



## ***Lompoc City Council Agenda Item***

**City Council Meeting Date:** November 4, 2008

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

**FROM:** Gary P. Keefe, City Administrator  
(g\_keefe@ci.lompoc.ca.us)

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. 5501(08) - SUPPORTING PERSONNEL SAFETY  
AT THE LOMPOC USP COMPLEX**

---

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Lompoc City Council consider adopting Resolution No. 5501(08) and/or provide appropriate direction to staff.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Councilmember Mike Siminski has requested that Council adopt Resolution No. 5501(08), supporting Federal Correctional Officers.

Mr. Barry Fredieu, AFGE Local 3048 President, spoke during Oral Communications during the September 2, 2008 meeting, and urged the Council to become aware of the unsafe working conditions at our local Federal Prison (Attachment 2). At the October 21, 2008 Council meeting, Soledad Kennedy, Local 3048 Vice-President, also spoke on the issue.

### **DISCUSSION:**

Councilmember Mike Siminski and Mayor Dick DeWees met with Mr. Fredieu and learned of the efforts in the City of Merced to influence safer working conditions at the Atwater Prison, after Officer Jose Rivera was stabbed and killed while on duty. In a similar event here in Lompoc in 1997, Officer Scott Williams was also killed by stabbing. Councilmember Siminski obtained copies of the Merced resolution (Attachment 3) and a similar one by Pima County, Arizona (Attachment 4), where another U.S. prison is located. Both of these are specific in their support of Union proposals.

Councilmember Siminski prepared a more general Resolution for your consideration, which stresses the need for improved safety, leaving it to the experts to determine how that can be achieved, although he feels the "stab-proof" vests are worthy of mention.

Councilmember Siminski hopes that the Lompoc Record and the Santa Barbara News-Press show similar support through editorial action, and, if adopted, requests staff to send copies of Resolution No. 5501(08) and supporting material to our neighboring governments in Santa Maria, Solvang, Buellton, and Santa Barbara County.

Councilmember Siminski states, "I am aware of the disappointment among our local Police ranks that the City has not been able to fund improvements in Police operations here, and I express concern they might take offense at our support of Federal Officers. I was assured that the Police would see this as support for fellow peace officers, and not as any indication of less than full support of local issues. I have also verified that there are no issues between Labor and Administration at the local USP wherein this City action could be construed as 'taking sides'."

Councilmember Siminski urges the Council to adopt the Resolution presented, or one similar.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

---

Gary P. Keefe  
City Administrator

Attachments:

1. [Resolution No. 5501\(08\)](#)
2. [Report from Barry Fredieu, President, Local 3048](#)
3. [City of Merced, California Resolution No. 2008-55](#)
4. [City of Pima County Board of Supervisors re: Safer Working Conditions for USBP Correctional Officers](#)