

HL # 24
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FRESNO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY INVESTIGATORS' ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 11, FRESNO CA 93707-0011

April 8, 2019

Chairman Nathan Magsig - Fresno County Board of Supervisors

RE: Support of SB 230 (Caballero)

Dear Chairman Magsig,

The Fresno County District Attorney Investigators' Association would like to express our sincere support for SB 230 – a comprehensive measure that seeks to implement evidence-based, precedent-setting policies to minimize use of force and ensure that our officers can continue to keep Californians safe – and ask that your body draft a Resolution reflecting the same support.

SB 230 is a collaborative and comprehensive approach to minimizing the use of force. This deeply personal and devastating issue has divided communities for far too long – it's time for Californians to come together and achieve meaningful change. The nation is looking for leadership – California has an opportunity to take a stand and lead the nation in minimizing the use of force by passing SB 230.

In tense, life-threatening situations, our peace officers fall back on their training to make critical split-second decisions. Rigorous training programs and clear guidelines have effectively and significantly reduced uses of force in cities throughout California and across the nation. SB 230 surveyed all of the best-practices from around the country and incorporated them into one piece of legislation that will modernize and update California's use of force policies.

Under SB 230, California will lead the nation in use of force policing standards, policies, practices, training and reporting. Specifically, SB 230:

- Sets a clear and enforceable standard for authorizing the use of force;
- Provides every law enforcement officer with uniform training and resources proven to minimize the use of force; and
- Mandates that every department adopt comprehensive use of force policies and sets a minimum standard that those policies must meet or exceed.

The California Law Enforcement Code of Ethics begins with, "As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind." In support of this promise, SB 230 would mandate sweeping reform across every California community by setting minimum, mandatory standards for officer training and department policies proven to effectively reduce use of force incidents – it is an effective approach based on collaboration, science and reason. We urge you to draft a Resolution pushing for SB 230's passage for the safety of our families, our communities and all Californians.

Sincerely,

Larry Waggle – President FCDAIA