



February 4, 2010

Honorable Isadore Hall, III, Member
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 6025
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1697 - - - Support

Dear Assembly Member Hall:

The Riverside Sheriffs' Association, with 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 actively support AB 1697.

Since 2002 the presiding judge of each superior court has contracted with the sheriff of each county for the necessary level of law enforcement services in the courts. The sheriff secures all superior court functions held within his or her county including those courtrooms hearing non-criminal, non-delinquency actions. The court and the sheriff or marshal presently enter into a memorandum of understanding detailing the level of court security services, cost, and terms of payment, based on the estimated average cost of salary and benefits for equivalent personnel classifications, and there is also provision for a working group on court security. Nonetheless, because of revenue shortages, there is instability in today's court security funding.

AB 1697 provides that cost of services in the MOU with the sheriff would be based on the actual county-by-county allocation for an unspecified fiscal year, as determined by the working group. The current \$30 fee imposed for every conviction for a criminal offense shall be continued until July 1, 2016 and the AOC on each July 1 shall adjust the fee. Proceeds of the security fee will be deposited in a separate account of the Trial Court Trust Fund for the sole purpose of funding for superior court security.

Very truly yours,

Pat McNamara
President

Timothy H.B. Yaryan
Legislative Counsel and Advocate

cc: RSA