November 16, 2021

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: TRUTH Act Virtual Community Forum

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATION: Pursuant to Government Code Section 7281.1(d), hold a virtual community forum regarding provision of information about individuals housed in the Marin County Jail to federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE)

BACKGROUND: Beginning in 2018, the "TRUTH Act" (AB 2792; Bonta) requires the governing body of a local government, such as Marin County, to hold an annual community forum if a law enforcement agency operated by the County provided the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency with any 'ICE access' to individuals for civil immigration enforcement purposes during the prior calendar year.

The statute requires that the community forum be convened. No action is required by the local governing board. The meeting will be streamed live as a virtual forum in light of continued COVID-19 public health protocols. Members of the public are encouraged to participate remotely. Spanish translation will be available.

SUMMARY: The Marin County Sheriff's Office provided summary information regarding the provision of ICE access for calendar year 2020 (Attachment A), as well as summary detail regarding 2017 through 2020 (Attachment B).

Since passage of SB 54 in 2017, Sheriff policies have been modified to 1) emphasize that staff no longer inquire about immigration status when carrying out their duties; 2) stop responding to ICE regarding release dates for low-level offenses; and 3) as of August 15, 2020, ICE is no longer allowed in the secure part of the jail facility. As a result, Sheriff's staff no longer track ICE arrests.

In 2020, 9 inmates (16 percent) were arrested by ICE agents relative to 95 ICE requests, down from a high of 75 ICE arrests (40 percent) in 2018. There were 14 ICE notifications made after August 15, 2020 when ICE was no longer permitted in the secure part of the Sheriff's facility.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Submitted by,
Daniel Eilerman
Assistant County Administrator

Reviewed by,
Matthew H. Hymel
County Administrator

Cc: Sheriff Robert T. Doyle
Undersheriff Jamie Scardina