



September 4, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Thank You for Your Support

Dear Governor Newsom,

Thank you for committing California Highway Patrol (CHP) Officers to patrol Oakland's streets and work with our understaffed police department for the next four months. We are truly grateful for the support you have given to Oakland residents and businesses.

Rampant crime is overwhelming our police force of 678 officers. They attempt to address crime with a police force that only has 35 officers actively patrolling the entire city at any given time of day.

Moreover, even when our understaffed police officers miraculously make arrests, nothing happens. Criminals know they are unlikely to get caught, and even if they do, most often, they will not face prosecution.

We ask that you consider extending CHP deployment beyond four months. Our criminals are smart. They will slow down while CHP is here and come back with a vengeance once your officers leave. We will need continued help until crime is abated.

Our elected leaders tell us that crime is going down. We do not believe that for one minute. Crime reporting is decreasing because residents and businesses don't believe any follow-up will occur.

Oakland needs a comprehensive approach to addressing crime. Robberies and burglaries are not random acts of opportunity. They are part of organized crime. Reliable sources tell us that stolen phones, car parts, and other property are finding their way to destinations across California state lines, and to China, Vietnam, and other places around the world.

Hopefully your example of excellent leadership will encourage federal law enforcement agencies, including the FBI and the US Attorney to join the fight against Oakland's organized crime.

We pray you will continue to assist beyond the four-month commitment you have made, and we ask that you help us secure federal support to investigate and end organized crime and bring peace back to the city.

Very truly yours,

Cynthia Adams, President, NAACP Oakland Branch

Bishop Bob Jackson, Senior Pastor, Acts Full Gospel Church

Greg McConnell, President, SOS Oakland