

Police Department

Danny E. Hughes Chief of Police

January 12, 2015

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

Reference: Grand Jury Report – The Mental Illness Revolving Door: A Problem for Police, Hospitals, and the Health Care Agency

Honorable Judge Sanders,

On June 30, 2015, the Orange County Grand Jury released a report on *The Mental Illness Revolving Door: A Problem for Police, Hospitals, and The Health Care Agency.* In compliance with California Penal Code 933 and applicable subsections, the Fullerton Police Department is forwarding it's response to you:

## Grand Jury Findings for F1& F2,

- 1. Deputy Sheriffs and police officers receive insufficient training on how to evaluate and handle the mentally ill in the field: Training at the Fullerton Police Department occurs during briefing and during POST telecourses. We require all new officers to ride 10 hours with a Homeless Liaison Officer. New officers attend a 16 hour Crisis Intervention Training and also watch two POST 2-hour videos on Mental Health (2 hours) and Homelessness (2 hours). Since 1986 the Fullerton Police Department has recognized the need for patrol officers to be provided in-depth training in dealing with the mentally ill on the street. Between 1986 and 2010 we sent 12 patrol officers to Crisis Intervention Training, between 2003 2012 we sent 11 patrol officers to Effective Police Contacts with the Mentally Ill. In 2011, all sworn and non-sworn personnel attended Law Enforcement Contacts of the Mentally Ill. In 2013 we sent 5 patrol officers to Emergency Personnel's Response to Individuals with Mental Illness. Since 2013, we have sent 31 officers to Crisis Intervention Training (includes new officers), 2 officers to Crisis Intervention Academy and 4 officers to Interacting with the Mentally Ill. The training is documented within the Field Training Officer (FTO) Manual and by the Training Assistant.
- 2. Deputy Sheriffs and police officers receive insufficient training regarding Laura's Law: Officers have received Training Bulletins and briefing training regarding Laura's Law.

Items 3 thru 14 - Response not required

## Grand Jury Recommendations for R1 & R2:

1. 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: The Orange County Chiefs and Sheriff's Association shall set the type, hours and frequency of this supplemental training which will include Crisis Intervention Training and the training is to be documented: The Fullerton Police Department will implement the type, hours and frequency of any supplemental training as decided upon by the Orange County Chiefs and Sheriff's Association. Currently our officers receive 20 hours of training.

2. All law enforcement officers should receive mandatory and specific training regarding Laura's Law: The Orange County Chiefs and Sheriff's Association shall set the type, hours and frequency of this supplemental training which will include Crisis Intervention Training and the training is to be documented: The Fullerton Police Department will implement the type, hours and frequency of any supplemental training as decided upon by the Orange County Chiefs and Sheriff's Association.

Items 3 thru 14 - Response not required

Sincerely,

Dan Hughes