

**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS HOLLY J. MITCHELL
AND HILDA L. SOLIS**

March 15, 2022

Ensuring Proper Oversight of the Joint Regional Intelligence Center

The Joint Regional Intelligence Center (JRIC) was established in 2006 as a cooperative effort between law enforcement and public safety agencies – including the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department (LASD) – to centralize the intake, analysis, synthesis, and dissemination of terrorism-related intelligence for the greater Los Angeles region. In 2010, JRIC merged with several organizations to create an all-crimes intelligence fusion entity. JRIC also serves as the Regional Threat Assessment Center (RTAC) for the Central District of California as part of the California State Threat Assessment System.

Watchdog groups have had difficulty obtaining information about JRIC, especially as it pertains to practices that potentially infringe on privacy rights, including methods and information being gathered. JRIC collects criminal records, public- and private-sector data, and information from “suspicious activity reports” generated by Los Angeles Police Department officers. Such practices have led civil liberties advocates to [warn](#) the public about the potential for abusive police practices, ambiguous lines of authority, lack of proper safeguards, excessive secrecy, and collection of information about peaceful activities.

Adding to these concerns are the Sheriff’s repeated refusals to allow Los Angeles County’s oversight entities to perform their basic functions and provide access to data,

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documents, and direct testimony, despite LASD's obligations under Government Code 25303, as well as reports of potential abuse by the Sheriff of his investigative powers, including [investigations](#) and [intimidation](#) of the Sheriff's [political enemies](#). There is reason to be concerned about potential abuse of JRIC's resources absent proper oversight. The Board of Supervisors should require LASD to allow the Office of Inspector General to monitor the operations of JRIC, as required by law.

WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Require the Sheriff to allow the Office of Inspector General (OIG) to monitor the operations of the Joint Regional Intelligence Center under Government Code 25303 and Los Angeles County Code section 6.44.190.
2. Approve the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's (LASD) Board letter dated March 15, 2022 entitled, "Accept a Grant Award from California Governor's Office of Emergency Service (OES) for Fiscal Year 2021 Homeland Security Grant Program," provided the Board letter's Recommendations No. 2, 3, and 4 are amended to require that the OIG review and approve the Grant Notifications, agreements, future agreement amendments, modifications, extensions augmentations and reimbursement requests referenced in the Recommendations prior to their execution by the Sheriff.
 - a. Further, amend Recommendation No. 4 to require the Sheriff to notify the Board of Supervisors (Board) and the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission (COC) in writing 15 days in advance of submitting a grant application to Cal Office of Emergency Services (OES) for the Regional Threat Assessment Center Program, and require that the OIG review and approve future grant applications prior to their submission.
3. Require the Sheriff, in consultation with County Counsel and the OIG, to return to the Board for approval of future agreements or extension amendments pertaining to grant awards from Cal OES for the Homeland Security Grant Program; and to notify the Sheriff COC and the OIG of his intentions to seek this approval immediately upon notification of grant award from Cal OES.

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- a. In addition, require the Sheriff, in consultation with County Counsel and the
OIG, to notify the Board and the Sheriff COC in writing of his intention to
enter into and execute all other types of amendments that do not extend
this grant agreement no later than 30 days in advance of their effective date.
4. Require the Sheriff, to submit to the Board, OIG and COC the “Biannual Strategy
Implementation Report” that he submits to “Cal OES via the Federal Emergency
Management Agency Grants Reporting Tool” semi-annually for the duration of the
subaward period of performance or until all activities are completed and the
subaward is formally closed.

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