January 15, 2021

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

OFFER OF ASSISTANCE TO HELP ROLLOUT THE COVID-19 VACCINE TO LOS ANGELES COUNTY RESIDENTS

As the details of Los Angeles County’s (County) vaccination program emerges, there is growing concerns the plan is not sufficiently robust to vaccinate enough people in time to avoid mass casualties. The Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department (Department) has a nationally recognized expertise in emergency management and large multi-disciplinary/multi-jurisdictional event planning.

In order to ascertain the best plan is being implemented, I am offering the assistance of my logistics experts with our Emergency Operations Bureau (EOB) in order to have a third party vet the plan, assess its thoroughness, and offer recommendations for optimization. I know we can all agree that time is of the essence and we must do everything possible as leaders to keep our communities safe from this horrible disease.

The EOB has already developed a plan to vaccinate our first responders when we receive the vaccine in Tier 1B. The EOB has run six successful clinics, vaccinating Tier 1A personnel, streamlining the process and establishing best practices. Serving a population of over ten million residents, my Department can quickly mobilize assets countywide and implement plans which will save lives.

Last week, I wrote a letter to Governor Gavin Newsom asking for an emergency State of California authorization to allow first aid trained deputies to help administer vaccines to our homeless population and underserved communities. We plan to utilize our Deputy EMT trained personnel to work in conjunction with our paramedics to target these underserved areas.
We have only one chance to get this right and we are here to help. Fortunately, there is time to optimize the process and maximize the efficiency of the rollout. Together we can accomplish more and effectively implement plans, which will serve as a model for the nation to follow.

I look forward working with you on this urgent matter. Should you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please feel free to contact me. 

Sincerely,

[Signature]
ALEX VILLANUEVA
SHERIFF
AV:JAV:ac
(Office of the Sheriff)

c:  Fesia Davenport, Chief Executive Officer, County of Los Angeles
    Rodrigo A. Castro-Silva, County Counsel, Office of the County Counsel
    Daryl L. Osby, Fire Chief, Los Angeles County Fire Department
    Barbara Ferrer, Director, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health