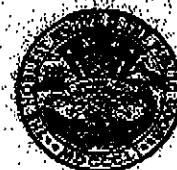




San Diego County Sheriff's Department



Post Office Box 939062 • San Diego, California 92193-9062

William B. Kolender, Sheriff

William D. Gore, Undersheriff

April 11, 2007

The Honorable Mark Ridley-Thomas
Senator, 26th District
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

POSITION: OPPOSE – SB 756: Criminal investigations: eyewitness identifications

Dear Senator Ridley-Thomas,

I must respectfully oppose your bill SB 756 Criminal investigations: eyewitness identifications. This bill declares a legislative intent that law enforcement officials study and consider adoption of new procedures recommended by the National Institute of Justice and the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice regulating eyewitness lineup identifications to ensure a decrease in the number of misidentifications.

The current procedures that law enforcement uses for lineups are time-tested and court approved. All of our criminal investigative reports are seriously scrutinized by the District Attorney's office prior to formally charging a defendant. It is not necessary to change the investigative procedures for identifying an alleged suspect. It is for these reasons that I must oppose your bill.

If I can be of assistance to you on this issue, please do not hesitate to call me or Marla Marshall, my Special Assistant of Legislative Affairs, at (858) 974-2270

Sincerely,


William B. Kolender, Sheriff

WBK:sj

- Cc: Senate Committee on Public Safety
- The Honorable Gloria Romero, Chair
- The Honorable Dave Coghill, Vice-chair
- Kaye Bassett, Governor's Office of Planning & Research