



**RICARDO LARA**  
CALIFORNIA INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

August 30, 2022

The Honorable Joyce Dudley  
District Attorney  
Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office  
1112 Santa Barbara Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

**RE: Grant Award for Automobile Insurance Fraud Program  
Fiscal Year 2022-2023**

Dear District Attorney Dudley:

I am very pleased to report that, for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2023, \$15,259,000 is available in Automobile Insurance Fraud Program (Program) grant funds to distribute to thirty-four District Attorney Offices, of which **Santa Barbara County** has been awarded **\$137,711** for this important Program. This grant award is to be used for the investigation and prosecution of automobile insurance fraud.

The appropriation for this Program is based on projected revenues, including the amount of restitution collected. Grant disbursements are contingent on actual revenues; therefore, if the amount of revenue collected is less than the projected amount, grant disbursements to counties will be adjusted accordingly.

It is my continuing intent that these funds be used effectively to pursue and investigate fraud across California. It is important to focus these finite resources on combating fraud committed by individuals, businesses, providers, and others who prey upon the system. Additionally, a coordinated and aggressive outreach program to all communities by your office, including to diverse and underserved communities, with measurable outcomes remains a priority of mine.

Thank you for submitting your application for grant funding and, moreover, congratulations on your award. Should you have any questions regarding your award, please feel free to contact Victoria Martinez, Assistant Chief at CDI Fraud Division over Programs at (323) 278-5062. I look forward to working together with you in our continuing pursuit against automobile insurance fraud.

Sincerely,

**RICARDO LARA**  
Insurance Commissioner

cc: Sean M. Brunton, Deputy District Attorney