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RICARDO LARA
CALIFORNIA INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

July 6, 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 Workers' Compensation Insurance Fraud Program
Fiscal Year 2022-2023**

Dear District Attorney Dudley,

I am very pleased to report that, for Fiscal Year 2022-2023, a total of \$50,545,239 is available in Workers' Compensation Insurance Fraud Program grant funds to be distributed to 35 District Attorney Offices representing 45 counties, of which **Santa Barbara** has been awarded **\$306,128** for this important Program. This grant award is to be used for the investigation and prosecution of workers' compensation insurance fraud.

The decision to grant these funds was made by my Department staff, in consultation with the California Fraud Assessment Commission. Each application received for grant funding was thoroughly reviewed, with careful consideration given to the applicant's plan to achieve the goals and objectives set by me and the Fraud Assessment Commission earlier this year.

It is my continuing intent that these funds be used effectively to pursue and investigate fraud across California. It is also important to focus these finite resources on combating fraud that continues to increase costs on the workers' compensation system, including medical provider insurance fraud, employer premium fraud, insider fraud, and claimant fraud, among others. 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. Please feel free to contact Victoria Martinez, CDI Assistant Chief, Fraud Division, at (323) 278-5062 should you have any questions regarding your award. I look forward to working together with you in our continuing pursuit against workers' compensation insurance fraud.

Sincerely,

RICARDO LARA
Insurance Commissioner

cc: Brian Cota, Supervising Deputy District Attorney

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