

Sheila de la Guerra

Public Comment- Group 1

#2

From: Heather Race <heatherrace@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 4:41 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Regarding Social Services Department Budget Hearing, October 7, 2025

LATE
DIST

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.

This comment is directed to the Board of Supervisors in response to the recommendations by the Social Services Department to cut a significant portion of staff.

As it stands, the Department is recommending a restructuring plan, which significantly reduces the current workforce. As it is presented to the board, this plan is the result of a budget and fiscal crisis.

I am writing out of concern that the Department has done very little to prevent, and or remedy this crisis beyond cutting services to the community and reducing the number of staff, which further affects the delivery of services to the community. I would ask the Board to investigate the budget issues presented by the Department and challenge them to come up with other options which will not cost a significant portion of people their jobs and place at risk the safety of children and families in the community. I have worked for Child Welfare Services for over 24 years. While my position is not threatened, I have seen the services available to families be obliterated as a result of this budget issue and now with very little to offer children and families, the Department is recommending a significant reduction in staff, which will make a very difficult job almost impossible. The solution offered at this time should be unacceptable.

I urge you to look closely at the recommendations submitted by the Department and ask that they come up with another plan that does not further affect the safety of children and families in the community and the services that we provide. If you have any questions about the work that is done by Child Welfare Services and the challenges we face, I encourage you to contact the department and request a ride along with a social worker.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Heather Race
Social Services Supervisor
Child Welfare Services**

Sent from my iPhone

Sheila de la Guerra

From: John Douglas <jed805@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 7:24 PM
To: Roy Lee
Cc: Laura Capps; Joan Hartmann; Bob Nelson; Supervisor Nelson; Steve Lavagnino; sbcob
Subject: Please VOTE NO on County Employee Layoffs

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.

Supervisor Lee and Board of Supervisors:

I am a resident of Santa Barbara County district 1.

I urge you to protect the health and dignity of all Santa Barbara County residents, particularly the most vulnerable, and to protect the livelihoods of your own County health and social services workers that perform such critical work for the well-being of the County residents.

Please vote NO on layoffs of those County health and social services workers.

Thanks for considering my views.

John E. Douglas
Santa Barbara
jed805@gmail.com