



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

GEORGE GASCÓN • District Attorney
JOSEPH F. INIGUEZ • Chief Deputy District Attorney

DANIEL FELIZZATTO • Legislative Advocate
TAMAR TOKAT • Legislative Advocate

June 3, 2024
Senator Angelique Ashby
1021 O Street, Suite 7320
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Senate Bill 989
SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Ashby:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Senate Bill 989 (Ashby).

SB 989 modifies law enforcement investigation and training procedures pertaining to domestic violence-related homicides in an effort to increase the likelihood that law enforcement and families of decedents are able to identify intimate partner homicides, even in situations where the scene has been staged. The bill aims to accomplish this purpose by implementing investigation and training requirements for law enforcement and coroners to ensure that they are aware of and looking out for signs of intimate partner homicide.

SB 989 also extends the definition of "legal representatives" to encompass immediate family members, empowers coroners to inquire into deaths they deem suspicious, and designates such deaths as suspicious until properly investigated, thereby strengthening the urgency of these cases. By providing investigators, coroners, and families the necessary tools and evidence-based detection measures needed to identify suspicious cases, and by ensuring that the State conducts thorough investigations into suspicious deaths involving histories of domestic violence, SB 989 aims to empower individuals and families impacted by domestic violence-related deaths.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Tamar Tokat in our Legislative Office at 916-442-0668.

Very Truly Yours,

GEORGE GASCÓN
District Attorney