

BONAFIDE SISTERHOOD INC.

1023 West 2nd Street

Antioch, CA 94509

PH: 800-377-0190

www.bonafidesisterhood.org



TONYIA CARTER

Executive Director

tcarter@bonafidesisterhood.org

*Focusing on **REDIRECTING, REBUILDING, and PREVENTING** gang and gun violence.*

February 3, 2023

Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC)
2590 Venture Oaks Way
Sacramento, CA 95833

Re: Concerns about CalVIP contracting process not aligning with BSCC approved awards

Members of the BSCC:

I am the Executive Director of Bonafide Sisterhood, a community-led organization in Antioch, CA. We were part of a CalVIP grant application under the City of Antioch that was recently awarded in Cohort 4. The name, expertise, and credibility of our organization was named throughout the application, and our role was confirmed in a letter of partnership we signed on behalf of the grant. The City of Antioch's awarded proposal relied heavily on our involvement in it. And yet, since the awarding of the grant, the City of Antioch has informed us that they no longer intend to subcontract with Bonafide Sisterhood.

I reached out to CalVIP administrator Katrina Jackson, who informed me that the City of Antioch as the lead organization funded had no obligation to subcontract with us. Again, we are a Black-led community organization with roots in the community and with the population most involved in violence in our community. I believe that the Executive Steering Committee was misled by the City of Antioch, whose proposal was approved largely because of the partnership they described with us in their proposal.

How many other community groups in California have had their name and reputation exploited by a city government to acquire CalVIP funds that they never shared with those partners?

This is deeply concerning, and very wrong. I am raising this issue to the BSCC and the CalVIP Executive Steering Committee not just to make it right in our case, but to make sure that other grassroots organizations, doing this difficult and dangerous work out in our streets, are not being cut out of the funding we need and that the State of California intended us to receive without approval by the BSCC.

Sincerely,

Tonyia Carter
Executive Director

CC: CalVIP Executive Steering Committee members and Antioch City Councilmember Tamisha Walker-Torres

BONAFIDE SISTERHOOD INC is a 501(c)3 Nonprofit Organization under Tax ID# 84-5050904.