2020 Early Warning System (EWS) Compliance Report

On March 20, 2018, the Attorney General issued Directive 2018-3 (attached hereto), which requires that all law enforcement agencies establish Early Warning Systems ("EW System"). An EW System is an important management tool designed to detect patterns and trends in police conduct before that conduct escalates. EW Systems, therefore, serve to not only increase public safety and public confidence in law enforcement, but also to assist officers through early intervention. Although law enforcement agencies in Essex County already used EW Systems prior to the issuance of this Directive, this Directive set forth uniform policies, procedures, standards and practices for these EW Systems.

All law enforcement agencies in Essex County have either adopted the Attorney General’s EW System Directive (2018-3) or incorporated the Directive into their existing EW System policy.

Since the time that the Directive took effect and EW Systems were either adopted or revised, the Essex County Prosecutor’s Office was notified regarding officers who triggered the respective agency’s EW System. The respective agencies also advised regarding any actions that were taken as to the subject officer.

Finally, each agency’s policy has been posted on their respective websites as required under the Directive, and reporting requirements have been satisfied for 2020.