

Nanci Lima

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Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2007 1:40 PM
To: Abdel Salem; Al Smith; Alan Bengyel; Alan Christensen; Alan Turner; Alex Valdez; Alphonso Bigelow; Amber Lawrence; Andrew Hoag; Andrew White; Andy Souza; Ann Kloose; Ari Swiller; Ashley Swearingen; Astine Zadourian; Deborah Adishian-Astone; Harry Armstrong; Ivan Altamura; Juanita Veliz; Miguel Arias; Rico Aguayo; Rod Anaforian; B Woolley; Barbara Brenner; Barbara Goodwin; Bart Bohn; Becky Hernandez; Ben Bulloch; Ben Tamez; Bill Lewis; Bill Little; Bill Newton; Blong Xiong; Bob Van Wyke; Bob Viets; Bob Waterston; Bob Whalen; Bobby Price; Brandi Orth; Cheryl Burns; Charley Stringer; Charles Garabedian; Charles Garabedian; Cecelia Vela; Carrol Terrazas; Carol Mills; Candice Steelman; Brian Calhoun; Chief Derosia; Christine Reeves; Christopher Kirk; Chuck Hahn; Cindy Johnson; Cliff Thompson; Cliff Tutelian; Cole Frates; Connie Conway; Craig Knight; Craig Noble; Sonia Hall; Michael Lawrence; John Quiring; Ginnie Sterling; Houry Samuelian
Subject: Gang Summit-Fresno County

Yesterday, more than 75 police chiefs, local elected officials, and community leaders attended Gang Summit 2007 hosted by the City of Sanger and California Consulting, LLC.

Special guests at the summit included the Governor's Director of Gang and Youth Violence Mr. Paul Seave, the Governor's State Public Safety Liaison Mr. Tom Sawyer, and the Governor's Special Advisor for Local Government Affairs Mrs. Brenda Quintana. In addition to hearing informative remarks from Mr. Seave and Mr. Sawyer, guests also heard comments from our outstanding Fresno County Sheriff Margaret Mims and newly appointed County Gang Task Force Coordinate Debra McKenzie as part of the program.

At the state level, we are fortunate to have exemplary leaders such as Mr. Seave, Mr. Sawyer, and Mrs. Quintana serving the State of California. We are equally fortunate to have excellent local leaders such as Sheriff Mims, and Mrs. McKenzie serving the communities of Fresno County.

The summit served as a forum for important dialogue and discussion from a broad group of leaders representing law enforcement, the faith based community, local elected officials, state leaders, and legislative representatives. A productive dialogue and question and answer period discussed methods to combating the gang epidemic in the Valley.

Special thanks to the Offices of U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, State Senate Offices of Senator Cogdill and Senator Florez, and the Office of Assemblyman Juan Arambula for their attendance and support of the summit.

Sanger Mayor Montelongo served as the M.C. and articulately discussed the gang issues facing Sanger and the entire Valley. Mayor Montelongo and his staff did an incredible job organizing this event and deserve our gratitude and recognition on a job well done. At the event, the Mayor spoke of a regional approach that included collaboration among and between the Valley communities. Evidence of this regional approach is the CalGrip grant application our office is coordinating for the 7 Eastern Fresno County cities that are our clients (Reedley, Kingsburg, Sanger, Selma, Fowler, Parlier, and Orange Cove). This funding will go towards combating gang violence in these communities.

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