



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief of Police John D. Noland



August 31, 2018

Pima County Board of Supervisors
130 W. Congress Boulevard
Tucson, Arizona 85701

Subject: Operation Stonegarden Funding

Honorable County Supervisors,

I'd like to take this opportunity to explain some of the value that Operation Stonegarden funding and its mission provides to the 30,000+ residents of the Town of Sahuarita. Clearly this value is also provided to each municipality and all residents within Pima County. I ask those who are associated with the approval, implementation and management of Operation Stonegarden, our Elected Officials, Chiefs, Sheriff and others, truly understand the value this program provides to our communities when making decisions.

Sahuarita and Pima County are positively influenced through dedicated employees of multiple local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. These agencies play different, but important parts, toward the mission of Operation Stonegarden (OPSG). The primary mission is to address cross border crime that ranges from the trafficking of dangerous drugs to human beings. These crimes create significant trauma to our communities. The mission of OPSG is congruent with the mission of the SPD, "Making Sahuarita a Safe Place to Live, Work, and Play." Additionally, OPSG allows the SPD and other law enforcement agencies to work together in a positive way to accomplish congruent goals. No, one law enforcement agency can handle all matters. By working together via OPSG, every law enforcement agency in Pima County has developed a quality professional working relationships with each other. Relationships that can be counted on when needed to work together on small or large issues that impact our communities and residents.

Participation with our allied law enforcement agencies toward making our county safer is the correct thing to do. My officers while working OPSG deployments have assisted Border Patrol, Customs, DPS, Pima County Sheriff's Deputies and other agencies. They have saved lives by interdicting large and small amounts of illegal dangerous drugs and weapons. My officers, like those from other county law enforcement agencies, have contacted people

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who have been trekked, trained, and driven into Pima County and that were so significantly dehydrated, mistreated, or injured, that if it were not for our contact with them they may very well have died or become even more severely injured.

The SPD and other county law enforcement agencies have policies and best practice in place to make sure the Stonegarden mission is implemented appropriately. Participation by the SPD and other agencies, to include the Pima County Sheriff's Department, helps make our residents safer throughout Pima County. Those that traffic dangerous drugs and persons are dangerous criminals. They also commit other crimes and sometimes come into contact with and victimize our residents who use our roadways, open spaces, state and local parks as these sometimes serve as corridors for their criminal activities. OPSG funding, while working with allied agencies at the federal, state and local levels, allows us to do more for our communities and keep them safer. Not utilizing these resources, and having all law enforcement agencies working together, toward the same goals, places our residents at greater risk.

I am in my 34th year of law enforcement. I have seen well run programs like Operation Stonegarden work well here in Arizona and California, making communities safer. I strongly recommend the Pima County Board of Supervisors approve the Operation Stonegarden funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John D. Noland". The signature is fluid and cursive.

John D. Noland
Chief of Police
Sahuarita, Arizona