

U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

Special Litigation Section U.S. Mail: 150 M Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20530 Facsimile: (202) 514-0212

February 7, 2025

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:

I write regarding the United States' investigation of the Evangeline Parish Sheriff's Office (EPSO) under the authority granted by the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, 34 U.S.C. § 12601.

In December 2016, the United States issued a findings report detailing constitutional violations involving EPSO's stops, searches, and arrests practices. In June 2018, the United States and EPSO entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (Agreement) that required EPSO to implement reforms to address all outstanding issues detailed in our findings report.

We conducted five compliance assessments during the past six years. Based on those assessments, we have determined that EPSO has achieved substantial compliance with the requirements of the Agreement. EPSO has implemented significant reforms that have enhanced policing and addressed the Fourth Amendment violations we identified. Furthermore, we observed a change in approach and practice at ESPO during the enforcement period that gives us confidence that EPSO will continue its commitment to constitutional policing. Given EPSO's compliance with the Agreement, the Agreement is now terminated, and our investigation is closed.

Last, we appreciate and acknowledge the effort and industry that your department has committed to improve policing practices in Evangeline Parish. We further appreciate the courtesies extended to the United States personnel and collaboration during the investigation and implementation period. If you have any questions about this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 616-2726 or Corey M. Sanders at (202) 353-5915.

Sincerely

Regan Rush

Chief

Special Litigation Section