

Laguna Beach Unified School District

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Office of the Superintendent

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Sherine Smith, Superintendent



Board of Education

Jan Vickers, President
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September 8, 2014

The Honorable Glenda Sanders
Presiding Judge
Orange County Superior Court
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Re: Laguna Beach Unified School District's Response to 2013-14 Orange County Grand Jury Report, "School Bonds – The Untold Story of Assessed Values"

To the Honorable Glenda Sanders:

In accordance with California Penal Code section 933.05, the Orange County Grand Jury has requested that the Laguna Beach Unified School District ("District") respond to Recommendation 1 in the 2013-14 Orange County Grand Jury Report entitled, "School Bonds – The Untold Story of Assessed Values."

Recommendation 1: All school districts in Orange County should include a clear explanation of the assumed future growth rate of assessed values in the bond election materials made available to voters for future bond issues. This explanation should reference the *relevant* historical assessed value data for the individual district. For instance, if the district is fundamentally built out, the historical assessed value data should not include years with significant development because that is not indicative of the district's current and future situation.

Response to Recommendation 1: The Laguna Beach Unified School District partially disagrees with this recommendation. The Laguna Beach Unified School District agrees that a clear explanation of the assumed future growth rate of assessed values in the bond election materials made available to voters is a good recommendation for school districts. The Laguna Beach Unified School District also agrees that the explanation should reference relevant historical assessed value data for the individual district. However, the Laguna Beach Unified School District cannot determine if there is a factual basis for the remainder of the recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Smith", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Sherine Smith, Ed.D.
District Superintendent

cc: Orange County Grand Jury
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701