



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
**COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**

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March 12, 2019

CTAS Grant Review Committee  
United States Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear CTAS Grant Review Committee:

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors is pleased to support the Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe in their endeavor to acquire funding to provide an additional full-time, cross-deputized police officer to the Tribal Police Department for 24/7 coverage.

Tribal Police in Humboldt County are a valuable resource to assist with improving law enforcement response to the rural areas. The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office has a good working relationship with these agencies and engages in the process of cross-deputization between agencies. Cross-deputization allows law enforcement agencies to work together cooperatively and provide mutual assistance to enhance public safety efforts despite jurisdictional barriers. The future officer would be cross-deputized with both BIA/OJS and Humboldt County Sheriff's Office in addition to tribal police certification, thus providing Tribal, State and Federal peace officer powers.

In the past five years, Humboldt County has experienced an increase in high-intensity drug trafficking because of its methamphetamine production and trafficking, heroin trafficking, and its illegal marijuana production, which are directly related to widespread theft, violence, and other crimes.

The Rancheria is also experiencing this type of increase in drug trafficking. Since 2010, the tribe has kept statistical data for crime on the Rancheria. Between 2012 and 2018, drug trafficking on the Rancheria increased by 51% and theft increased by 65%. It is due to these increases in drug trafficking and other crime that the tribe is requesting funding for one more full-time officer to be able to provide 24/7 coverage on the Rancheria and to the adjacent jurisdictions.

Again, we are pleased to support the efforts of the Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe and support their application.

Sincerely,

Rex Bohn, Chair  
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

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