



Sheila de la Guerra **Public Comment**

---

**From:** Melissa Collins <Melissa.Collins@ucop.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 17, 2026 7:28 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Dr. Lee

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

To whom it may concern,

I understand that you are considering eliminating Dr. Lee's position within Santa Barbara County. I feel this is a grave mistake.

As someone who is a retired Police Chief and currently the Program Manager for Threat Assessment, Security, and Risk Mitigation for the University of California, Office of the President, I work with numerous jurisdictions across the state.

The model that you have built with Dr. Lee embedded within your law enforcement community is absolutely a best practice for our current state of affairs and should be what law enforcement strives to emulate in every jurisdiction in the state, if not nationwide, moving forward.

Dr. Lee's insight, collaboration, and support have been invaluable. It would be an enormous loss, not only to the University of California, but to the City and County of Santa Barbara.

Dr. Lee is an irreplaceable pillar in our public safety community. A decision to eliminate her position would be a serious setback for Santa Barbara and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration.

Melissa Collins  
Program Manager - Security • Risk • Resilience  
University of California, Office of the President  
Office of Risk Services  
[melissa.collins@ucop.edu](mailto:melissa.collins@ucop.edu) • 619-857-7321