

**DEPUTY SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION
OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY**



"The Strength Behind The Badge"

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August 27, 2009

Via Fax - (619) 531-3735

Honorable Bonnie Dumanis
District Attorney
Hall of Justice, Suite 1300
330 West Broadway
San Diego, CA 92101-3826

Dear District Attorney Dumanis,

I, along with the board of directors of the Deputy Sheriffs' Association of San Diego County (DSA), have read the public response issued by you regarding the incident which occurred at the Francine Busby Fundraiser in Encinitas in June of this year.

It was quite clear that the DA's office found there was sufficient evidence that the two suspects that were arrested at that event were, in fact, in violation of the law(s). It was also made quite clear that your office found that the deputy had a right to be at the location after responding to a complaint, and was investigating the said complaint. The deputy sheriff, in the course of his official duties was assaulted and suffered injury. The deputy also had a female civilian psychiatric clinician working with him who was present at the event. She also was assaulted more than once and subsequently sustained visible injuries. This was all the result of the hostess of the event not cooperating with the deputy, which in turn, escalated the incident. The level of resistance, which is arguably contested by various witnesses, did in fact reach a level of a concerted "lynching" by additional party-goers, furthering the deputy's personal concerns for his safety and that of his ride-along clinician.

As we are all aware, this case received much local and national attention, resulting in a smattering of disparaging and slanderous attacks on the deputy's character.

There was, and still remains, an opportunity to have justice sought in this case. Your office found that the law was violated by suspects who were named and arrested. In addition, a deputy sheriff and his ride-along were assaulted and injured. The Deputy Sheriffs' Association of San Diego County has waited patiently while this case has been investigated for nearly two months. We respectfully wish to convey our thorough disappointment in the handling of this case by your office. We feel it sends an unnerving message to the public, as well as showing a lack of support for law enforcement officers who are assaulted in the course of their lawful duties.

Respectfully,

Ernie Carrillo
President