



Office of the Sheriff Cochise County

Mark J. Dannels
Sheriff

Thomas Alinen
Chief of Staff

July 14, 2022

Colonel Heston Silbert
Director, Arizona Department of Public Safety
2222 West Encanto Blvd
Phoenix, Arizona 85009

Dear Colonel Silbert,

The Cochise County Sheriff's Office desires to build a Southeast Arizona Combined Intelligence and Border Operations Center. The center will serve as a local hub to improve intelligence capabilities, enforcement operations, and information sharing of border related activities and crime among and between local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. The intent is to build a cohesive center where deputies, police officers, state troopers and federal agents can interact and prepare border operations to combat unlawful border crossers and criminal elements.

A building for this center has become available. It is one of the buildings state officials have looked at in the past as a possible site. The estimated price of this building has been reduced to approximately 3.5 million dollars. If we receive funding for 5 million dollars, that will provide sufficient funding to purchase furniture, install information technology services, and remodeling as necessary.

Based on the initial interest from various agencies, it is estimated that approximately 55 law enforcement personnel could work out of the center. The center will provide offices and space for deputies, state troopers, federal agents, national guard soldiers, and civilian staff. The center will be designed as a multi-jurisdictional working center for current and future requirements. The following is a list of agencies and units projected to use the center:

- Sheriff's Office Southern Arizona Border Region Enforcement Task Force (SABRE)
- Criminal Interdiction Team
- Street Crimes Unit
- Major Crimes Unit
- Financial Crimes Unit
- K-9s Unit

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area
- United States Border Patrol
- Arizona National Guard
- Arizona Department of Public Safety Street Crimes Unit
- And the Sierra Vista Police Department Street Crimes Unit

Additional space will be allocated for vehicle and equipment storage. See attached spreadsheets for estimated center occupants and building floorplan.

The National Sheriff's Association has proposed to establish a consolidated Intelligence Cell inside the center that works in conjunction with SABRE's border camera system. Currently, we are reviewing that request to determine functionality of that unit. It will not be an issue incorporating this cell into the center.

As the Sheriff for Cochise County, I appreciate your consideration in providing the funding from Border Strike Force to assist in developing a Combined Intelligence and Border Operations Center which would benefit our county, our state, and our nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Dannels', with a long, sweeping underline.

Sheriff Mark Dannels
Cochise County