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Marin County Residents Rally In Defense of California Values

Board of Supervisors Holds TRUTH Act Community Forum to Examine Local Law Enforcement Agencies' Entanglements with Federal Immigration Authorities

SAN RAFAEL, CA (December 7, 2018) – <u>ICE Out of Marin y Justicia Para Todos</u>, a coalition focused on ending deportations of Marin residents and curtailing local law enforcement's cooperation with federal Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE), held a community rally prior to a standing room only <u>Board of Supervisors TRUTH Act Community Forum</u>.

"We recognize the humanity and value of every person who calls Marin their home," said ICE Out of Marin co-chair, Lisa Bennett. "Sheriff Doyle's actions to support ICE are out of step with Marin's values, and as our elected representative we expect him to ensure the freedom and true safety of every person in our community."

More than 25 Marin organizations joined with ICE Out of Marin y Justicia Para Todos, a grassroots coalition of immigrant justice advocates, to request that Marin County Sheriff Robert Doyle cease collaborating with ICE. Sheriff Doyle has transferred 133 people to ICE since 2017. These people are taken directly into ICE custody without ever being released from the secure areas of the jail, which has produced a growing community concern over the impact on the safety and well-being of Marin residents.

Speaking for ICE Out of Marin, Laura Eberly of YWCA San Francisco & Marin called on Sheriff Doyle to immediately end the practices of publicizing personal information of those in the jail's custody, responding to ICE requests for such information, and, most importantly, providing ICE access to the jail and facilitating direct transfers of custody to ICE. Of 41 community members testifying, all but one asked Sheriff Doyle to cease all cooperation with ICE, and many shared deeply personal testimony about the devastating impacts of deportation.

Despite Sheriff Doyle's protestations that "exchanges" in the jail's booking area do not constitute transfers under SB 54, Supervisor Damon Connolly did not parse semantics. "I don't want to see our local officials assist in enforcing a dysfunctional immigration policy for the federal government," he said in closing remarks. "I would like to see further policy change. The warm handoff of a person to ICE in the booking area before the person is released has the effect of an in-custody transfer, in my view.... ICE should conduct its business outside the jurisdiction of the Sheriff, without any help from the Sheriff's office."

Advocates also called on the Board of Supervisors to take a more proactive approach to oversight of the Sheriff's Office, based on their vocal support last year for SB 54, the California Values Act that provides sanctuary protections by prohibiting local law enforcement collaboration with ICE. ICE Out of Marin asked the Board of Supervisors to:

- 1) Set a goal of ending all deportations from Marin,
- 2) Establish community oversight of the Sheriff's office,
- 3) Host quarterly updates on all local cooperation with ICE, and finally
- 4) Include immigrant justice in the County's Equity Plan.

ICE Out of Marin plans to follow up with Sheriff Doyle and the Board of Supervisors in January to determine next steps on ending local law enforcement's facilitation of deportation in Marin.

For more information, please contact Lisa Bennett, 415 272-4927 or visit <u>http://www.iceoutofmarin.org</u>. A video of the complete hearing is archived here: <u>http://marin.granicus.com/player/clip/9319?view_id=33</u>

Organizations that called for the TRUTH Act Forum:

ICE OUT OF MARIN

A Grassroots Coalition Lisa Bennett Chair Email <u>lisabpolitics@gmail.com</u> Phone (415) 272-4927

ABRIENDO CAMINOS: West Marin Latino

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MULTICULTURAL CENTER OF MARIN Douglas Mundo Founder – Executive Director (415) 526-2486 x302 dmundo@cwcenter.org

THE MARIN ASIAN ADVOCACY PROJECT Vinh Lu Project Director (415) 847-2747 vluu@marinaap.org



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Additional Organizations Supporting the Forum:

10,000 Degrees ACLU Marin County chapter African Human Rights Commission Alcohol Justice Building Bridges San Rafael Community Congregational Church of Tiburon Fair Housing Advocates Northern CA Fairfax People Power First Presbyterian San Rafael Indivisible Marin Indivisible Sausalito League of Women Voters Main Street Moms, Point Reves Marin County People Power Marin Interfaith Council Marin Peace & Justice Coalition Marin Rapid Response Network **MV-CAN** ¡Presente! Affinity Group San Rafael Building Bridges Sanctuary Marin Sleepy Hollow Presbyterian Church St. Johns, Ross SURJ Marin Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Marin United Marin Rising West Marin Community Services West Marin Standing Together Immigration Committee Youth Leadership Institute YWCA San Francisco & Marin Zen Center/Green Gulch

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