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January 6, 2011

Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Riverside
Robert T. Andersen Administrative Center
4080 Lemon Street, 5th Floor
Riverside, California 92501-3651

Subject: **Agenda Item 3.11 – Fire Station Closure Criteria FY 2010/11**

Board Members:

At the Board's regular meeting on December 7, 2010 item 3.3, a report describing criteria for closure of fire stations was reviewed by the Board. Several alternate suggestions were made to resolve the Fire Department budget dilemma. The item was continued until January 11, 2011 and the Executive Office was directed to review these suggestions and report back to the Board:

1. SAFER Grant Funds – The County was initially denied the opportunity to apply for these funds because we contract with CAL FIRE for our fire services. Another contract county appealed this decision and it was determined that they could apply. We have appealed and it is under review. However, should we be allowed to apply, the application opportunity would not occur until August thru September 2011. We would also be constrained by the grant rules stipulating that if funds are received we must guarantee there would be no reduction in staffing during the two year grant period.
2. TASIN (Special Distribution Funds) – County Fire did not apply for funds last year and there is no anticipated second call for applications during this grant period.
3. District Attorney Investigators Reduced by 25% - The assumption is that this action would free up \$4 million which could be used to solve the Fire Department budget shortfall. First call on any funds will need to be used to help relieve the current DA budget shortfall.
4. Community Improve Designation Funds and General Fund Reserves – Either of these actions would be at the discretion of the Board.

We will further report in the mid-year budget review on February 1, 2011 that the Fire Department continue to take all cost cutting measures possible, short of closing stations and any year end shortfall will be a policy issue for the Board.

Respectfully Submitted,



BILL LUNA

County Executive Officer

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