



POLICE DEPARTMENT
VILLAGE OF INDIAN HEAD PARK
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ROBERT G. CERVENKA
Chief of Police

23 October 2017

ASA Joseph Magats
Bureau Chief – Criminal Prosecutions
Cook County State's Attorney's Office
2650 S. California, Room 11D36
Chicago, Illinois 60608

Dear ASA Magats,

I am writing to express my concerns over potential budget cuts to the States Attorney's Office (SAO). The Indian Head Park Police Department provides police services to our community. We too have worked through financial shortfalls and unexpected major financial impacts. Despite these factors, law-enforcement in our community remains vital, especially in light of escalating violent crime in the greater Chicagoland area. Much of this crime has spread to the outreaches of Cook County.

Partnerships with other law-enforcement agencies, including the SAO, ensures our ability to combat crime and prosecute criminals. In recent years, the SAO has greatly reduced the number of States Attorneys on staff, which has lessened than their ability to effectively review and prosecute cases. In fact, prosecution of certain misdemeanor traffic offenses have been transferred to local prosecutors. Any further staff reductions will only exacerbate this problem.

Crime and violence are serious issues for the residents of Cook County. As responsible public servants, we must do all we can to stem the violence and hold criminals accountable. The SAO is a crucial piece of the criminal justice system. Further cuts to the SAO budget will have a direct and negative impact on law-enforcement in Cook County, and our residents' safety will be severely diminished. Please reconsider any cuts to the SAO budget.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert G. Cervenka".

Robert G. Cervenka
Chief of Police