



# SHERIFF

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## NEWS RELEASE For Immediate Release

### CORPUS ASKS ATTORNEY GENERAL BONTA TO STOP ABUSE OF POWER

October 6, 2025 – Last week I called on Attorney General Rob Bonta to intervene immediately to stop an unlawful and dangerous abuse of power in San Mateo County.

I was overwhelmingly elected the first female sheriff in the history of San Mateo County in 2022 with 57% of the vote. Since taking office, major crime has dropped 14%, staffing shortages have been eliminated, and the sheriff's office now better reflects the diversity of our County. But because I disrupted the status quo, the old boys' network launched a smear campaign to remove me.

Today, in the Hearing Officer's advisory opinion, the retired Judge was uncertain, and "grappl[ed] with what standard to apply in order to comply" with the Board's unprecedented procedures, and he applied the lower standard. He found that 15 of the 18 allegations brought against me were not sustained. That alone should end this. Instead, the Board is rushing to fire me without regard for fairness, precedent, or the will of the voters. I stand by my actions, and the difficult decisions I make as the elected sheriff. I should have been cleared of all the allegations.

The process is unconstitutional, corrupt, and fundamentally unfair. The Board wrote the rules, conducted the investigation, and will now act as judge and jury. Two Board members publicly declared I was guilty before any evidence was heard. The "jury" is tainted. The deck was stacked from the start. This would never have happened if I were a man.

There is a better way to do this. I asked the Board repeatedly for a full jury trial on the allegations, before taking final action. The community should have a voice in this, but the County has refused to allow that process to go forward.

If the removal process is allowed to proceed, no elected sheriff in California will be safe from political retaliation. The danger isn't just to me. It's to the rule of law.

Please see the attached reference information.

Recipient Name

Date

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