

Group 2

de la Guerra, Sheila Public Comment- Public Safety

From: Colin Brown <colbrown@westmont.edu>
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2022 9:49 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Human Trafficking Detective Position



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.

Dear Board Members,

I am writing regarding the upcoming deliberation concerning the continued funding of the Human Trafficking Detective position, as well as the addition of a second full-time law enforcement individual dedicated to addressing Human Trafficking in Santa Barbara.

As a current Westmont College student and intern for local organization SB ACT this semester, I have been exposed to the experience of the marginalized in our community. I have seen the tragic and dire circumstances of people who are experiencing homelessness and are at risk of being human trafficking victims. The manifold struggles which these people in our community experience often go unnoticed, but I believe that the Human Trafficking Task Force's research and work over the last several years have adequately demonstrated the pressing need for continued and added support to this area of community transformation.

I am compelled that continued fiscal support for the Human Trafficking Detective position, as well as the addition of another detective position, will be an important step in deconstructing the tragic system of human trafficking in our county. In my experience with SB ACT, I have seen the imminent need to advocate and support the vulnerable in our community, and I believe this decision can directly uphold this initiative.

Thank you for your time and careful consideration, and I am glad to join with you in our mission to support Santa Barbara County and its citizens—especially those who are in danger of human trafficking.

Respectfully,

Colin Brown

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: Kenny Chism <kchism@westmont.edu>
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2022 10:46 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: retention of our human trafficking detective

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.

dear county board of supervisors,

i would like to strongly urge the county to retain the human trafficking detective position in the sheriff's office. knowing that there have been over 200 cases of sex trafficking alone in the last 5 years - and that doesn't include god-knows how many more cases that haven't been found out - is enough to bring tears to anyone who cares about our youth. if anything, we should be considering bringing on more human trafficking detectives instead of deliberating whether to keep our current position.

local human trafficking is an issue that will undoubtedly continue to be a serious threat to our community as our population grows, so now is the time to put more resources into this imperative work.

thank you for your time and consideration.

respectfully,

kenny chism

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: Heather Keaney <hkeaney@westmont.edu>
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2022 4:42 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: HT detective

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.

Dear Board Members,

I am an associate professor at Westmont College. I am writing to you now in relation to the agenda item for the board meeting on April 12 related to continued funding for a detective that specializes in Human Trafficking.

I think we can all agree that HT is a scourge in our community, one of those things that is hiding in plain sight. Enhanced data and understanding of HT highlights the importance of law enforcement who are properly trained. Treating survivors as criminals does not help the survivors to leave HT or our community to reduce the incidents of HT.

I am asking that you continue to fund detectives who are specialized to work in this area.

regards
Heather Keaney

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Dr. Heather Keaney
Chair, Department of History
Co-Director, Westmont in Cairo
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"History is that certainty produced at the point where the imperfections of memory meet the inadequacies of documentation."

-- Julian Barnes

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: Ashley Masso <amasso@westmont.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 7:49 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Continue funding for Detective Position

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.

Dear Board Members,

I am writing in relation to the agenda item concerning the continued funding of the Human Trafficking Detective position, and to request funding for a second such detective.

I am a local resident here in Santa Bárbara and am compelled to write to you about maintaining the detective position as our community truly needs this.

The data seem compelling and cogent. Without adequate numbers of specifically trained specialist detectives, we will never make inroads into the insidious world of human trafficking. The progress in even understanding the scale of the problem during the past few years has been significant and that progress is undoubtedly going to be squandered without adequate investment in law enforcement.

While I appreciate the complexity of funding decisions and the legion of claims on County resources, I plead with you not to let this one go.

Respectfully,
Ashley Masso