

✓ CF BOYCOTTS RP 7/25/92

'Cop Killer' lyrics prompts boycott of record producer

Angered over the lyrics of the song "Cop Killer," the Santa Cruz County Deputy Sheriff's Association has voted to boycott all Time-Warner products.

The boycott will continue, said Deputy Sheriff's Association director Kim Allyn, "until such time as you act responsibly and pull 'Cop Killer' from store shelves.

In a letter to Time-Warner Records president Lenny Waronker, Allyn said "our association believes in the First Amendment right to free speech and support all artists in exercising that right. We also feel that all law enforcement officers have First Amendment rights and as such, we are speaking out against the message from Ice-T to 'dust some cops off.'"

"The lyrics to 'Cop Killer' are irresponsible and immoral and directed toward innocent law enforcement officers at the worst possible time in the wake of the riots in Los Angeles that

we are all trying to overcome.

"To encourage the killing of police officers with a sawed-off 12-gauge shotgun as a solution to police misconduct is absurd. The lyrics tell those of us in law enforcement that Ice-T is a man filled with hate and his only solution to a problem is to resort to violence."

Allyn said the association feels that artists, such as Ice-T, should be using their influence with youth to advocate a peaceful resolution to social problems. "We see the song, 'Cop Killer,' as a borderline criminal act in that it cries out for people to commit murder," Allyn added. "This is unforgivable. If there is even an attempt on an officer's life as a direct result of this urging by Ice-T, you can rest assured that we will hold Ice-T and Time-Warner, Inc., responsible on an equal basis as the perpetrator."

— Bob Smith