

## **RESOLUTION NO. .**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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**RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 412.5 OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY CHARTER AND THE REMOVAL PROCEDURES APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

- A) RECEIVING THE WRITTEN ADVISORY OPINION OF THE HEARING OFFICER (“ADVISORY OPINION”) FINDING THAT THE COUNTY HAD AND HAS CAUSE TO REMOVE SHERIFF CHRISTINA CORPUS FROM OFFICE (ATTACHMENT A TO THIS RESOLUTION); AND**
- B) CONFIRMING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS’ INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE ADVISORY OPINION AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD AND DETERMINING, BASED ON A REVIEW OF THE ADVISORY OPINION AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD AND BY A PREPONDERANCE OF THE EVIDENCE, THAT THERE WAS AND IS CAUSE TO REMOVE SHERIFF CHRISTINA CORPUS FROM OFFICE; AND**
- C) MAKING A FINAL DECISION TO REMOVE SHERIFF CHRISTINA CORPUS FROM OFFICE FOR CAUSE PURSUANT TO SECTION 412.5 OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY CHARTER; AND**
- D) DECLARING THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPTS AS ITS OWN THE RATIONALE OF THE HEARING OFFICER SET FORTH IN THE ADVISORY OPINION IN FINDING CAUSE FOR REMOVAL; AND**
- E) APPROVING ATTACHMENT B TO THIS RESOLUTION (LETTER DRAFTED BY THE COUNTY ATTORNEY), WHICH CONSTITUTES THE FINAL DECISION AFTER REMOVAL HEARING MAKING SHERIFF CHRISTINA CORPUS’ REMOVAL FINAL AND EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY ATTORNEY TO SERVE BY MAIL THE FINAL DECISION AFTER REMOVAL HEARING ON SHERIFF CHRISTINA CORPUS; AND**
- F) DECLARING THAT ATTACHMENT C TO THIS RESOLUTION CONSTITUTES A TRUE AND ACCURATE DESCRIPTION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD REVIEWED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN SUPPORT OF THE FINAL DECISION AFTER REMOVAL HEARING**

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**RESOLVED**, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that:

**WHEREAS**, Section 412.5 of the San Mateo County Charter grants the Board of Supervisors authority, until December 31, 2028, to remove an elected sheriff for certain enumerated causes; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 412.5.c. of the San Mateo County Charter states that the Board “may provide for procedures by which a removal proceeding pursuant to this Section 412.5 shall be conducted” and the Board has adopted such procedures (“Removal Procedures”); and

**WHEREAS**, the law firm Keker, Van Nest & Peters, LLP conducted an independent investigation of allegations of misconduct against Sheriff Christina Corpus (“Sheriff Corpus”) and drafted a Proposed Notice of Intent to Remove Sheriff Corpus that constitutes a written statement of alleged grounds for removal, as required by Section 412.5 and that complies with Subsections I(1) and (2) of the Removal Procedures; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 5, 2025, this Board, in Resolution No. 081187, adopted and approved the issuance of the written Notice of Intent to Remove Sheriff Corpus for cause (the “NOI”), initiated a process to remove the Sheriff from office pursuant to Section 412.5, and directed staff to provide Sheriff Corpus a copy of the NOI and its supporting documents, which staff did; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pre-Removal Conference required under the Removal Procedures occurred on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, before San Mateo County Chief Probation Officer John Keene (“Pre-Removal Conference”); and

**WHEREAS**, at the Pre-Removal Conference, Chief Keene considered the NOI and its supporting materials and gave Sheriff Corpus the opportunity to be heard and considered the information provided by Sheriff Corpus; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 17, 2025, Chief Keene issued a written recommendation to the Board that the Board approve and adopt the NOI and move forward with the proposed removal of Sheriff Corpus (the “Recommendation”); and

**WHEREAS**, after review and consideration, the Board sustained the Recommendation to remove Sheriff Corpus from office for cause pursuant to Section 412.5 of the County Charter; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 24, 2025, the Board adopted Resolution No. 081291, which sets forth its Final Notice of Decision to Remove Sheriff Corpus for Cause (subject to an appeal via Removal Hearing) pursuant to Section 412.5 ("Final Notice of Decision to Remove Pending Appeal"); and

**WHEREAS**, on June 27, 2025, Sheriff Corpus requested an appeal hearing and the County and the Sheriff agreed that the Honorable James Emerson, retired Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge, would serve as the hearing officer, and Assistant County Executive Iliana Rodriguez was notified on July 1, 2025 of Judge Emerson's selection as hearing officer; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 3, 2025, Judge Emerson scheduled the appeal hearing to occur from August 18, 2025 through August 29, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the County notified Sheriff Corpus of deficiencies in her appeal and, on July 21, 2025, nearly a month after adoption of the Final Notice of Decision to Remove Pending Appeal, Sheriff Copus submitted a Statement of Facts in support of her appeal; and

**WHEREAS**, Judge Emerson made a number of pretrial rulings, including an order denying Sheriff Corpus' Motion to Dismiss and an order denying Sheriff' Corpus' request for a continuance of the removal hearing and for additional hearing days; and

**WHEREAS**, the appeal hearing occurred as scheduled for 10 days from August 18 through 29, 2025, with each side allowed up to 35 hours to present their respective

cases, and, during the hearing, a total of 36 witnesses testified under oath, 174 exhibits were admitted, and the County used approximately 20.5 hours of its allotted time while Sheriff Corpus used approximately 31 hours of her allotted time; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 12, 2025, the County and Sheriff Corpus each submitted to Judge Emerson a written closing brief; and

**WHEREAS**, Judge Emerson submitted a written opinion dated October 6, 2025 finding, among other things, that a preponderance of evidence presented at the appeal hearing established that the County had cause to remove the Sheriff from office pursuant to Section 412.5 of the County Charter (“Advisory Opinion”), which is **Attachment A** to this Resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board has received and independently reviewed and considered **Attachment A** (Advisory Opinion); **Attachment B** (which is the letter drafted by the County Attorney constituting the Final Decision After Removal Hearing under Section IV(2)(C) of the Removal Procedures); and the administrative record consisting of the materials listed on **Attachment C** (“Administrative Record”)—the transcripts and hearing exhibits contained within the Administrative Record were provided to the Board on September 11, 2025 and the remainder of the materials contained within the Administrative Record (with the exception of Judge Emerson’s Advisory Opinion and the Board Resolution Re Removal) were provided to the Board on October 2, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, based on a review of the Advisory Opinion and the Administrative Record, the Board accepts the Hearing Officer’s finding that there was and is cause, as defined by Section 412.5 of the Charter, to remove Sheriff Corpus from office.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED** that Sheriff Corpus is removed from office for cause.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the Board declares that, by a preponderance of the evidence, there were and are four independent “causes,” as defined Section 412.5, to remove the Sheriff; specifically (1) for violating Sections 501 and 510 of the San Mateo County Charter and San Mateo County Ordinance Code Section 2.00.060 (as stated at pp. 5-10 of the Advisory Opinion, conflict of interest relating to Victor Aenlle), (2) for violating Government Code Sections 3502.1 and 3506.5 (as stated at pp. 14-19, retaliation against Deputy Carlos Tapia), (3) for violating Penal Code Section 836 (as stated at pp. 14-21, arrest of Deputy Carlos Tapia without probable cause), and (4) for violating Labor Code Section 1102.5 (as stated at pp. 27-32, retaliation against Captain Brian Philip), and further that the Board adopts the Hearing Officer’s rationale, as set forth in those pages of the Advisory Opinion, as its own for purposes of this determination.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board has reviewed and approves the letter drafted by County Attorney John Nibbelin, attached hereto as **Attachment B** as constituting the Final Decision After Removal Hearing, making the removal of Sheriff Corpus from office final and effective immediately, and the Board further directs the County Attorney to serve the Final Decision After Removal Hearing on Sheriff Corpus by mail.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board declares that **Attachment C** constitutes a true and accurate description of the Administrative Record reviewed by the Board in support of the Final Decision After Removal Hearing.

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