

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

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December 31, 2020

File No.: 1.13187.A17648.071

The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell
Joint Legislative Budget Committee
1020 N Street, Room 553
Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: Hans Hemann

Dear Senator Mitchell:

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) has budgetary authority to conduct tactical alerts in response to declared emergencies and immediate threats to public safety. A tactical alert occurs when officers are placed on 12-hour shifts to enhance emergency preparedness and emergency response. Having funds available for emergency situations ensures that the CHP is able to respond as directed by the Governor. Provision 2 of Item 2720-011-0044 of the Budget Act of 2020 requires the CHP to submit a report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee on the activities and expenditures for the previous fiscal year (FY) for tactical alerts.

During FY 2019-20, the CHP incurred a total of approximately \$40.2 million in tactical alert expenditures. These costs were for uniformed employees placed on tactical alert to assist with the Kincaid Fire (\$1.3 million) and the civil unrest following the death of George Floyd (\$38.9 million). The Department primarily used emergency funding to pay for these costs and absorbed the balance within its existing operational budget. The funding breakdown is as follows:

- \$10 million from Item 2720-011-0044 of the 2019 Budget Act, which appropriates funding for CHP for tactical alerts for declared emergencies
- \$13.2 million from Item 9840-001-0494 of the 2019 Budget Act, which provides supplemental funding for emergencies
- \$6.1 million from the Disaster Response-Emergency Operations Account
- \$10.9 million absorbed by the Department's operational budget

For FY 2020/21, the CHP will request to augment its budget should tactical alert funds become necessary to protect the health and safety of the people of California in a manner consistent with



The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell

Page 2

December 31, 2020

the provisional language requirements set forth in the Budget Act of 2020. As required, the CHP will report those expenditures to the Legislature on a yearly basis.

Sincerely,



A. L. RAY

Commissioner

cc: Gabriel Petek, Legislative Analyst
Sue Parker, Chief Clerk of the Assembly
The Honorable Erika Contreras, Secretary of the Senate
Ms. Diane Boyer-Vine, Legislative Counsel
Mr. Mark Monroe, Department of Finance