



# ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

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SHERIFF-CORONER  
SANDRA HUTCHENS

June 3, 2014

Honorable Glenda Sanders  
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
700 Civic Center Drive West  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Subject: Response to Orange County Grand Jury 2013-2014 report, "Orange County Information Technology Management: Good Job Overall; Disaster Recovery Must Be Addressed."

Dear Judge Sanders:

In accordance with Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05, enclosed please find the response to the FY 2013-2014 Orange County Grand Jury report, "Orange County Information Technology Management: Good Job Overall; Disaster Recovery Must Be Addressed." If you have any questions, please contact me at (714) 647-1804.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Don Barnes".

Don Barnes  
Assistant Sheriff

cc: Dave Baker, Grand Jury Foreman  
Members, Board of Supervisors  
Michael Giancola, County Executive Officer

## FINDINGS

### F.4

The Sheriff's Department has both its primary production and backup mainframe computers and critical server platforms at its own data center. Those computers run most of the Sheriff's critical applications, including Field, Booking, Jail, Criminal History and Records, and interfaces to outside databases such as the CJIS, DOJ, DMV, etc. A significant physical disaster event or cyber-attack disabling that data center would almost completely disrupt the Sheriff's major law enforcement and public safety and protection functions. There is no plan in place to recover the Sheriff's datacenter functions at another location.

**Response:** *Agrees with finding.*

Although the Sheriff's Department understands the importance of Disaster Recovery, there is currently not a fully functional Disaster Recovery System in place. Attempts to acquire additional funding for such a system have been unsuccessful.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### R.3

**Because critical law enforcement, public protection and safety functions of the Sheriff's Department are at risk, The Board of Supervisors and the Sheriff should place the highest possible priority on studying the alternatives for a short term DR solution for the Sheriff's critical systems, selecting and funding an alternative, and implementing and testing it as soon as possible.**

**Response:** *The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.*

Sheriff's Information Systems is moving forward with a mainframe renewal in December of 2014. Included in this renewal is most of the equipment needed to build a Disaster Recovery site.

The Sheriff's Department (OCSD) is working on a reciprocal agreement with the California Department of Justice (DOJ) that will provide for a true disaster recovery site for the OCSD and will improve the backup capabilities currently provided to DOJ at the OCSD Data Center. This Solution will create a secure Disaster Recovery environment that meets the strict requirements of the FBI, DOJ and OCSD and it will do so at a much lower cost than other options.

If funding can be secured for the additional costs of equipment and data circuits, this solution could be implemented by April 2015.