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Former San Mateo County Sheriff Christina Corpus Filed A Government Claim Against the County of San Mateo for Defamation

San Mateo, California — On March 10, 2026, the law firm of Quadra & Coll LLP filed a government claim with the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors behalf of former San Mateo County Sheriff Christina Corpus against the County of San Mateo, asserting claims arising from a sustained campaign of defamation that culminated in her removal from office, damage to her professional reputation, and loss of her peace officer standards and training certification.

The claim details a coordinated effort by county officials, employees and agents to disseminate false and damaging statements portraying Sheriff Corpus as dishonest, corrupt, and unfit to serve, assertions made without evidentiary support and in reckless disregard of the truth. These malicious false statements were amplified through reports, public statements, and communications to third parties, including the general public and law enforcement regulatory bodies.

“Sheriff Corpus was not removed from her position as Sheriff because of misconduct. She was removed because of lies that were manufactured and repeated until they achieved their intended goal of nullifying the will of the voters,” said James Quadra, Sheriff Corpus’ attorney.

Mayer Brown attorney Tom Perez who, along with attorneys from the Murphy, Pearson, Bradley & Feeney law firm, is challenging Claimant Corpus’ removal as Sheriff in the California Court of Appeal, stated: “A review of the deficient removal process confirms that it was biased and driven by unproven false statements that would never be admitted in a court of law, which underscores the validity of Sheriff Corpus’s defamation Claim and the absence of a lawful basis for her removal.”

Sheriff Corpus served more than two decades in law enforcement and rose through the ranks to become the first woman elected Sheriff in her county. Throughout her tenure, she maintained an unblemished disciplinary record and implemented reforms aimed at increasing accountability and transparency within the Sheriff’s Office.

The claim alleges that in response to Sheriff Corpus’ reform efforts, County officials engaged in a campaign of defamation, falsely asserting was corrupt and untrustworthy. These false statements were the basis for removing Sheriff Corpus from office. The false statements were republished in reports that were provided to the general public and communicated to the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), resulting in the suspension of Sheriff Corpus’s POST certification.

“When government officials knowingly publish false statements that directly attack a person’s honesty and professional fitness, the law provides a remedy and we intend to pursue it fully,” added Quadra.

The damages suffered by Sheriff Corpus are substantial. They include her removal from elected office, loss of income and benefits, damage to her professional standing, and significant emotional distress. The claim asserts that total damages exceed the threshold for an unlimited civil case of \$35,000.

About Quadra & Coll LLP

Quadra & Coll LLP is a litigation firm representing individuals and entities in complex civil matters, including employment law, civil rights, and high-impact public accountability cases.

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