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Testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee In Support of SB92 – Recording of Certain Interrogations

February 7, 2017

Chairman Wilborn and Committee Members,

Our associations are not opposed to SB92. We believe the Judicial Council recommendation is a reasonable approach to recording certain interrogations. The recommendation addresses the concerns our associations had with the bill last year, including the creation of an unfunded mandate on small agencies. We agree agencies should have a policy on recording interrogations and that policy should be developed in consultation with local prosecutors. Our associations worked with the Kansas County and District Attorneys Association to develop a model policy on this topic which was published in April 2016. That policy is available on the KCDAA website, www.kcdaa.org under the "Best Practices and Policies" tab.

We have been contacted by some attorneys who believe subsection (e)(2) needs to be amended by adding the phrase "when the interrogation concerns homicides and felony sex offenses" at the end of subsection (e)(2) to make it clear the same condition from subsection (e)(1) also applies to this subsection. We believe that does clarify the Judicial Council intent and we support that amendment.

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