



County of San Mateo

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Department: COUNTY MANAGER

Board Meeting Date: 12/4/2018

Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors
From: Michael P. Callagy, County Manager
Subject: County Manager's Report #21

RECOMMENDATION:

Accept this informational report.

BACKGROUND:

This report will provide you with updates on a variety of County initiatives focusing on Public Safety, Health and Human Services, Community Services and Performance, in addition to reports on legislation and issues that require your action. We also will keep you and the public informed about new services, upcoming events and general updates.

DISCUSSION:

Public Safety

DA inspector honored by FBI director, others for reporting suspicious activity

Inspector Matthew Broad of the District Attorney's Office was honored in November with the first Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting Initiative Meritorious Service Award for his work preventing a potential case of domestic terrorism. Broad, who is also the office's digital forensic evidence specialist, was participating in a search warrant related to an animal cruelty report earlier this year when he uncovered 71 audio files marked "ISIS" and suspicious web browser searches that included bomb making and weapons. Broad submitted a suspicious activity report to the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center (NCRIC) who later received a separate report that the same suspect was attempting to purchase ammunition illegally. NCRIC provided the information to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Joint Terrorism Task Force which surveilled the man until he was no longer a threat due to suicide just ahead of his scheduled court appearance on the animal cruelty charges. A subsequent search of his home uncovered multiple guns unregistered to him, thousands of rounds of ammunition and two sets of tactical body armor.

For his work helping identify a potential mass casualty attacker, Broad was honored in Alexandria, Virginia by FBI Director Christopher Wray and Amanda Greenberg, director of the National Suspicious Activity Reporting Initiative.

Human Trafficking Program Coordinator honored

John Vanek, the County's human trafficking program coordinator, was awarded the Freedom Fighter Award from the nonprofit Bay Area Anti-Trafficking Coalition last month in recognition of his work to eradicate modern-day slavery. Vanek leads the County's efforts to combat human trafficking along with Human Trafficking Advocacy Coordinator Pamela Estes. The initiative and its two positions, funded with Measure K sales tax revenue, are currently working with local hotels, motels and breakfast inns to implement the California law requiring by Jan. 1, 2019 the posting of informational posters that tell the community how to contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline. The Peninsula Hills Women's Club donated time to stuff 160 mailing tubes to send the posters and other information to each such business in the county.

Community Services

Address update successfully completed for upcoming Census

The Office of Community Affairs (OCA) has successfully completed the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) for the Census Bureau. This process was San Mateo County's only opportunity to review the Census Bureau's Master Address File (MAF), and to provide updated or corrected address information to be used for mailing Census 2020 surveys. The MAF received originally contained 285,583 records spread over the 158 census tracts that comprise the County. The updated addresses were sent to the Census Bureau on August 1, 2018, after an intense 120-day review process by OCA involving inter-departmental coordination as well as on-the-ground canvassing. The final submission included 25,813 new or corrected address location submissions, which combined with the city responses, resulted in an almost 11 percent increase in addresses. If these locations were left off the MAF, there could have been a loss in federal funding of up to \$1.18 billion between 2020 and 2030 (assuming a low estimate of two persons per residence added).

Courts

Courts add first African-American female judge

Gov. Jerry Brown appointed to the San Mateo Superior Court its first African-American female judge after restored state funding allowed the conversion of a court commissioner position into a judgeship. Brown appointed Amarra A. Lee, a former deputy district attorney for the county, on Oct. 26 and her official start date was Nov. 1, 2018. The court had held three commissioner positions vacant for the past several years due to inadequate funding. With restored funding in the state budget, the San Mateo Superior Court was able to fund one vacant position in conjunction with the newly restored court services at the Norther Branch court facility in South San Francisco. This in turn allowed the court to convert the funded commissioner position into the judgeship now held by Lee.