



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

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Massachusetts Sheriffs Association  
271 Cambridge St., Suite 202  
Cambridge, MA 02141

June 29, 2009

Dear Sheriff Cummings, Sheriff Hodgson, Sheriff McCormack, Sheriff Bretschneider, Sheriff Bellotti, Sheriff McDonald and Sheriff Cabral:

As you know, this past week significant progress was made on the County Sheriff transfer legislation with the passage of House 1153. This bill, along with Senate 2045, will now require a conference committee to work out the significant differences between the two versions.

The FY2010 budget was sent to the Governor's desk with a line item structure for the County Sheriffs that assumed finalization of the legislation. Since this is not the case, we are required to make some adjustments to this structure. We are assuming that this is just a short term step and that by the end of the summer or early fall, we will have a final bill on the Governor's desk. We are now tentatively planning on an effective date of October 1, 2009.

To meet our legal requirements given that the legislation has not passed and to ensure continuity of your operations, there are two legislative vehicles where changes are being made.

1. Veto to the FY10 GAA – You will see in our vetoes published on Monday June 29<sup>th</sup>, that the individual line items for the County Sheriffs (both direct appropriations and retained revenues) are vetoed. Because the legislation has not passed, your departments are not state departments therefore cannot have individual line items associated with them. In addition, because these line items assumed certain revenues and without the legislation these revenues do not come to the state, our budget would be out of balance.
2. FY10 Supplemental Recommendations – Along with our veto package we are filing supplemental recommendations to meet certain exposures. Here we have re-filed the individual line items for your operations at three-quarters of their

value. The remaining quarter will be filed in the 8910-0000 pool under the assumption that we will need funding there to get us through the summer for your operations.

Ultimately, our goal through these two actions is to make your funding whole to the amounts included in the Conference report, just in a different structure. We encourage you to continue to urge the Legislature to take action quickly on conferencing the transfer legislation. We will continue to work with you and internally with our control agencies on transfer steps and will have upcoming communication on next steps. Please do not hesitate to contact my staff on any of the details associated with what I have described above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leslie A. Kirwan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Leslie A. Kirwan