



June 15, 2010

Senator Mark Leno, Chair  
Senate Public Safety Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2031  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2102 – Support

Dear Senator Leno:

The Riverside Sheriffs' Association, which represents over 3,200 rank and file deputy sheriffs, deputy probation officers, law enforcement investigators and counselors, coroners and bailiffs – the entire law enforcement team in Riverside County- is pleased to support AB 2102, Lieu.

With the exception of domestic violence related or driving under the influence cases existing law allows in misdemeanor cases that the accused may appear represented by counsel only. If the accused agrees, the first court appearance and pleas may be by video.

AB 2102 allows a defendant to appear in court by video conferencing so long as the taking of testimony is not involved. The increased use of video in court appearances is based on legislative acknowledgement of the factors such as increased courtroom efficiencies result in lower costs and fewer delays; videoconferencing technology allows more secure privacy protection; video appearances bring greater safety for peace officers and public safety as well as reducing risks associated with transportation of inmates between the jail and the courtroom.

Thank you for your consideration of the issues covered in this legislation.

Very truly yours,

Pat McNamara  
President

Timothy H. B. Yaryan  
Legislative Counsel and Advocate

cc: Consultants – Senate Public Safety Committee  
Assemblymember Ted Lieu  
RSA