

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I reside in the 5th District and absolutely do not support or agree with spending County time and money on a Citizens Advisory Committee for Law Enforcement Oversight. The current national politicizing of law enforcement has no place in Mendocino County. Please direct your time, energy and County funding elsewhere. We have a litany of issues that need your focus and attention.

Our local law enforcement community is made up of good, solid men and women. These law enforcement officers and their support staff absolutely deserve your upmost respect for the trials that they endure on a daily basis. The lengths they go to regularly to help our most vulnerable populations is incredible and worthy of your thanks and admiration, not your distrust for their professional abilities. Most of us would not sacrifice what they sacrifice to do what is rapidly becoming a thankless job. I say enough is enough. These local heroes need your support, your trust, your respect. To propose that citizens with no law enforcement training or background should somehow advise them makes little sense, unless this is a political maneuver. I certainly hope it is not. Bringing the insanity of the national stage to this small county is counterproductive at best.

I support our Sheriff 100%, as do my friends, neighbors and family members. In my family, we thank law enforcement for their service. We buy them coffee and pastries when they are in line at the bakery. We are ready to stand with them if called on.

We do not advise them how to do their jobs, nor should you. The silent sane majority is still the majority. Please poll your constituents in a statistically valid manner, instead of letting the radical fringe bend your ear and potentially sway your sworn duty to logically fulfill your role as a Supervisor of this proud county.

Sheriff Matt Kendall, and those under his leadership, deserve our respect and gratitude for doing what they do daily. Do the right thing and let them continue to serve and protect our communities. An advisory committee will only show them you don't trust or respect them, and that is not what we need in these challenging times.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron Niderost
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5th District