



County of Orange

County Executive Office

March 14, 2023

Honorable Maria D. Hernandez
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of California
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Subject: Follow-Up Responses to 2021-22 Grand Jury Reports

Dear Judge Hernandez:

Please find attached the approved follow-up responses from the County of Orange Board of Supervisors for the 2021-22 Grand Jury Reports.

If you have any questions, please contact Lala Oca Ragen of the County Executive Office at 714-834-7219.

Sincerely,

Digitally signed by Frank Kim
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ou=County Executive Office,
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Date: 2023.03.17 16:04:10
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Frank Kim
County Executive Officer

Enclosure

cc: **2021-22 Orange County Grand Jury Foreman**

Lilly Simmering, Deputy County Executive Officer

Lala Oca Ragen, Assistant Chief Deputy Operating Officer, County Executive Office

Elizabeth Guillen-Merchant, Assistant Chief Deputy Operating Officer, County Executive Office



**GRAND JURY FOLLOW-UP RESPONSES
2021-22**

GJ Report	Recommendation	Response	Follow up Response
Where's the Fire? Stop Sending Fire Trucks to Medical Calls	R5. Departments with publicly owned ambulances should allow OCEMS to inspect their ambulances for compliance with State EMS guidelines and adopt OCEMS recommendations. (F9)	The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future. OCEMS will explore amendments to the County Ambulance Ordinance that all ambulances, private and public, be inspected for compliance to local medical standards to ensure safe and equitable patient care and not set a double standard. Once the ordinance is passed, OCEMS will initiate the inspections.	OCEMS drafted proposed amendments to standardize ambulance inspections and is preparing to present those amendments to stakeholders and the Board for approval later this year.
How is Orange County Addressing Homelessness?	R1. By July 1, 2023, the CoC and County of Orange should leverage funding to persuade South Orange County cities to open a regional, low-threshold emergency shelter for the homeless, in addition to the Laguna Beach Friendship Shelter. (F1)	The recommendation requires further analysis. The Orange County Continuum of Care and County of Orange (County) strive for the community-wide commitment of ending homelessness through regional coordination and collaboration, as well as adopting a coordinated approach to funding opportunities. On April 27, 2022, the County with the support of the Orange County Continuum of Care Board issued	The recommendation has been implemented. The Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC) and County of Orange (County) released a Request for Proposal (RFP) to seek qualified organizations to provide Emergency Shelter Operations and Services across the County. The CoC and County awarded the two applicants that applied from the South SPA: Friendship Shelter and Families Assistance Ministries (FAM). The Friendship Shelter award was for



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2021-22

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		<p>a Request for Proposals (RFP) to seek proposals from qualified organizations to provide Emergency Shelter Operations and Services across the three Service Planning Areas (SPAs) in Orange County and for different segments of the homeless population including individuals, families, transitional aged youth and survivors of domestic violence. The primary goal of the Emergency Shelters Operations and Services program is to ensure accessible, streamlined entry to emergency shelter and providing robust supportive services that assist participants in obtaining permanent housing and increased income. The goal is to award contracts to the Emergency Shelter Operations and Services programs in Fall 2022.</p>	<p>additional funding for their shelter in Laguna Beach and FAM's award was for their families shelter in San Clemente. None of the South SPA cities applied for this funding.</p>



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2021-22**

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<p>How is Orange County Addressing Homelessness?</p>	<p>R2. By July1, 2023, South OC SPA cities should collaborate in siting and funding a low-threshold emergency shelter for the homeless, in addition to the Friendship shelter in Laguna Beach. (F2)</p>	<p>The recommendation requires further analysis. Further analysis is required for recommendation R2 as outlined by the Orange County Grand Jury. The siting of a low-threshold emergency shelter for people experiencing homelessness in the South Service Planning Area (SPA) of Orange County requires collaboration amongst both the cities and the County of Orange (County). The County will always be a willing partner in establishing low-threshold shelters in the South SPA with the South County cities.</p>	<p>The Office of Care Coordination, representing both the County and Orange County CoC, will reach out to the lead staff members identified by each city on this topic to discuss willingness to partner with other South SPA cities to site and fund. Additionally the exercise of reaching out to these cities, by the Office of Care Coordination, will help yield how the County can play a coordinating role in these efforts as a meaningful way to contribute since the recommendation is specific to cities taking action and does not identify the County or CoC in this recommendation. The Office of Care Coordination will conduct this effort by June 30, 2023</p> <p>Additionally, The Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC) and County of Orange (County) released a Request for Proposal (RFP) to seek qualified organizations to provide Emergency Shelter Operations and Services across the County. The CoC and County awarded the two applicants that applied from the South SPA: Friendship Shelter and Families Assistance Ministries (FAM). The</p>



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			<p>Friendship Shelter award was for additional funding for their shelter in Laguna Beach and FAM's award was for their families shelter in San Clemente. None of the South SPA cities applied for this funding.</p>
<p>Where Have All the CRVs Gone?</p>	<p>R2. By January of 2023, the Orange County Board of Supervisors should require OC Waste & Recycling to research and apply for available grants or pilot programs from CalRecycle for the unincorporated areas of OC that focus on returning more CRV funds to their residents. (F3)</p>	<p>The recommendation requires further analysis. OCWR is actively working on behalf of County resident customers to provide additional opportunities for CRV redemption with fees going to those customers. Potential opportunities include CRV redemption facilities being located in unincorporated areas, at the various HHW centers managed by the County, and on existing landfills. The feasibility of each of these opportunities are being reviewed for appropriate next steps.</p>	<p>OCWR assessed the feasibility of adding CRV facilities to its HHW centers. Upon review of the current HHW center agreements, there are strict limits placed on the operations of these centers and placing a CRV facilities at these sites would not be allowed. OCWR continues to work on behalf of County residents to provide additional opportunities for CRV redemption.</p>



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<p>Where Have All the CRVs Gone?</p>	<p>R3. When renegotiating their current waste hauler contract, all cities and the County of Orange should assess the value of the CRV funds received by the waste hauler in their jurisdiction and creatively leverage this revenue for the benefit of their residents. (F2, F4)</p>	<p>The recommendation requires further analysis. OCWR may request a report on the recyclable material recovered by the haulers, and how much was submitted for on the DR-6 form for reimbursement for those materials. Each Materials Recovery Facility and Processor of single stream materials from residential or commercial waste must complete a DR-6 reporting form and submit to CalRecycle for CRV value. The current hauler contracts were renegotiated and executed in 2021 for a 10-year term to comply with SB1383 and other recycling legislation related "Discarded Materials" as required by CalRecycle, and did not specifically address CRV redemption. The next negotiation is anticipated prior to 2031.</p>	<p>Current waste hauler contracts were executed in 2021 for a 10-year term to comply with SB 1383 and other recycling legislation. The next contract negotiations are anticipated prior to 2031 and CRV funds received by the waste hauler and revenue benefits for customers will be discussed during those negotiations.</p>



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How Independent is the Office of Independent Review?	R1. The BOS should appoint a qualified Executive Director so that the OIR can respond to complaints it receives and continue with its investigations, both ongoing and in the planning stages. (F4)	The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future. After the resignation of Sergio Perez, the Board of Supervisors initiated a recruitment for a new director and hired an interim director to ensure that the OIR can continue to investigate complaints and challenges to ongoing investigations and those in the planning stages. The recruitment has closed and applications are being reviewed.	The recommendation has been implemented. Following a competitive recruitment, the Board of Supervisors appointed Robert Faigin as Executive Director of the Office of Independent Review (OIR) starting November 4, 2022. The OIR helps ensure transparency and accountability across five justice-related Orange County agencies: Sheriff-Coroner, Probation, District Attorney, Public Defender, and Social Services Agency. Mr. Faigin previously served as the Director of Legal Affairs at San Diego County Sheriff, and as an attorney for the counties of Solano and Lassen. The Board will work closely with the OIR to draft a working plan and guide the work of the OIR office to ensure there is accountability within the five County agencies that OIR has jurisdiction.