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April 29, 2010

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Re: Public Records Act Request dated April 20, 2010

Dear Ms. Gilbert,

This office has received a copy of your Public Records Act Request e-mailed to Sheriff Rod Hoops on April 20, 2010, requesting "a digital copy of the tape recording(s) of the incident in Mentone involving District Attorney Mike Ramos."

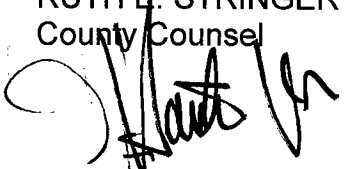
An exemption is claimed over the requested recording pursuant to California Government Code section 6254(f), because this item constitutes a confidential record of a complaint(s) and/or investigation conducted by a local police agency.

All applicable records over which exemptions and privileges have been claimed are also privileged from disclosure for an indefinite period of time, pursuant to the authority of *Williams v. Superior Court* (1993) 5 Cal.4th 337-355-362, *Rivero v. Superior Court* (1997) 54 Cal.App.4th 1048, 1052, and *City of Hemet* (1995) 37 Cal.App.4th 1411, 1421-1422. And, "records of investigations conducted by local police agencies are not open to inspection under the California Public Records Act" (*Jackson v. Sacramento* (E.D. Cal. 1997) 175 F.R.D. 653, 654-655).

Therefore, your request is respectfully denied.

Sincerely,

RUTH E. STRINGER
County Counsel


Phebe W. Chu
Deputy County Counsel