

Board of Supervisors

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July 17, 2020

RECEIVED July 17, 2020 Commission on State Mandates

Ms. Keely Bosler, Chairperson Commission on State Mandates 980 9th Street, Suite 300 Sacramento, CA

RE: Accomplice Liability for Felony Murder, 19-TC-02 – Support

Dear Ms. Bosler:

On behalf of the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors, I am writing in support of the test claim submitted by Los Angeles County for the Accomplice Liability for Felony Murder Test Claim, which is scheduled for hearing on September 25, 2020.

As noted in the test claim, SB 1437 (Skinner, 2018) redefined liability in first-degree and seconddegree murder convictions. Specifically, SB 1437 establishes a statutory mechanism (Penal Code section 1170.95) that allows previously convicted inmates or parolees to petition the sentencing court to vacate (overturn) their murder conviction and applies this retroactively. SB 1437 is a State mandate, but no funding has been provided to local governments to fulfill the requirements of the legislation. In addition, there is significant workload associated with reviewing petitions including reviewing each homicide file in order to assess and make a determination on the number of eligible defendants and which petition filings to prioritize. These extensive files include: trial transcripts, crime reports, investigation, motions, probation reports and other documents to determine initial eligibility.

Based on information received from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), there are currently 432 incarcerated individuals serving time for sentences originating from San Joaquin County for first- or second-degree murder convictions and 78 people on lifetime parole for first- or second-degree murder convictions. This has resulted in 107 petitions being filed to date and has required staff to be reassigned to handle this new workload. Eligible applicants in San Joaquin County could exceed 500 clients who have been incarcerated for decades. The Departments remain understaffed to handle the increase in workload resulting from SB 1437.

In the Los Angeles County test claim, the costs for this unfunded mandated are estimated at \$1,767,447 for the District Attorney and Public Defender and the costs statewide are estimated at \$18,153,459 based on the Senate Committee on Appropriation Analysis of SB 1437. For San Joaquin County the current costs to date to implement SB 1437 for both the District Attorney and the Public Defender has been \$1,648,657.



In closing, we agree with the Los Angeles test claim that the requirements in SB 1437 for both District Attorney's and Public Defenders are unfunded mandates and should be reimbursable costs paid for by the State of California. If you have any questions about this letter please contact our County Administrator, Monica Nino at (209) 468-3203.

Sincerely,

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Katherine M. Miller, Chair San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors

c: San Joaquin Board of Supervisors San Joaquin Legislative Delegation Members, Commission on State Mandates Geoffrey Neill, California State Association of Counties Elizabeth Espinosa, Urban Counties of California

DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY EMAIL

I, the undersigned, declare as follows:

I am a resident of the County of Sacramento and I am over the age of 18 years, and not a party to the within action. My place of employment is 980 Ninth Street, Suite 300, Sacramento, California 95814.

On July 21, 2020, I served the:

- Notice of Extension Request Approval and Postponement of Hearing issued July 21, 2020
- Claimant's Request for Extension of Time and Postponement of Hearing filed July 21, 2020
- Notice of Change of Representation filed July 17, 2020
- San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors' Chair's Comments on the Draft Proposed Decision filed July 17, 2020

Accomplice Liability for Felony Murder, 19-TC-02 Penal Code Sections 188, 189, and 1170.95; Statutes 2018, Chapter 1015 (SB 1437) County of Los Angeles, Claimant

by making it available on the Commission's website and providing notice of how to locate it to the email addresses provided on the attached mailing list.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on July 21, 2020 at Sacramento, California.

YYL

Jill L. Magee Commission on State Mandates 980 Ninth Street, Suite 300 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 323-3562

COMMISSION ON STATE MANDATES

Mailing List

Last Updated: 7/20/20

Claim Number: 19-TC-02

Matter: Accomplice Liability for Felony Murder

Claimant: County of Los Angeles

TO ALL PARTIES, INTERESTED PARTIES, AND INTERESTED PERSONS:

Each commission mailing list is continuously updated as requests are received to include or remove any party or person on the mailing list. A current mailing list is provided with commission correspondence, and a copy of the current mailing list is available upon request at any time. Except as provided otherwise by commission rule, when a party or interested party files any written material with the commission concerning a claim, it shall simultaneously serve a copy of the written material on the parties and interested parties to the claim identified on the mailing list provided by the commission. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 1181.3.)

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