



Public Statement

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Statement Regarding Whistleblower Letter Involving an Alleged Large-Scale Fraud at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Compton Station

Compton, CA -- This week, Compton City Attorney Damon Brown received a letter from a law firm representing a whistleblower who has worked at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) Compton Station. The whistleblower alleges large-scale fraud is being committed against the City of Compton by the Sheriff's Department that, over a number of years, may have cost the City millions of dollars.

The whistleblower alleges LASD is committing flagrant "minutes fraud" by billing the City for minutes spent by deputies engaging in crime suppression or answering calls for service when, in reality, they are not performing those duties. Under the current contract with the LASD, the City pays approximately \$24 million in exchange for a specific number of minutes of deputy sheriff time engaging in crime suppression. The allegation being made is that LASD is committing fraud through the unauthorized use of City minutes for non-crime suppression duties, in violation of the contract. This conduct, as alleged by the whistleblower, created major understaffing at Compton Station, resulting in increased crime and danger to the public.

The City's leadership and management is deeply disturbed by the allegations in this letter. If these allegations are proven to be true, the taxpayers of the City will have been defrauded out of millions of dollars and left under protected and vulnerable to lawlessness. Upon receiving this letter, the City Attorney immediately began looking into the matter and plans to take all action necessary to hold the Sheriff's Department accountable for their contractual obligation to protect and serve Compton residents.

"City leadership is focused on investigating the allegations brought forward in this letter," said City Attorney Brown. "Our top priority is to ensure that Compton residents receive fair and equitable services from the Sheriff's Department, just like other cities across the County. We will continue to keep residents updated as we learn more about these allegations."

The City will continue to provide updates to the community as they become available.

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