

KAMALA D. HARRIS
Attorney General

State of California
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



PUBLIC INQUIRY UNIT
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February 11, 2014

PIU: 396466

Mrs. Sharon Kramer
2031 Arborwood Place
Escondido, CA 92029

Dear Mrs. Kramer:

Thank you for your telephone call to the Office of the Attorney General regarding a complaint against the San Diego County Sheriff's Department and the San Diego County District Attorney's Office. We appreciate your bringing this matter to our attention.

In regards to your complaint against the sheriff's department, it is the Department of Justice general policy that local governments will be primarily responsible for citizen complaints against law enforcement agencies or employees of law enforcement agencies, and that appropriate local resources (e.g. sheriff or police department, district attorney, citizens review commission, and/or grand jury in the area of jurisdiction) be utilized for resolution of such complaints.

You should first direct your complaint to the local law enforcement agency. Every law enforcement agency in California is required to establish a procedure to investigate citizens' complaints (Penal Code Section 832.5). A written description of the procedure is available from all law enforcement agencies. If a resolution of your complaint is not obtained through this procedure, you should write to the county district attorney and county grand jury in the county where the law enforcement agency is located. Most complaints against local law enforcement can be resolved by contacting the aforementioned agencies.

In regards to your complaint against the district attorney's office, please be advised that California law gives discretionary authority to a locally elected prosecutor in filing criminal actions. Your concerns about the District Attorney should be discussed with your attorney so that they may be addressed through the judicial process.

Thank you again for contacting our office. We hope this information will be helpful to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "C. Hallinan".

C. Hallinan
Public Inquiry Unit

For KAMALA D. HARRIS
Attorney General