

**Village of Olympia Fields
Chief of Police John A. Krull
20040 Governors Highway
Olympia Fields, Illinois 60461
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**Cook County Board of Commissioners
Commissioner Deborah Sims
118 N. Clark Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602**

October 20, 2017

Dear Commissioner Sims,

I am writing to express my concerns over potential budget cuts to the State's Attorney's Office (SAO). The Village of Olympia Fields provides law enforcement 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, ensure our ability to combat crime and prosecute criminals. In recent years, the SAO has greatly reduced the number of State's Attorneys on staff, which has significantly reduced their ability to effectively review and prosecute cases. In fact, prosecution of certain misdemeanor traffic offenses has been "transferred" to local prosecutors. Any further staff reductions will only exacerbate this difficult situation.

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 component of the criminal justice system. Further cuts to the SAO budget will have a direct and negative impact on law enforcement in Cook County, our residents' safety will be severely diminished and will further embolden criminal behavior. Please reconsider any cuts to the SAO budget.

Sincerely,

**John A. Krull
Village of Olympia Fields
Chief of Police
jkrull@olympia-fields.com**

Cc: SAO CPBC Magats

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