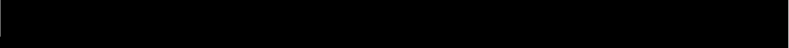
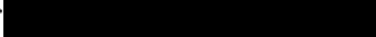


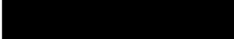


July 8, 2016

George Mueller, Deputy Commissioner
California Department of Insurance, Enforcement Branch
300 South Spring Street, South Tower, 14th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90013
george.mueller@insurance.ca.gov

RE: Nomination for 2016 Joseph P. McClure Award - Investigator of the Year

Dear President Mueller,

It is with great pride that I nominate 
Investigator  for the prestigious 2016 Joseph P. McClure Award -
Investigator of the Year. I believe that when you consider the accomplishments of Senior
Investigator  as outlined in the attached material, you, too, will join me in appreciating
just how valuable an asset  is to our community. Thank you in advance for considering this
nomination of a law enforcement professional who in the daily performance of his job makes a
serious difference in the quality of life for the residents of  County.

Sincerely,



Bureau of Investigation



Nominee for CDAIA Joseph P. McClure - Investigator of the Year, 2016

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Skills and Knowledge

Supervising DA Investigator [REDACTED] is an experienced law enforcement professional. He worked for ten years as a deputy and detective with the [REDACTED] County Sheriff's Department where he gained a reputation as a responsive, "can do" cop. In November 2007, he was hired as a Senior Investigator with the District Attorney's Bureau of Investigation, and initially assigned to work "trial prep." [REDACTED] never sought, but received many letters of appreciation from the attorneys he served; describing him as resourceful, experienced, knowledgeable, and presenting himself as "just part of the prosecution team." In 2011 [REDACTED] was selected and honored by the [REDACTED] Association as Investigator of the Year.

In May 2015, as a senior investigator, [REDACTED] was assigned to the [REDACTED] Task Force [REDACTED] a multi-agency taskforce. The mission of [REDACTED] is to reduce the incidence of vehicle thefts and carjackings in the county and increase the apprehension of professional vehicle thieves. [REDACTED] soon proved himself as a strong investigator and clear leader in the unit. His casework and contributions to the [REDACTED] team of investigators and attorneys is nothing short of amazing. In the last three months of 2015, he participated in fifteen "Bait Car" operations; wrote six search warrants; made fifteen felony arrests, and recovered fifty-three stolen vehicles with a value exceeding \$230,000. Of significance is, during that three month period, [REDACTED] was out of state for a week of training in the examination and recovery of data from vehicle computer systems known as "Integrated Vehicle Infotainment Systems", demanding his attention all day and every evening to successfully complete the intensive course. [REDACTED] is currently distinguished as one of three law enforcement officers in the State of California capable of conducting such technical work.

In May 2016, Tom was promoted to Supervising Investigator and assigned to [REDACTED]. He is one of two field supervisors with the task force.

As a member and team leader of the DA's Special Response Team (SRT) [REDACTED] trains monthly in the deployment of weapons and police tactics. He's tasked with planning tactical operations, serving high-risk search and arrest warrants, assessing threats to DA staff, and protecting special witnesses and visiting dignitaries. [REDACTED] serves as a Terrorism Liaison Officer (TLO). He participates in TLO training, meetings and conferences. He receives FBI, JTTF and JRIC intelligence on terrorist activity and threats, and communicates that information to local police agencies. Adding to his plate, [REDACTED] a member of the [REDACTED]. Under that banner, he participates in multi-agency gang suppression operations countywide, and is an outstanding representative of the District Attorney's Office.

Personal and Professional Traits

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From 1984 until 1997 ██████████ was an active duty U.S. Marine, serving in the United States and Japan. As a Marine security expert, he served with U.S. embassies in El Salvador, South Korea, Germany, Russia and Bolivia. While employed with the Sheriff's Department and District Attorney's Office, he continued to serve as a Marine Reserve. In 2011 he retired as a Master Gunnery Sergeant.

While ██████████ quality and responsive service to prosecutors, and those in the criminal justice system is well known, it's his community service that he finds most rewarding. ██████████ involved at a number of levels. At the request of the ██████████ Association, he recently prepared and presented "Active Shooter" training and understanding to local community members. He developed and presented instruction on "Hate Crime Identification" to ██████████ High School students. He teaches "Death Scene Investigation" and other subjects in the Administration of Justice Program at ██████████ Community College. He's an instructor for the United States Marine Corp (USMC) Sergeant's School on the ██████████ Marine Corp Base. He gives of his time to participate in the "Shop with a Cop" program to provide Christmas gifts to children in need. ██████████ an ardent supporter of Special Olympics. He volunteers his time and energy to run in the annual "Special Olympics Torch Run" to raise money for kids with special needs. He recently collected donations, raising over \$3,000, and in March 2016, took the "Polar Plunge for Special Olympics" in frigid ██████████ Lake.

Peer and Office Recognition

██████████
On December 2nd, 2015, two terrorists armed with automatic weapons and explosive devices entered the ██████████ where county employees were ██████████. The suspects shot and killed fourteen people and wounded twenty-two others before fleeing in a vehicle. It was the deadliest terrorist attack in the United States since September 11, 2001.

██████████ was working his plain clothes assignment with ██████████. He and his team were conducting a "Bait Car" operation in the high desert when they learned about the shooting. They responded to ██████████ headquarters in ██████████ and were briefed. ██████████ and his partner were assigned to canvass the area where the suspects in their vehicle were last seen. While searching, ██████████ heard the radio broadcast of an officer in vehicle pursuit of the suspects. The suspects were shooting at the pursuing officer. The broadcast was unclear, garbled, with responding officers transmitting over each other. The pursuit location and direction were confused. ██████████ being familiar with the area, changed direction and caught up to the pursuing officer. The suspect vehicle came to a sudden stop. Both suspects opened fire on ██████████ and the responding officers. ██████████ alighted from his vehicle, taking his M-4 rifle. He saw a sheriff's deputy in his unit, pinned down by gunfire. He saw suspect bullets kicking dust spots on the ground nearby. ██████████ and a small group of officers formed up, advanced on the suspects and returned fire. The suspects ceased firing. They were dead; mortally wounded. It was believed the

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suspects had dropped explosive devices in the area. ██████████ and the others held their positions until an armored police vehicle and bomb squad arrived.

In February 2016, ██████████ awarded ██████████ the District Attorney's "Medal of Valor" for his actions.

Honors in Personal and Professional life

In 2011 ██████████ was honored as the ██████████ Association Investigator of the year.

In February 2016 ██████████ was awarded the District Attorney's Medal of Valor by ██████████

In April 2016 Tom was honored with the ██████████ Award for "conspicuous bravery or heroism while engaged in combat with an armed adversary or in the performance of an act of gallantry and valor at imminent personal hazard of life, with knowledge of risk, and beyond the call of duty."

In July 2016 ██████████ was honored as the ██████████ Association Investigator of the Year.

Letters of Commendation

Please see the attached letters.

Summary and Conclusion

As we know, the District Attorney is the public prosecutor, and within his or her discretion shall initiate and conduct on behalf of the people, all prosecutions for public offenses, employing District Attorney Investigators to fulfill his or her investigative responsibilities. Senior Investigator ██████████ is the epitome of the all-around investigator; one who is adept at conducting criminal investigations, locating recalcitrant witnesses, planning and executing tactical operations, or engaging in a shootout with heavily armed terrorists. One whose distinguished service is recognized by members of his Bureau, his Office and the community he serves.

FOR THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY,

██████████

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 24, 2014 **PHONE:** [REDACTED]

FROM: [REDACTED]
Deputy District Attorney
Office of the District Attorney

TO: [REDACTED]
Chief Investigator
Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: People v. [REDACTED]

Chief [REDACTED]:

I am writing you in appreciation for the outstanding performance of one of your investigators, Senior Investigator, [REDACTED] Investigator [REDACTED] day-to-day performance reflects the highest standards of professionalism, and attention to detail that do great credit to the Bureau of Investigation. He makes himself available for assistance, in person, or by phone to attorneys and staff virtually around the clock. It has been my experience, that despite a very heavy caseload, Investigator [REDACTED] displays outstanding initiative by responding to requests for investigation almost immediately. He has performed several last minute investigations during trial that have been instrumental in securing a guilty verdict and holding the defendant responsible for his crimes.

Recently, I had the opportunity to work closely on a murder case with Investigator [REDACTED]. Without his help, we would never have secured a guilty verdict to 1st Degree Murder and Personal use of a firearm causing death. The defendant now faces a

sentence of over 50 years to life for his brutal murder of [REDACTED] in large part due to the efforts of Investigator [REDACTED]

The facts of the case were as follows:

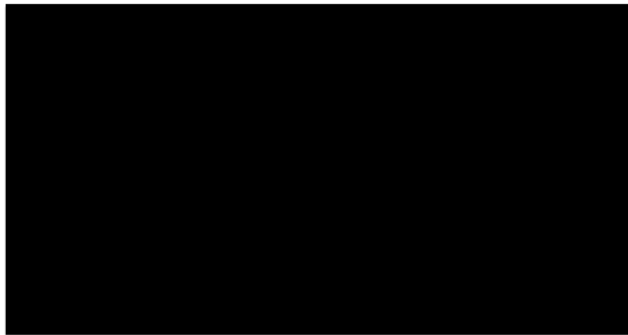
On October 18th, 2013, at about 7:00 p.m., [REDACTED] drove [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] apartment for an arranged visit. [REDACTED] stayed in the vehicle while

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The defense tried to build their case around the alleged impossibility of witness testimony due to time/distance issues related to the alleged route taken by the defendant from the scene. [REDACTED] went out and promptly dispelled these alleged inconsistencies with his investigation, and testified as to the results of that investigation. His testimony, and his efforts to secure witness testimony at trial were essential to the successful prosecution of the defendant.

[REDACTED] initiative, professionalism, and dedication were instrumental in the jury reaching a verdict of guilty.



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2013 10:07 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: [REDACTED]

Thanks [REDACTED] A good Marine helped take care of a bad one.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 10:43 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]

I'll try to keep this short, but some background is necessary.

I have appeared on lifer hearings for inmate [REDACTED] in 2008, 2011 and just yesterday. This was a case where [REDACTED] killed a fellow Marine [REDACTED] and his girlfriend [REDACTED] leaving [REDACTED] 3 year old son at the scene. [REDACTED] got a plea to 2 counts of 187 2nd Degree.

At the 2008 hearing [REDACTED] said that he only hit [REDACTED] so he could steal his car. He also claimed that he had served in combat in Bosnia and that it affected his mental state.

At the 2011 hearing he talked about Bosnia again—said he was always thinking about it—seeing someone's head explode and a platoon member being blown up. Said PTSD was one of the causative factors for the murders. But then on further questioning he said it wasn't Bosnia, but rather Beirut where he served. Long story short, the Commissioners bought his lies (I still don't understand it) and gave him a date.

Governor Brown reversed. He pointed out that we were not in combat missions in Bosnia during [REDACTED] time in the Marines and further he found [REDACTED] shifting story about his combat service to be suspect. He repeatedly asserted that he served in a war zone in Bosnia over two separate Board hearings. It is highly unusual that a person serving in a war would not remember where it took place and it was this experience that was the basis for his claim that PTSD might have contributed to his otherwise inexplicable crime."

I was able to find [REDACTED] DD-214 in our DA File. I wanted to have as much information as possible before the hearing that was scheduled for Nov. 2012. I was talking about this case to Investigator [REDACTED] and he told me [REDACTED] was who I needed to contact.

I talked with Tom and got information for the hearing. When the hearing was rescheduled to March 2013, I asked [REDACTED] if he'd do a report on [REDACTED] military records—since I'd have time to send it and could use it at the hearing. [REDACTED] did as requested and I sent it to the prison.

Yesterday at the hearing the inmate's private attorney told me that the report from [REDACTED] made him very nervous. So he contacted [REDACTED] and was told that [REDACTED] had paperwork to dispute [REDACTED] report. Well, that ended up being a complete lie.

I had the most unusual experience at this hearing. Ultimately, [REDACTED] asked for a 3 year stipulation that he was unsuitable for parole. That was okay with everyone, but both the Commissioners and [REDACTED] attorney wanted [REDACTED] in the room when it was done. [REDACTED] admitted that he lied about his service and PTSD. This only happened because of the work that [REDACTED] did.

I am sending this email to you so that [REDACTED] efforts do not go unacknowledged.

Thank you,

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 9, 2010

PHONE: [REDACTED]

FROM: [REDACTED]

District Attorney

TO:

DISTRICT ATTORNEY INVESTIGATORS
[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: JOB WELL DONE

I received a very complimentary letter from Sheriff [REDACTED] commending you on the job you all did in the [REDACTED] Sweep. He wrote, "Each of these individuals is to be commended for their dedication to their community and the surrounding jurisdictions that were served as part of the operation."

I want you all to know that I appreciate your hard work and dedication. Your professionalism is a wonderful reflection on the Office. I have attached a copy of the letter for your files and one will be placed in your personnel file.

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]
District Attorney

[REDACTED]
Attachment

[REDACTED]

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 23, 2008

PHONE: [REDACTED]

FROM: [REDACTED]

Supervising Deputy District Attorney

TO: [REDACTED]

Chief, Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: People v. [REDACTED]

The recent conviction of serial rapist [REDACTED] in itself recognizes the team that produced it. But it is right and good also to recognize the individuals who made up that team.

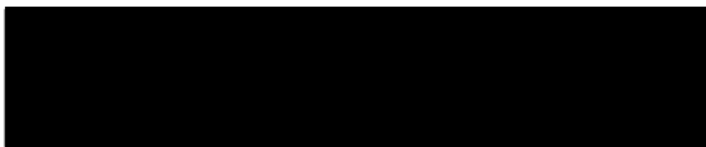
[REDACTED] stuck with a search that ultimately led to the location of one of [REDACTED] previous rape victims. The rape of Jane Doe 2 occurred nearly 28 years ago in the [REDACTED] area. We had a name and date of birth and very little more. But [REDACTED] persisted in his search until she was located and interviewed. She ultimately traveled here from Texas and testified about the facts of her own horrific encounter with [REDACTED]. When I talked to several jurors after the verdict they made a point of telling me how important they found to be the testimony of Jane Doe 2. There is no doubt that the similarities of her rape and that of the present victim helped convince them that the rape of Jane Doe 1 was in fact an act of forcible rape and not consensual sex.

[REDACTED] made several trips to [REDACTED] Detention Center to take measurements and photograph that part of [REDACTED] where [REDACTED] was housed. It was necessary to explain to the jury how [REDACTED] moved around his section with ease and without apparent impediment in order to disabuse the jury of the defense theory that he was too blind to be a rapist. [REDACTED] also produced a number of quality exhibits that were presented to the jury to allow them to understand [REDACTED] living environment, which again helped us disprove his assertions of blindness. [REDACTED] was always extremely motivated to help in any way possible. I was able to give her simple, broad goals and could rely on her to deliver everything I asked for.

Investigator [REDACTED] became involved later in the case by seeking out and interviewing some key witnesses. These people were able to testify that they saw the defendant on or near the date of the assault and that he appeared to have no, if any, substantial vision disabilities. The ability to show that the defendant was exaggerating,

if not totally misrepresenting, his vision problems helped me argue the case against him in a number of ways, all to his ultimate detriment.

I personally and the community as a whole are indebted to these fine team members who made this victory possible.



Supervising Deputy District Attorney

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 13, 2008

PHONE: [REDACTED]

TO: [REDACTED]

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: NEW CLERICAL TRAINING PROGRAM
JOB WELL DONE

In 2008, we hosted four sessions of our New Clerical Training Program. The program is one-day long and involves multiple instructors. We would like to recognize and thank the following instructors who volunteered their time and energy to teach on November 5, 2008:

Instructor

Topic

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

All instructors were prepared and very well received. It was clear that each had put significant thought and consideration into creating this training program. In the two years since we started this program, we have received nothing but rave reviews.

* I would like to especially thank [REDACTED] for stepping in at the last minute to prepare for and cover their classes. The original instructors for their classes both became unavailable at the last minute. Not only were [REDACTED] both great sports about volunteering, they both presented fantastic classes and were extremely prepared and professional throughout!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]