



MONTEREY COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Keeping the peace since 1850

Tina M. Nieto
Sheriff-Coroner

July 25th, 2024

A MESSAGE TO OUR COMMUNITY FROM SHERIFF TINA NIETO

As some of you may have seen recently, there have been news reports about my involvement in CHP traffic stops over the past few years for exceeding the posted speed limit.

On occasion, law enforcement officers acting in their official capacity are inadvertently pulled over as they respond to an incident. While that fact explains the majority of these stops, it does not explain them all.

I acknowledge that on one of these traffic stops last year, I was on my own personal time driving back home from Southern California. I should have been more aware of my speed. And, as some of you might have experienced yourselves, I knew I had made a mistake as soon as I saw those red and blue lights flashing behind me.

On another stop, I was on the job and working in an official capacity. Still, my task at the time did not rise to the level of a response that required traveling over the speed limit. That was my error.

The CHP officers who contacted me were professional and courteous during these traffic stops. As seen in the dash camera video, I did not use my position to seek a break or avoid a citation at any time. As with any traffic stop, issuing a citation is at the officer's discretion.

As Sheriff, I understand the importance of adhering to our traffic regulations. I should set a better example for my community, and I'm committed to doing so in the future.

Respectfully,

Tina Nieto
Monterey County Sheriff