



Christina L. Shea, Mayor

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November 24, 2020

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

Subject: Response to the Orange County Grand Jury Report, "Protecting Those Who Protect and Serve"

Dear Judge Nakamura:

In accordance with Section 933.05 of the California Penal Code, this letter constitutes the response of the City of Irvine to the Orange County Grand Jury 2019-2020 Report released June 30, 2020, titled: "Protecting Those Who Protect and Serve." The enumerated items in this response correspond to the numbering of the Findings and Recommendations contained in the Grand Jury Report.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Irvine Police Department Lieutenant Tim Schilling at 949-724-7110.

Sincerely,

Christina L. Shea  
Mayor

Attachment

## ATTACHMENT

**F.1.** Peer Support Programs are effective in helping Peace Officers develop healthy coping techniques for themselves and their families.

**Response:** The City of Irvine agrees with this finding.

**F.2.** A written policy documenting each agency's Peer Support Program helps ensure the program's continuation after changes in staff.

*Response not requested for Finding 2.*

**F.3.** The benefits in the peer support statute, effective January 1, 2020, are important to Peace Officers and Peer Support Team members.

**Response:** The City of Irvine agrees with this finding.

**F.4.** It is important that Peer Support Team members receive periodic training.

**Response:** The City of Irvine agrees with this finding.

**F.5.** Allocating a specific budget line item for Peer Support Programs help ensure adequate training and continuation of the programs.

**Response:** The City of Irvine agrees with this finding.

**F.6.** Continuous communication to Peace Officers about the Peer Support Programs is important to increase awareness and use of the Peer Support Programs.

**Response:** The City of Irvine agrees with this finding.

**R.1.** The 2019-2020 Orange County Grand Jury recommends that that the four law enforcement agencies without a written policy on their Peer Support Program institute a policy. (F1, F2)

*Response not requested for Recommendation 1.*

**R.2.** The 2019-2020 Orange County Grand Jury recommends that all Peer Support Programs be in compliance with the peer support statute. (F3)

**Response:** The City of Irvine has implemented this recommendation.

**R.3.** The 2019-2020 Orange County Grand Jury recommends that Peer Support Team members receive periodic training and that completion of training is documented. (F4)

Response: The City of Irvine has implemented this recommendation. Peer Support Team members attend a California POST certified Basic Peer Support training, in addition to training provided throughout the year. All training is documented and recorded in individual training files maintained by the Office of Professional Development.

R.4. The 2019-2020 Orange County Grand Jury recommends that all law enforcement agencies allocate a specific budget line item for their Peer Support Program. (F5)

Response: The City Of Irvine has implemented this recommendation. The peer support program has an individual training budget account and a line item for an approved contract for services by The Counseling Team International.