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Douglas County



SHERIFF

"A Tradition of Service"

Ron Pierini SHERIFF

May 1, 2003

To our Nevada State Legislators:

I am extremely concerned that Governor Kenny Guinn and his staff have recommended a reduction in staffing levels of the Department of Public Safety-Investigation Division (NDI). Over many years, my department has utilized the police investigative services of NDI concerning internal affairs, narcotic investigations, and officer involved shootings. Our working relationship has been exceptional with their work product above standard.

Probably, my "biggest" concern is the potential of loosing state support with our Tri-Net Narcotic Task force. Since 1988 with "Federal Byrne" grant funding, NDI, Carson City Sheriff's Department, Lyon County Sheriff's Department, Storey County Sheriff's Department, and our agency has participated in a joint effort to arrest and convict narcotic violators in our four counties. The task force has been extremely effective since more than 1800 violators have been arrested for primarily drug trafficking and about 26 million dollars of illegal drugs have been seized. NDI has always been the lead agency in our efforts by providing a supervisor, support staff and office space for the task force.

By eliminating this position and support services, our efforts in providing the quality narcotic task force needed to combat the increasing drug sales in our counties will be greatly impeded. I believe, you as legislators are proud to be contributing to our narcotic enforcement efforts especially in a time when drug abuse and violence is in on the rise.

I urge you to appropriate the funds for NDI to keep the level of positions necessary to assist not only our task force, but also all law enforcement agencies throughout Nevada. Especially in rural counties, their expertise is greatly needed to solve complex crimes and give additional resources when necessary.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Respectfully,

Ronald P. Pierini, Sheriff

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SUBCOMMITTEE PS/ Nat Res/ Trans.

DATE: 5-2-03 EXHIBIT E

SUBMITTED BY: Douglas Co. Sherias