

December 17, 2024

Dear Sheriff Clark:

Congratulations on your new role as Santa Cruz County Sheriff. If I may be so bold, may I ask you one important question? In your new role, are you committed to abide by Title 8?

Title 8 United States Code 1324 (iii). It is a felony if you knowingly harbor and conceal an illegal alien from immigration authorities.

The reason I am asking you this is that I, along with other citizen residents of Santa Cruz County, **NO LONGER FEEL SAFE HERE**. As a former candidate for the City of Santa Cruz District 4 in 2022, and as a homeowner in the Unincorporated District 1 of Santa Cruz County under the helm of Supervisor Manu Koenig, it would be quite incomprehensible to me for a person in your position to not uphold Title 8 for the reasons I outline below:

- CATCH-AND-RELEASE - to knowingly release criminal aliens back into our community poses health and safety risks to our residents by choosing to “conceal” these criminal aliens and placing them back into our general population. Title 8 is your legal obligation to proactively notify federal authorities in these cases. By removing these individuals from our general population, you will aid to substantially reduce:
 - GENERAL CRIME - including, but not limited to, property damage, home invasions, theft (automobile, bicycle, retail products, etc.), child trafficking, assaults, rapes and murders. By failing to adhere to Title 8 and choosing NOT to assist Federal immigration agents in this regard, you will not only be breaking federal law, but you will also be placing the safety of members of the Santa Cruz County community at further risk—residents who you have sworn to protect and serve.
 - ILLEGAL NARCOTICS - as you know, Santa Cruz County has a major drug epidemic. Our homeless community has been especially hard hit by it. The number of annual overdoses is staggering. Fentanyl is now being laced into just about every street drug. It is cheap, plentiful and killing our community. By ignoring your Title 8 obligations, YOU WILL BE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE for many of these future overdose cases and the related gang activity associated with the distribution of this deadly narcotic. Fentanyl and other narcotics like heroin and methamphetamine have permeated our schools and the lives of our children. Our young people and our homeless communities are especially vulnerable and are relying on you to make a real impact in cleaning up our streets. Title 8 is one of the most powerful tools in your arsenal where you can make a real difference. By choosing to “knowingly harbor and conceal” these individuals from Federal law enforcement and releasing them back into our community, it will become immediately apparent that you are NOT here to protect and serve us, but, in fact, to further harm us.

In closing, please allow me to provide you with a brief excerpt from a recent email delivered on Monday, December 16, 2024, by Supervisor Manu Koenig (District 1) to his constituents, for which I am one of them. Mr. Koenig writes the following:

"In light of the recent presidential election and threats to implement restrictive anti-immigrant policies once the incoming President assumes office in January 2025, it is important for Santa Cruz County to reaffirm its commitment to support and protect the safety and wellbeing of immigrants in our community that may become victims of these discriminatory policies."

Mr. Koenig's deceptive and unsubstantiated use of the phrase "discriminatory policies" is a tool he uses to silence critics like me from challenging you and the local political cartel to uphold their obligations to protect the health and safety of our community. I challenge Mr. Koenig to publicly come forward and declare which policies he considers "discriminatory" as they relate to Title 8. Let me assure you—he cannot and will not. He is deploying a cheap, political tactic that serves his district in no way while needlessly placing further burdens onto our law enforcement by perpetuating criminal activity in our County. If Mr. Koenig truly believes that Title 8 is discriminatory, he is most welcome to visit Washington DC to help change the law so that it is not so. Until then, Title 8 is a Federal Law and you ARE required to uphold it in every way possible—not just to meet your own legal obligations, but the obligations to the community you serve. By not upholding Title 8, you are just another puppet of the politicians here—and we have had a long history of puppets in law enforcement in Santa Cruz County.

Sheriff Clark. It takes true courage to do the right thing. The tide is changing. You just have to care about the people here and help us to feel and be safe again. Please go on the record in regards to your role and commitment in support of Title 8. Believe me, the majority of the Santa Cruz County community will have your back if you have ours—and I'll be the first to stand up for you.

Merry Christmas!

Greg Hyver

[REDACTED]

Property Manager
Carle & Carle Properties
Santa Cruz, CA

President
First Amendment Rights Preservation Society
501 (c)(3) nonprofit

Chief Executive Office
Democratic Software Solutions LLC
www-e-democracy-now.com

City Council Candidate
City of Santa Cruz District 4
2022