David R. Shaw, Inspector General

Office of the Inspector General

March 24, 2009

Mathew L. Cate, Secretary
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
1515 S Street, Room 502 South
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Cate:

The Office of the Inspector General has completed a preliminary inquiry into the California Department of Correction and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Division of Adult Parole Operation's monitoring of Parolee Lovelle Mixon following his most recent release from CDCR custody in November 2008. We initiated our inquiry to determine if there were any violations of department policy or procedure that could have potentially contributed to the deaths of four Oakland Police Officers at the hands of Mixon on March 21, 2009.

During this inquiry, OIG inspectors traveled to Oakland and conducted a review of Mixon's parole file, his record of supervision, and also spoke to Mixon's three previous parole agents. Finally, we received and reviewed documentation provided by CDCR Office of Correctional Safety (OCS), concerning their attempts to locate and apprehend Mixon when he became a Parolee-at-Large (PAL) on February 27, 2009.

Our review of Mixon's parole records showed that Oakland parole agents were diligent in their monitoring and drug testing of Mixon, commensurate with his status as a high-control parolee. Further, Mixon was promptly placed on PAL status after failing to report to his parole agent as directed.

From our review of the available information, it appears that OCS worked diligently in concert with other law enforcement agencies, including the Oakland Police Department (OPD), in making several attempts to promptly locate and apprehend PAL Mixon. They also provided the OPD "Be on the Lookout" notification regarding Mixon. In addition, OCS contacted the United States Marshals Service to check on reports that Mixon might have fled out of the state.

Based on our preliminary inquiry, it appears that CDCR Parole and OCS staff followed department policies and procedures in their supervision of Mixon after his release from custody and in their attempts to locate and apprehend him.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me (916) 830-3600.

Sincerely,

David R. Shaw
Inspector General