

2

Katherine Douglas *Public Comment*

From: Gina Rodarte Quiroz <rodartegina@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 8, 2026 4:11 PM
To: sbcob; Supervisor Nelson; Steve Lavagnino; Laura Capps; Joan Hartmann; Roy Lee
Subject: Public Comment for February 10, 2026
Attachments: 911_Routing_Issue_LaPosada_GinaQuiroz (1).pdf; BOS Letter Sheriff Overtime 911 Calls.docx

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.

Please refer to the attached letters for public comment and public record.

*Respectfully,
Gina Rodarte Quiroz*

*Community Advocate &
Policy Consultant*

*Email: rodartegina@yahoo.com
Phone: (805) 617-5642*



*Affiliations:
State Captain (California)
National Coalition
for the Homeless*

*Member National Alliance
to End Homelessness*

*United Nations Working
Group to End Homelessness*

*Member National Low
Income Housing Coalition*

*Member National Healthcare
For the Homeless Council*

*Board of Directors
Families ACT*

February 8, 2026

Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Record Comment — Departmental Agenda Item
File No. 26-00127, Sheriff's Overtime Budget

Honorable Chair Nelson and Board Of Supervisors,

My name is Gina Quiroz, and I respectfully submit this letter for inclusion in the public record regarding Departmental Agenda Item File No. 26-00127 concerning the Sheriff's Department overtime budget.

I recently became aware of an emergency call-routing practice affecting La Posada, an interim housing facility, whereby emergency calls originating from that location are directed to the Sheriff's Office rather than processed through the same emergency dispatch pathway used for the general public. My understanding is that this routing occurs based on location, rather than the nature of the emergency itself.

I raise this issue for the Board's awareness due to its potential relevance to both overtime expenditures and service delivery practices.

From a fiscal perspective, a location-based law-enforcement routing structure may increase sworn response deployment and overtime usage for incidents that could otherwise be triaged through standard emergency dispatch channels, including fire or medical services. If accurate, this practice merits review as part of the Board's oversight of departmental overtime trends.

From a public safety and equity perspective, residents of interim housing facilities represent a population with heightened vulnerability. Ensuring that emergency calls are routed based on the nature of the incident, rather than housing status or facility type, is important to maintaining consistent access to emergency services countywide. Policies that differentiate emergency response pathways based on location may warrant examination for consistency with applicable state and federal requirements governing equal access to public services. Additionally this structure has resulted in a critical lapse in time that could potentially result in death for those who may need emergency medical care.

Prior to this meeting, I submitted a written inquiry to the Emergency Management Dept, Board seeking clarification regarding this practice and any review underway. I did not receive a response. Given the potential operational and budgetary implications, I believe this matter would benefit from formal acknowledgment and administrative review.

I respectfully request that the Board consider directing appropriate staff to assess the emergency call-routing policy associated with interim housing facilities, evaluate any impacts on Sheriff overtime expenditures, and confirm that emergency response protocols are aligned with countywide standards and applicable legal obligations.

Thank you for your consideration and for including this correspondence in the public record.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina

Subject: Urgent Request: Review & Correction of 911 Call Routing – La Posada (Medical Emergency Misrouted)

October 15, 2025

To the Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management, Regional Fire Communications Center, Santa Barbara County Fire Department, and the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office:

My name is Gina Quiroz, and I am a Santa Barbara County resident writing as a concerned citizen regarding a serious public safety issue that occurred at La Posada, located at 4500 Hollister Avenue in Santa Barbara. On August 4, 2025, at approximately 11:20 p.m., I placed a 911 call to report a medical emergency for a resident at La Posada. Instead of being connected to Emergency Medical Services or Fire/EMS dispatch, the call was transferred to the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office. This transfer delayed the appropriate medical response and could have endangered the life of an individual in crisis. Given that La Posada is a county facility and part of the broader homelessness response network, this suggests a potential routing or dispatch configuration error within the county's 911 system. With the recent integration of dispatch operations under the Regional Fire Communications Center, it is crucial to verify whether the facility's address is correctly mapped to ensure medical emergencies receive the fastest possible response. I respectfully request:

1. A review of the 911 call logs and routing for the La Posada address (4500 Hollister Ave.)
2. Confirmation of how emergency calls from that address are currently directed within the dispatch system
3. Written assurance that any identified routing issues will be corrected immediately
4. Notification to La Posada leadership and staff on proper emergency response procedures once the issue is resolved

This incident represents a potential gap in public safety for a vulnerable population. I ask that your offices investigate this matter promptly and provide a public explanation of the corrective steps taken. Please contact me at rodartegina@yahoo.com or by phone at (805) 617-5642 to confirm receipt and provide an update on the review process. I look forward to a response within 7 business days.

Thank you for your attention and commitment to public safety.

Sincerely,

Gina Quiroz
Santa Barbara County Resident
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Email: rodartegina@yahoo.com
Phone: (805) 617-5642