

Communication from Public

Name: Alexander Rodriguez

Date Submitted: 11/07/2024 02:56 PM

Council File No: 24-1194

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Alex Rodriguez. I am a second-year law student at UCLA School of Law. But more importantly – I am the son of two honest, and hard-working undocumented immigrants who do not need the LAPD Chief colluding with ICE under peoples’ noses. Not only am I concerned about what kind of LAPD Chief McDonnell will be like – I completely oppose his appointment. His history of colluding with ICE raises significant issues about his suitability for a role that requires a commitment to community, trust, and safety. Here in LA, there are 4.4 million immigrants – totaling 33 percent of the total population. Of those 4.4 million, 2.2 million are potentially at risk of deportation. On behalf of this population, it is time for the City of LA to reassert its leadership on immigrant rights, and to defy the anti-immigrant bigotry that has defined national immigration policies. Jim McDonnell, based on his track record, has repeatedly shown that he is not someone who defies anti-immigrant bigotry – rather he has shown the opposite: As L.A. County Sheriff, Jim McDonnell 1.) refused to stop the policy of responding to most ICE detainers; 2.) gave ICE a literal office in the county jail to help apprehend and inquiry about undocumented people; 3.) implemented a 287g agreement (deputized law enforcement to act as immigration agents) with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS); 4.) Lobbied against California’s SB 54, which weakened the efforts of the bill and left huge gaps for ICE to prey on immigrants; 5.) And, helped transfer thousands of people to ICE from LA County jails, separating and tearing apart families across L.A. County. McDonnell goes against the very fabric of what Los Angeles purports to be, and it should not be that way. LA must no longer contribute to the separation of thousands of families. When local police collude with federal immigration enforcement, it can lead to fear and mistrust among residents, discouraging them from reporting crimes. This erodes the very foundation of community policing that is essential for effective law enforcement. For the foregoing reasons, I respectfully urge you to OPPOSE the selection of Jim McDonnell as the next Chief of LAPD.

Communication from Public

Name: MARK
Date Submitted: 11/08/2024 07:53 AM
Council File No: 24-1194

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Mark Calahan and I am a retired resident of Los Angeles. 4.4 million immigrants reside in the Los Angeles metro area totaling 33 percent of the population. Of those 4.4 million, 2.2 million are potentially at risk of deportation. On behalf of this population, it is time for the City of Los Angeles to reassert its leadership on immigrant rights, and to defy the anti-immigrant bigotry that has defined national immigration policies. As LA Sheriff, Jim McDonnell refused to stop the policy of responding to most ICE detainers, gave ICE an office in the county jail, and implemented a 287g agreement (which deputized law enforcement to act as immigration agents) with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). During his tenure as Sheriff from November 2014 to 2018, Jim McDonnell oversaw the transfer of thousands of Angelenos to ICE, separating parents from their children and tearing apart families and communities across L.A. County. Immigrant Angelenos continue to face attacks from the federal immigration system. The City can ensure that its resources, property and personnel are not being utilized for any federal immigration enforcement by passing a Sanctuary Ordinance. L.A. must no longer contribute to the separation of thousands of Angeleno families. The Sanctuary Ordinance would make Los Angeles a true “sanctuary city,” completely prohibiting ICE transfers, as LA County did in September 2020. I respectfully urge you to enshrine immigrant protections into law and move forward with the Sanctuary Ordinance immediately. By doing so you will affirm the City’s commitment to racial just.

Communication from Public

Name: Emma Gerch

Date Submitted: 11/08/2024 09:36 AM

Council File No: 24-1194

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to urge you to reject and withdraw the nomination of former Sheriff Jim McDonnell to Chief of the Los Angeles Police Department. As Los Angeles County Sheriff from 2014 to 2018, McDonnell advanced and embraced anti-immigrant policies and actively colluded with former President Trump's Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), directly harming thousands of Angelenos. Modern Los Angeles is a city that proudly embraces and protects immigrants, documented and undocumented, a sentiment that Mayor Bass expressed when radical anti-immigrant politician Governor Greg Abbott bussed immigrants from Texas to Los Angeles last summer. Since then, radical anti-immigrant rhetoric has only grown bolder among the far-right Republican Party, with GOP nominee Donald Trump using eliminationist rhetoric to discuss immigrants in the United States. Mayor Bass must not appoint to the Los Angeles Police Department a Chief whose decades-long career indicates he will collude with the far-right to oppress, terrorize, and deport our neighbors. Prior to his election to County Sheriff, McDonnell served as second-in-command to Police Chief Bill Bratton, who popularized the "broken windows" theory of policing, a harmful methodology that intensifies racial and class biases in policing. As sheriff, McDonnell's active collusion with ICE went above and beyond the legal requirements of his position, going out of his way to use county funding to transfer County residents and databases to ICE. He rejected policy efforts to protect Californian immigrants during his tenure and continued to do so under the radically anti-immigrant Trump presidency. Further, as Black Lives Matter L.A. points out, under Sheriff McDonnell, the power of deputies' unlawful and murderous gangs grew, and the horrific conditions at the County Jail worsened. Sheriff McDonnell's failure to curb his department's abuses was protested by DSA Los Angeles and many of our pro-immigrant allies in 2017 and 2018, and his failure to modify his racist and anti-immigrant policies paved the way for his corrupt, violent, and gang-enabling successor Alex Villanueva. We urge Mayor Bass to withdraw McDonnell's nomination. Should she fail to do so, we urge the members of Los Angeles City Council to reject Jim McDonnell's nomination and to take all available steps to prevent his policies from harming Angelenos.