



CITY of CYPRESS

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POLICE DEPARTMENT
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ROD COX
Chief of Police

September 22, 2015

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

Dear Judge Sanders:

In accordance with the California Penal Code, the City of Cypress is submitting this response to the Grand Jury Report "The Mental Illness Revolving Door: A Problem for Police, Hospitals, and the Health Care Agency." As stipulated in the statute, the responses are provided for each Grand Jury finding and recommendation. Included with the responses are statements of agreement or disagreement, either wholly or partially, and the corresponding reasons for each.

Based on the 2014-2015 Orange County Grand Jury report, the Cypress Police Department responds as follows:

FINDINGS

F1. *Deputy Sheriffs and police officers receive insufficient training on how to evaluate and handle the mentally ill in the field.*

The Cypress Police Department agrees with this finding.

F2. *Deputy Sheriffs and police officers receive insufficient training regarding Laura's Law.*

The Cypress Police Department agrees with this finding.

Rob Johnson, Mayor

Mariellen Yarc, Mayor Pro Tem
Paulo M. Morales, Council Member

Stacy Berry, Council Member
Jon E. Peat, Council Member

RECOMMENDATIONS

- R1. *All law enforcement officers should receive at least 40 hours of comprehensive Crisis Intervention Training on how to handle and evaluate the mentally ill in the field with periodic refresher training.*

This recommendation will not be implemented. The Cypress Police Department sends Police Officers to a variety of training including Crisis Intervention Training (CIT). In fact, Police Officers assigned to patrol, who handle calls for service involving the mentally ill, attend CIT from a variety of sources. While training is always improving, it is the quality of the training, not the amount of training that is most important.

- R2. *All law enforcement officers should receive mandatory and specific training regarding Laura's Law.*

The recommendation has not been implemented, but will be implemented by March 2016.

Should you have any questions regarding these responses, please contact me at 714-229-6621.

Sincerely,



Rod Cox, Chief of Police
Cypress Police Department

cc: Cypress City Council
Peter Grant, Cypress City Manager
Peter Hersh, Foreman, Orange County Grand Jury