



# TEHAMA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dave Kain, Sheriff

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## ***PRESS INFORMATION***

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**INCIDENT:** Response to Mr. Hydrick's statement

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**STATEMENT OF THE SHERIFF:** After reviewing Mr. Hydrick's response to Action News Now, I must say I'm disappointed but not surprised at his statement. Mr. Hydrick dodged a response back to the Deputy Sheriff Association (DSA) and Law Enforcement Management Associations (LEMA) vote of no confidence to his actions and that of Personnel Director Coral Ferrin. Instead, personally targeting me as the Sheriff.

Some of his assertions are inaccurate supporting concerns raised by the associations to his performance. In discussions about the budget, he discusses our budget was increased by about a million dollars. He does not mention due to salary increases, medical insurance, workers compensation insurance, retirement increases and inflation there was a 3.5 million dollar increase in operating costs. The reductions from last year's budget did not cover the increased expenses for the previous year's staffing levels. This and failed negotiations resulted in vacancies being left unfilled and a reduction in the Jail capacity to nearly 50%.

Mr. Hydrick addresses General Fund and grant funded expenditures that were not afforded to other departments. The new furniture, new parking lot, new carpet, landscape, morgue expansion, and coroner equipment which were paid for through AB443 Rural Sheriff's discretionary funds, separate from the General fund or grants. Also, several of those projects were years old and just within the past two years were accomplished due to the use of AB443 funding. Many of these projects were not approved by the County due to lack of county funding. Therefore, would not have been completed without the use of discretionary funding. The HVAC, new LED lighting and solar arrays were a county wide project for multiple departments not just the Sheriff's Office. He discussed the helicopter program with a spending of \$574,000 (spent to date). When in fact spent to date is \$154,185. None of that funding is

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General fund but is donations, grants, asset forfeiture and AB443. He mentions 20 vehicles purchased. He again fails to mention the Sheriff's Office presented a fleet management proposal to the Board of Supervisors addressing an aging fleet with a majority of the vehicles being over 10 years old and over 150,000 miles. For the safety of staff the vehicles needed to be replaced. We still have vehicles over 24 years old and over 250,000 miles in our fleet. Due to Covid there have been delays over the years getting vehicles. Over the past two years we have purchased (20) vehicles. Eight were purchased through General fund by the County the remainder and equipment for the vehicles were paid for through AB443 and grants. Some of these vehicles were ordered many years earlier and just arrived in the last two years. He also fails to mention the combination of AB443 dollars and a grant to purchase \$300,000 worth of body worn cameras. Several of the above listed items reduce overall liability to the county. We are pleased to bring to the public's attention that the majority of Mr. Hydrick's assertions about what was provided to the Sheriff's Office was done by way of pursuing grants. Also by responsibly spending of discretionary funds to pay for equipment and the needs of the Sheriff's Office during the Counties budgetary crisis.

As far as Mr. Hydrick's comments regarding the Jail expansion. I want to remind the public that due to AB109 the jail project was initiated in 2013 with full funding being awarded in 2015. This project has gone to the Board of Supervisors no less than seven times. Every time a unanimous vote was obtained to move forward with the project. The bulk of the funding comes from the State of California, Community Corrections Partnership and Covid funding. I have been an advocate of the Jail expansion as it strengthens public safety throughout the county to have violent and chronic offenders in jail.

Mr. Hydrick also contends he and Ms. Ferrin have provided "unwavering support" for our desired programs and personnel changes. We actually have met with significant resistance and delays with most personnel issues presented since I have taken office. We have many unsolved issues with one dating back to November 2023.

Unfortunately, Mr. Hydrick made this personal when he addressed specifically my children working for the Sheriff's Office. I am proud to say that I have two children who have served in the United States military then returned home. They were selected as employees of the Sheriff's Office to continue their commitment to service in the community where they were raised. They successfully passed the hiring process that all other employees have participated in. It is not abnormal to have generational employees in law enforcement, in fact we have many of them in the Sheriff's Office. This strengthens the Sheriff's Office family to serve and protect your family.

I am concerned about the lack of transparency that came from Mr. Hydrick in his statement. These inaccurate statements breed distrust in the public eye.

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I support and stand with my employees and their concerns addressed in their vote of no confidence in both Mr. Hydrick and Ms. Ferrin. I am optimistic the Board of Supervisors will listen to the unions and take appropriate action.

Sheriff-Coroner Dave Kain