



Outlook

public comment #24 25-1606
BOS Revd 9/22/25

Removal of 2 currently open recs from County Charter Section 504

From Lee Tannenbaum <lee.tannenbaum@gmail.com>

Date Mon 9/22/2025 10:52 AM

To BOS-Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Cc Lee Tannenbaum <lee.tannenbaum@gmail.com>

 1 attachment (22 KB)

Public Comment Letter BOS 504 Budget Hearing.pdf;

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Madame Clerk,

Please add the attached public comment to the BoS meeting agenda item 25-1606. Thank you.

Lee Tannenbaum

President, Taxpayers Association of El Dorado County

650.515.2484

Re: Budget Hearing (Item 25-1606) — Section 504 Linkages

Dear Chair Turnboo and Members of the Board,

The Taxpayers Association of El Dorado County urges you, during this FY 2025-26 budget hearing, to remove the Chief Probation Officer and the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) from Charter Section 504 linkages. These positions are currently open and would allow the Board to make this small change without affecting any labor agreements or potential legal issues.

This is a moment of budget adjustment: staff have finalized prior-year fund balances and are recommending changes to align resources with department needs. As you review these allocations, you should also consider the structural drivers of cost — including salary obligations under 504.

Section 504 was intended to ensure fair pay parity for deputy sheriffs with comparator agencies. It was not meant to tether top-level administrative positions to automatic raises. Linking the CAO and Chief Probation Officer (as well as others) to 504 creates three problems:

- Mission mismatch: These are not sworn Sheriff Deputies; their work is administrative.
- Unintended fiscal impact: The last 504 comparator study showed only 18% of classifications were “in line” while 57% were already well above market. Keeping administrative roles under 504 drives further inflation.
- Governance optics: Allowing administrators to benefit from a deputy parity clause undermines public trust.

At a time when you are being asked to balance fund shifts, reduce take home vehicles, and prepare a resolution based on limited revenues, this is the right time to correct 504’s scope. Remove the CAO and Chief Probation Officer from linkage and return their compensation to a transparent, market-based system.