power to sever the cooperation between Ventura County Sheriff's office and Immigration and Customs Enforcement. It is only fair that after a person has served their prison sentence, they be able to go back to their family and community. We are all worthy of feeling secure in our homes, place of work and worship, or simply taking our children to school.

The injustices in Ventura County against hard-working immigrant communities are profound and detrimental. As an educator, I have seen that children feel anxious, they fear being separated from their parents, whose security and freedom they know is tenuous. Their uncertainty expresses itself in some students becoming disengaged, and as a result, the connection to their peers weakens, creating less than a cohesive, positive and productive classroom environment where all students can learn.

The VC Sheriff's Office must stop collaborating with ICE because this cooperation frightens and alienates immigrant communities and has been shown to erode trust in police officers. To report a crime witnessed, or even one committed against them, people need to feel safe, without fear of deportation. Immigrants are our neighbors, friends, family members, coworkers, and students. They are also significant contributors to the health of our communities and to our local economy. The U.S. Constitution promises all residents, including immigrants, equal protection under the law.

Under your leadership, we must do better supporting all members of our communities, particularly the most vulnerable. You have my support in this endeavor!

Sincerely,

Maria Ornelas