

**BOB FLETCHER**  
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February 12, 1997

Honorable Ramsey County Commissioners  
200 Courthouse  
St. Paul, MN 55102

Dear Honorable Commissioners,

On February 11th, I received a draft copy of the State Auditor's comments regarding cellular phone use. I support the Auditor's recommendations and wish to add some additional clarification.

Since becoming Sheriff I have used two cellular phones for business purposes. One phone is permanently mounted in my Ramsey County Sheriff's squad car and billed to the County. The second phone is a portable cellular phone that was purchased by me, billed directly to me and paid for with personal funds. Both phones have been primarily used for business purposes, however I have personally paid the entire \$1278.65 for local service of the second phone since January of 1995 and not asked for reimbursement of the business calls.

As the auditor suggested, I am in the process of reviewing all previous billing statements from my personal cellular phone and the County car phone. I will provide a detailed report to the County Manager upon completion of that task, however, even a preliminary review of the bills suggests that the county will owe me in excess of \$100.00 after both reimbursements are itemized and calculated. I do not intend to ask for reimbursement of the excess.

Since the September 1996 meeting held by the County Manager's staff all bills are being reviewed and itemized for reimbursement. Appropriate documentation was provided to the auditor.

In addition, I welcome the Auditor's recommendation that we establish a reasonable and fair policy and convenient procedure which would reduce the administrative time required to identify personal calls made by deputies in patrol or transport vehicles and thereby recognize the unique situation of employees whose vehicles have become their offices.

Sincerely,

Bob Fletcher  
Sheriff, Ramsey County