



## VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG

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October 20, 2017

Cook County Board of Commissioners  
118 N. Clark Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Commissioners,

I write today to share my concerns over potential budget cuts to the Cook County State's Attorney's Office (CCSAO). The Schaumburg Police Department provides the law enforcement services to our 75,000 residents, with that population doubling with visitors on most days. We understand the difficulties with financial shortfalls, and have worked through these times while maintaining our levels of service. The CCSAO is an important part of our responsibilities in addressing public safety needs in our community. With the outbreak of violent crime in and around the City, as a suburb we see some of that spreading to us. Now is not the time to cut services which help protect our community, by ensuring those committing offenses are held accountable through prosecution.

A large number of our cases in the Third District are misdemeanors, which reducing the number of assistants state's attorneys, leads to less preparation time and more cases ending up with not guilty findings. It adds time to the court call and requires more time on the part of our personnel to prepare for cases. It adds to our officer overtime costs.

The Felony Review Unit is already understaffed, requiring long wait times to get an assistant state's attorney to respond to our police department to review and approve charges. We need to be working together to ensure those committing felonies are properly charged in a timely manner. Limiting the number of assistants prolongs the process.

We are accountable to our residents and visitors to make sure we have a safe community and to vigorously address those who violate our laws. We can't afford to risk not bringing timely charges against those who commit serious crimes to include sex crimes and robberies. Financial and identity theft investigations and prosecutions take extensive time to bring to conclusion. Losing CCSAO staff will add to that and risk the ability to charge these violators.

Please do not limit the valuable resources with the CCSAO that assist us in keeping our community safe. The judicial system is a partnership between the police in the communities served and the CCSAO and courts. We need the resources of the CCSAO to remain intact.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James E. Lamkin".

James E Lamkin  
Chief of Police