

72.. Adopt resolution condemning the use of military force in civilian communities and affirming the constitutional rights of all residents, and take related actions ()



County of Santa Cruz

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 520, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4073
(831) 454-2100 FAX: (831) 454-3420 TDD/TTY: CALL 711
CARLOS J. PALACIOS, COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER

June 10, 2025

AGENDA: June 10, 2025 9:00 AM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Subject: Request to Add Late Item to the Agenda

Dear Members of the Board:

It is requested that the attached item be added to the agenda for consideration by the Board of Supervisors. This request is made for the reasons specified below in accordance with provisions of the Brown Act as amended.

- A. It is requested that the Board of Supervisors determine, by Majority Vote, that an emergency situation exists (as defined in Government Code Section 54956.5) requiring prompt action.
- X B. It is requested that the Board of Supervisors determine by a Four-Fifths Vote if all members are present, or a unanimous vote if any Board member is absent, that there is a need to take immediate action and that the need arose subsequent to the printed agenda being posted as follows:

“Adopt resolution condemning the use of military force in civilian communities and affirming the constitutional rights of all residents, and take related actions”

It is therefore RECOMMENDED that your Board accept this item for consideration on your agenda under the criteria specified above.

Very truly yours,

CARLOS J. PALACIOS
County Executive Officer

cc: County Counsel



County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors

Agenda Item Submittal

From: Board of Supervisors - Fourth District

Subject: Adopt Urgency Resolution Condemning the Use of Military Force in Civilian Communities and Affirming the Constitutional Rights of All Residents

Meeting Date: June 10, 2025

Formal Title: Adopt resolution condemning the use of military force in civilian communities and affirming the constitutional rights of all residents, and take related actions

Recommended Actions

1. Adopt the attached resolution condemning the use of military force in civilian communities and affirming the constitutional rights of all residents; and,
2. Direct the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies of this resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom, the County's State and federal legislative representatives, and to neighboring counties and municipalities, urging them to adopt similar measures.

Executive Summary

This urgency resolution reaffirms Santa Cruz County's commitment to the constitutional and human rights of all its residents. It responds to escalating concerns regarding the use of military force in civilian contexts, particularly where such force is directed toward immigrant and marginalized communities. The resolution condemns militarized responses within communities, calls for the cessation of such practices at the State and federal levels, and urges neighboring jurisdictions to take similar action. The need to take immediate action to adopt this resolution came to the attention of the County after the agenda was published.

Discussion

The United States and California Constitutions provide robust protections for individual liberties, including the rights to freedom of speech, assembly, due process, equal protection, and freedom from unwarranted searches. These rights are undermined when military force or tactics are deployed in civilian communities. This concern was brought into sharp focus by President Trump's recent decision to deploy the National Guard in Los Angeles over the weekend without any consultation with the Governor of California or the Mayor of Los Angeles. Such unilateral action bypasses local and State authority, exacerbates public fear, and raises serious constitutional and democratic concerns. The resolution highlights the harmful impact of militarized enforcement on public peace, mental and physical health, and community trust, particularly among immigrants and other vulnerable populations. These practices not only escalate tensions but also destabilize community safety and erode democratic principles.

Financial Impact

The recommended action has no financial impact.

Strategic Initiatives

Comprehensive Health & Safety

Submitted By:

Felipe Hernandez, Fourth District Supervisor

Recommended By:

Carlos J. Palacios, County Executive Officer

Artificial Intelligence Acknowledgment:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) did not significantly contribute to the development of this agenda item.

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO. _____

On the motion of Supervisor:
Duly seconded by Supervisor:

The following resolution is adopted:

RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE USE OF MILITARY FORCE IN CIVILIAN
COMMUNITIES AND AFFIRMING THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF ALL
RESIDENTS

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States guarantees fundamental rights to all people, including freedom of speech and assembly, due process, equal protection, and freedom from unwarranted searches and seizures, as enshrined in the First, Fourth, Fifth, and Fourteenth Amendments; and

WHEREAS, the California Constitution affirms that all persons are by nature free and independent and have inalienable rights, including the rights of privacy, liberty, safety, and happiness (Article I, Section 1); and

WHEREAS, the use or threat of military force in civilian communities, particularly immigrant and marginalized communities, undermines those constitutional guarantees and creates conditions of fear, instability, and trauma that threaten the public peace and safety; and

WHEREAS, the deployment of military resources or personnel in local neighborhoods for policing or intimidation constitutes an excessive show of force that may provoke unrest, escalate tensions, and jeopardize the mental and physical well-being of residents; and

WHEREAS, such actions disproportionately impact vulnerable populations, including immigrants and refugees, who may already experience heightened fear of government authorities and are at risk of harassment, discrimination, or violence; and

WHEREAS, the normalization of militarized law enforcement responses and the targeting of immigrant communities erodes trust between residents and local government, and threatens the constitutional fabric of our democracy; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors finds that adoption of this resolution supports preservation and protection of the public

Resolution _____

peace, health, safety and constitutional rights of all residents in the face of escalating federal threats of militarized enforcement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED by the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors that:

1. The Board condemns the use of military force in civilian communities within and beyond Santa Cruz County.
2. The Board affirms its unwavering support for the constitutional and human rights of all individuals residing in Santa Cruz County, regardless of immigration status or background.
3. The Board urges State and federal officials to immediately cease all actions that militarize law enforcement or target immigrant communities, and instead prioritize policies rooted in community safety, human dignity, and equality.
4. The Clerk of the Board is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom, the County's State and federal legislative representatives, and to neighboring counties and municipalities, urging them to adopt similar measures.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this ____ day of _____, 20 ____, by the following vote:

AYES:
 NOES:
 ABSENT:
 ABSTAIN:

 Felipe Hernandez
 Chair of the Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: _____
 Juliette Rezzato
 Clerk of the Board

Resolution _____

Approved as to Form:

Signed by:
Jason M. Heath
2336E053FF38435...

6/9/2025

Jason M. Heath (MM/DD/YYYY, AMS)
Office of the County Counsel

Certificate Of Completion

Envelope Id: 76B1A4EE-675F-471B-9C65-DA2A5AFA7A04

Status: Completed

Subject: Complete with Docusign: Resolution Condemning Use of Military Force in Civilian Communities (eSig...

Source Envelope:

Document Pages: 3

Signatures: 1

Envelope Originator:

Certificate Pages: 4

Initials: 0

Juliette Rezzato

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701 Ocean Street

Envelopeld Stamping: Enabled

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Time Zone: (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

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Pool: County of Santa Cruz

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Signer Events

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Jason M. Heath

Signed by:

Sent: 6/9/2025 5:11:27 PM

Jason.Heath@santacruzcountyca.gov

2336E053FF38435...

Viewed: 6/9/2025 5:13:31 PM

County Counsel

Signed: 6/9/2025 5:13:56 PM

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style

Using IP Address: 63.194.190.100

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

Accepted: 6/9/2025 5:13:31 PM

ID: c2f4c0b3-d27c-4a82-a606-e41c270ecc6

In Person Signer Events

Signature

Timestamp

Editor Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Agent Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Intermediary Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Certified Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Carbon Copy Events

Status

Timestamp

Witness Events

Signature

Timestamp

Notary Events

Signature

Timestamp

Envelope Summary Events

Status

Timestamps

Envelope Sent

Hashed/Encrypted

6/9/2025 5:11:27 PM

Certified Delivered

Security Checked

6/9/2025 5:13:31 PM

Signing Complete

Security Checked

6/9/2025 5:13:56 PM

Completed

Security Checked

6/9/2025 5:13:56 PM

Payment Events

Status

Timestamps

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure

ELECTRONIC RECORD AND SIGNATURE DISCLOSURE

From time to time, County of Santa Cruz (we, us or Company) may be required by law to provide to you certain written notices or disclosures. Described below are the terms and conditions for providing to you such notices and disclosures electronically through the DocuSign system. Please read the information below carefully and thoroughly, and if you can access this information electronically to your satisfaction and agree to this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure (ERSD), please confirm your agreement by selecting the check-box next to 'I agree to use electronic records and signatures' before clicking 'CONTINUE' within the DocuSign system.

Getting paper copies

At any time, you may request from us a paper copy of any record provided or made available electronically to you by us. You will have the ability to download and print documents we send to you through the DocuSign system during and immediately after the signing session and, if you elect to create a DocuSign account, you may access the documents for a limited period of time (usually 30 days) after such documents are first sent to you. After such time, if you wish for us to send you paper copies of any such documents from our office to you, you will be charged a \$0.00 per-page fee. You may request delivery of such paper copies from us by following the procedure described below.

Withdrawing your consent

If you decide to receive notices and disclosures from us electronically, you may at any time change your mind and tell us that thereafter you want to receive required notices and disclosures only in paper format. How you must inform us of your decision to receive future notices and disclosure in paper format and withdraw your consent to receive notices and disclosures electronically is described below.

Consequences of changing your mind

If you elect to receive required notices and disclosures only in paper format, it will slow the speed at which we can complete certain steps in transactions with you and delivering services to you because we will need first to send the required notices or disclosures to you in paper format, and then wait until we receive back from you your acknowledgment of your receipt of such paper notices or disclosures. Further, you will no longer be able to use the DocuSign system to receive required notices and consents electronically from us or to sign electronically documents from us.

All notices and disclosures will be sent to you electronically

Unless you tell us otherwise in accordance with the procedures described herein, we will provide electronically to you through the DocuSign system all required notices, disclosures, authorizations, acknowledgements, and other documents that are required to be provided or made available to you during the course of our relationship with you. To reduce the chance of you inadvertently not receiving any notice or disclosure, we prefer to provide all of the required notices and disclosures to you by the same method and to the same address that you have given us. Thus, you can receive all the disclosures and notices electronically or in paper format through the paper mail delivery system. If you do not agree with this process, please let us know as described below. Please also see the paragraph immediately above that describes the consequences of your electing not to receive delivery of the notices and disclosures electronically from us.

How to contact County of Santa Cruz:

You may contact us to let us know of your changes as to how we may contact you electronically, to request paper copies of certain information from us, and to withdraw your prior consent to receive notices and disclosures electronically as follows:

To contact us by email send messages to: nada.algharib@santacruzcounty.us

To advise County of Santa Cruz of your new email address

To let us know of a change in your email address where we should send notices and disclosures electronically to you, you must send an email message to us at nada.algharib@santacruzcounty.us and in the body of such request you must state: your previous email address, your new email address. We do not require any other information from you to change your email address.

If you created a DocuSign account, you may update it with your new email address through your account preferences.

To request paper copies from County of Santa Cruz

To request delivery from us of paper copies of the notices and disclosures previously provided by us to you electronically, you must send us an email to nada.algharib@santacruzcounty.us and in the body of such request you must state your email address, full name, mailing address, and telephone number. We will bill you for any fees at that time, if any.

To withdraw your consent with County of Santa Cruz

To inform us that you no longer wish to receive future notices and disclosures in electronic format you may:

- i. decline to sign a document from within your signing session, and on the subsequent page, select the check-box indicating you wish to withdraw your consent, or you may;
- ii. send us an email to nada.algharib@santacruzcounty.us and in the body of such request you must state your email, full name, mailing address, and telephone number. We do not need any other information from you to withdraw consent.. The consequences of your withdrawing consent for online documents will be that transactions may take a longer time to process..

Required hardware and software

The minimum system requirements for using the DocuSign system may change over time. The current system requirements are found here: <https://support.docusign.com/guides/signer-guide-signing-system-requirements>.

Acknowledging your access and consent to receive and sign documents electronically

To confirm to us that you can access this information electronically, which will be similar to other electronic notices and disclosures that we will provide to you, please confirm that you have read this ERSD, and (i) that you are able to print on paper or electronically save this ERSD for your future reference and access; or (ii) that you are able to email this ERSD to an email address where you will be able to print on paper or save it for your future reference and access. Further, if you consent to receiving notices and disclosures exclusively in electronic format as described herein, then select the check-box next to ‘I agree to use electronic records and signatures’ before clicking ‘CONTINUE’ within the DocuSign system.

By selecting the check-box next to ‘I agree to use electronic records and signatures’, you confirm that:

- You can access and read this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure; and
- You can print on paper this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure, or save or send this Electronic Record and Disclosure to a location where you can print it, for future reference and access; and
- Until or unless you notify County of Santa Cruz as described above, you consent to receive exclusively through electronic means all notices, disclosures, authorizations, acknowledgements, and other documents that are required to be provided or made available to you by County of Santa Cruz during the course of your relationship with County of Santa Cruz.

Juliette Rezzato

From: Barry Scott <barry_scott@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, June 9, 2025 6:37 PM
To: COB Staff; Board Of Supervisors
Subject: Letter of Support for Resolution Condemning the Use of Military Force.

******CAUTION:**This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email.****

Dear Supervisors,

You will be considering the adoption of a resolution, Item 3.1, on your revised agenda for June 10. Title: "Resolution condemning the use of military force in civilian communities and affirming the constitutional rights of all residents"

My family and friends strongly urge you all to take action and approve this resolution. Only through unity against oppression can we protect our citizens against oppressive acts by this current federal administration.

With urgency,

Barry Scott, Aptos

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Barry Scott
Office: 831.612.6574
Mobile: 209.482.5663

From: behere@ix.netcom.com
To: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
Subject: Agenda item 5
Date: Monday, June 9, 2025 9:00:44 PM

CAUTION:This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email.

I am writing with urgency to request that you place an emergency item on the next Board of Supervisors agenda: a resolution condemning the use of military force against immigrant communities. The deployment of military force in these communities is not only unjust and inhumane—it is a direct attack on the fundamental values of dignity, equity, and justice that our state and nation are meant to uphold. This moment calls for bold and principled leadership. We need cities and counties across California to speak out, and Santa Cruz County’s voice is critical. I urge you to act swiftly and publicly to denounce the fear, violence, and trauma being inflicted upon our communities. Please stand in solidarity with those most impacted, and consider collaborating with fellow leaders across the Central Coast to help ignite a broader statewide response. Now is the time for moral courage. Our communities are watching—and they need to see their leaders stand up for what is right.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to justice.

Thank you,

~Rhonda Santa Cruz, 95062

From: [Leslie Potenzo](#)
To: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
Subject: Emergency Agenda Item: Resolution to Protect Immigrants
Date: Monday, June 9, 2025 9:51:46 PM

****CAUTION:This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email.****

Dear Board,

My name is Leslie Potenzo and I live in district 1.

I am writing with urgency to request that you place an emergency item on the next Board of Supervisors agenda: a resolution condemning the use of military force against immigrant communities.

The deployment of military force in these communities is not only unjust and inhumane—it is a direct attack on the fundamental values of dignity, equity, and justice that our state and nation are meant to uphold. This moment calls for bold and principled leadership. We need cities and counties across California to speak out, and Santa Cruz County's voice is critical.

I urge you to act swiftly and publicly to denounce the fear, violence, and trauma being inflicted upon our communities. Please stand in solidarity with those most impacted, and consider collaborating with fellow leaders across the Central Coast to help ignite a broader statewide response.

Now is the time for moral courage. Our communities are watching—and they need to see their leaders stand up for what is right.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to justice.

Leslie Potenzo

From: [Martha-victoria Vega](#)
To: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
Subject: Item 3.1: Adopt resolution condemning the use of military force in civilian communities
Date: Monday, June 9, 2025 10:05:16 PM

******CAUTION:**This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email.****

Subject: Public Comment – Support for Resolution Opposing Militarized Force in Civilian Spaces

Dear Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing in strong support of the resolution being considered that opposes the use of military force in civilian community spaces and affirming the constitutional rights of all residents.

As a community member deeply invested in the safety and well-being of all the residents both foreign and domestic which includes our youth, families, our elders; I urge the Board to adopt this resolution. The use of military force in civilian spaces is dangerous and it erodes public trust. When we blur the lines between military force and community protection, we shift our values away from community policing/care and towards control.

I urge you to stand with your constituents, elders, families, and youth of Santa Cruz County in supporting this resolution and urge that the Clerk of the Board transmit a copy of this resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom, and surrounding legislative representatives to adopt similar measures.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this critical issue. Again, I urge your support for item 3.1: Resolution Opposing Militarized Force in Civilian Spaces.

Sincerely,

Martha Victoria Vega

Santa Cruz County Resident

From: [Barry Scott](#)
To: [COB Staff](#); [Board Of Supervisors](#)
Subject: Letter of Support for Resolution Condemning the Use of Military Force.
Date: Monday, June 9, 2025 6:36:59 PM

******CAUTION:**This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email.****

Dear Supervisors,

You will be considering the adoption of a resolution, Item 3.1, on your revised agenda for June 10.

Title: "Resolution condemning the use of military force in civilian communities and affirming the constitutional rights of all residents"

My family and friends strongly urge you all to take action and approve this resolution. Only through unity against oppression can we protect our citizens against oppressive acts by this current federal administration.

With urgency,

Barry Scott, Aptos

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Barry Scott
Office: 831.612.6574
Mobile: [REDACTED]





From: [Pajaro Valley Cesar Chavez Democratic Club](#)
To: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
Subject: RE:Support for Agenda Item 3.1 – Urgency Resolution Reaffirming Constitutional and Human Rights
Date: Tuesday, June 10, 2025 8:53:24 AM

******CAUTION:**This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email.****

06/10/2025

Dear Chair Hernandez and Members of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of the Pajaro Valley Cesar Chavez Democratic Club, we write in strong support of Agenda Item 3.1—the Urgency Resolution condemning the use of military force in civilian communities and reaffirming the constitutional and human rights of all residents.

This resolution is not only timely—it is necessary. As a Democratic club rooted in values of justice, equality, and civil liberties, we are deeply concerned by recent actions that threaten the safety and rights of immigrant and marginalized communities, particularly the use of militarized tactics that violate the spirit and the letter of our democratic and constitutional principles.

We commend Supervisor Hernandez and the rest of the Board for bringing forward this resolution in response to escalating concerns across the state and country. The recent unilateral deployment of the National Guard in Los Angeles without state or local consultation starkly illustrates the need for local jurisdictions to speak out and stand firm in defense of our communities.

This resolution affirms that Santa Cruz County will not be silent in the face of fear-based and heavy-handed enforcement tactics. It rightly calls on the President and other federal actors to end these harmful practices and urges neighboring counties to adopt similar stances.

We urge the Board of Supervisors to adopt this resolution without delay.

Sincerely,

Francisco Rodriguez

Co-Chair, PVCCDC