



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

*Special Litigation Section - PHB
950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington DC 20530*

June 3, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Sheriff Charles Guillory
Evangeline Parish Sheriff's Office
200 Court Street
Ville Platte, LA 70586

Re: Settlement Agreement Between the United States and the Evangeline Parish Sheriff's Office

Dear Sheriff Guillory:

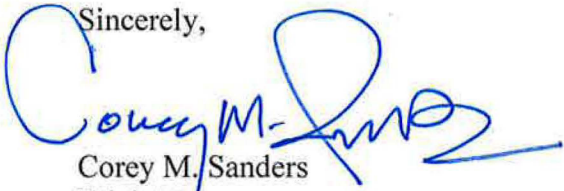
We write to report on the Evangeline Parish Sheriff's Office's (EPSO) compliance with and implementation of the Settlement Agreement (Agreement) with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), entered on June 4, 2018. We have attached our Compliance Assessment, summarizing EPSO's status with each paragraph of the Agreement. We will post this assessment on DOJ's website, and we ask that you consider posting it to your website to ensure greater transparency and to show EPSO's progress and its commitment to implementing the provisions of the Agreement.

During this reporting period, EPSO showed overall improvement in various provisions of the Agreement, including restricting the practice of using investigative holds, developing and implementing improved policies and procedures, ensuring that officers received mandatory in-service training; developing and implementing a field training program, and enhancing web-based systems to assist in processing warrants. These enhancements are positive strides.

While we recognize progress in various areas of the Agreement, we identified other critical areas where EPSO has not taken meaningful steps to address deficient practices. In our last report, we identified issues with supervision and accountability. We continued to find issues with these areas, and we also found concerning practices involving community engagement. We plan to conduct an onsite inspection later this month and look forward to working closely with you and your staff to address these critical areas along with the areas where EPSO has not achieved substantial compliance.

The United States appreciates the productive partnership that the parties have enjoyed during the implementation of the Agreement. We acknowledge the hard work that EPSO officers and staff devoted to improving policing services, and we appreciate the courtesy and

professionalism that you and your staff have extended throughout the investigation and implementation periods.

Sincerely,

Corey M. Sanders
Trial Attorney
Special Litigation Section