



# The City of Brea Police Department

1 CIVIC CENTER CIRCLE, BREA, CA 92821-5732

714-990-7625

www.breapolice.net

August 4, 2016

Charles Margines, Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
700 Civic Center Drive West  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Re: Orange County Grand Jury Report: ***Drones: Know Before You Fly.***

Honorable Judge Margines,

On or about May 18, 2016 I received a copy of the Orange County Grand Jury Report, ***Drones: Know Before You Fly***

To the extent the Orange County Grand Jury's correspondence seeks responses to seven "Findings" and six "Recommendations," this letter shall serve as the response to their request required to be provided by the City of Brea pursuant to Penal Code 933.05(a) and (b). I will respond to each portion of the request, as identified in the report.

- 1. Finding 1: Recreational drones have greatly increased in number since December 2015 and it is probable their unregulated use will pose significant threats to public safety and privacy in Orange County cities and unincorporated areas.**

Partially Agree. Although we agree the use of recreational drones has increased, we believe it is too soon to surmise that "their unregulated use will pose significant threats to public safety and privacy in Orange County cities and unincorporated areas."

- 2. Finding 2: With the exception of the recent Federal Aviation Administration registration rule, recreational drone owners are largely self-policed, which leads to a wide range of behavior**

Agree.

- 3. Finding 3: Most of the cities and unincorporated areas of the County of Orange do not have a drone ordinance, nor do they have any immediate plans to enact an ordinance in the near future.**

Agree.

- 4. Finding 4: Most of the cities provide no educational programs for public awareness of the safety issues connected to recreational drones.**  
Agree.
- 5. Finding 5: Some Orange County cities, despite recognizing potential issues with drones, are awaiting drone-related legislative action or other guidance by the State of California or FAA before enacting local ordinances.**  
Agree.
- 6. Finding 6: The FAA-required registration of recreational drones provides a useful tool for local enforcement of drone ordinances.**  
Agree.
- 7. Finding 7: Orange County cities have not established a procedure for reporting drone incidents, which results in under-reporting of drone safety and privacy events.**  
Agree.
- 8. Recommendation 1: Each City Council should direct its City Attorney to provide a report to the city's police department and City Council on existing laws that can be applied to the use of recreational drones in the city's jurisdiction by December 30, 2016. (F.2., F.3., F.5., F.6.)**  
Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented on or before December 30, 2016.
- 9. Recommendation 2: Each City should adopt a recreational drone ownership and operation ordinance, with regulations similar to those found in Los Angeles City ordinance #183912, by March 31, 2017, to the extent not preempted or superseded by Federal law or Federal regulations. (F.1., F.2., F.3., F.5., F.6.)**  
Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the event Federal law is not enacted by March 31, 2017.
- 10. Recommendation 3: Each City should inform its citizens about laws and ordinances that apply to recreational drone operators through print media, city-related web sites, social media sites and/or public forums by March 31, 2017. (F.4., F.6.)**  
Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented by March 31, 2017.
- 11. Recommendation 4: Each City should establish and publish on its website a point of contact for drone-related citizen complaints by December 30, 2016. (F.7.)**  
Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented by December 30, 2016.

**12. Recommendation 5: Each City should post FAA drone ownership and operation educational links on city-related websites, newsletters, and flyers by December 30, 2016. (F.4.)**

Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented by December 30, 2016.

**13. Recommendation 9: The County and each City should formally gather data on recreational drone incidents within their jurisdictions and review these data annually and report the results publicly. The first analysis and publication should occur within 1 year of the publication of this report. (F.1., F.2., F.3., F.7.)**

Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented by May 27, 2017.

This concludes my response to the Grand Jury report. Please feel free to contact me to discuss this matter further, if desired. My office phone number is 714-990-7634 or you may contact me at [jconklin@cityofbrea.net](mailto:jconklin@cityofbrea.net)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John M. Conklin", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

JOHN M. CONKLIN, CHIEF OF POLICE  
BREA POLICE DEPARTMENT