



April 15, 2009

Honorable Wilmer Amina Carter, Member  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 2136  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 412 – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Carter:

The Riverside Sheriffs' Association, which represents over 3,200 rank and file deputy sheriffs, sheriffs, deputy probation officers, law enforcement investigators and counselors, coroners and bailiffs – the entire law enforcement team in Riverside County – is pleased to support your bill, AB 412.

Existing law prohibits the display of a Nazi Swastika, burning a cross, and other symbols of racial or ethnic hatred if used with the intent to terrorize or intimidate others. AB 412 adds to this list of symbols, "hanging a noose," which is a well known symbol of lynching, if it is done for the purpose of terrorizing. The display of symbols of hatred, such as a "noose," when exhibited for the purpose of terrorizing, are well outside the protections of the First Amendment Right of Free Speech, and appropriately should be prohibited by law.

Very truly yours,

Pat McNamara  
President

Timothy H. B. Yaryan  
Legislative Counsel and Advocate

cc: RSA