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**From:** Patrick Espinoza <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 09, 2014 4:43 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Why it is important that you cast your endorsement vote

To the Class of [REDACTED]

On February 7, 2014, retired attorney Bob Phillips sent an e-mail to many Deputy District Attorneys designed to influence the outcome of the endorsement vote being sponsored by the Deputy District Attorney Association and San Diegans Against Crime, the political action committee of the Deputy District Attorneys. Bob Phillips is not a current Deputy District Attorney nor is he a member of the Deputy District Attorneys Association. He retired many years ago and now lives outside the state of California.

In his e-mail, Bob Phillips describes the San Diego District Attorney's Office as a prosecutor's office in decline. Specifically, he writes that we are experiencing "a downhill slide." He claims that the District Attorney's Office no longer stands for "strong ethical standards and irreproachable professionalism." His e-mail was a personal vituperative attack on our District Attorney. It was designed to persuade Deputy District Attorneys to cast their votes for the candidate that Mr. Phillips is supporting in the upcoming endorsement vote.

Mr. Phillips e-mail was sent to the homes of many Deputy District Attorneys. Many of you have asked how Mr. Phillips accumulated the home e-mail addresses of so many deputies. A few years back, the Deputy District Attorneys Association gathered Deputies home e-mails as an alternative way to contact deputies and provide information. It remains unknown if e-mail addresses intended for Association business ended up in Mr. Phillips' possession. However, Mr. Phillips' has accumulated e-mail addresses that were never provided directly to him to promote his personal politics nor to receive rabid anti-Dumanis e-mails.

Do not allow Mr. Phillips and others who may be working in conjunction with him to succeed in their thinly veiled plot to tarnish the District Attorney, the District Attorney's Office and its fine prosecutors for political gain. It is imperative that as many members take a part in the endorsement vote as possible. Whether you are a DDA1 with less than 30 days of experience or a DDAV with more than 30 years of experience, your vote is important. The greater the turnout, the more representative the vote will be. If members do not vote, the voices of those who view the DA's Office as an Office "in decline" may prevail.

We are not an Office "in a downward slide" as Mr. Phillips describes. Mr. Phillips ends his e-mail asking whether today's deputies can say they are proud of the work we do and who we work for. The overwhelming majority of us are proud to work as prosecutors in the San Diego District Attorney's Office for District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis. The voices of those prosecutors need to be heard on this endorsement vote. Thank you for taking the time to read this email. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. (If you did not receive the Bob Phillips' email but would like to see it please email me and I will forward it to you.)

Deputy District Attorney Patrick Espinoza  
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