



# City of Anaheim POLICE DEPARTMENT

September 12, 2013

Orange County Grand Jury  
700 Civic Center West  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Dear members of the Grand Jury:

The Anaheim Police Department recently received the Grand Jury's request for responses to findings and recommendations in its report, *To Protect and To Serve: A Look at Tools to Assist Law Enforcement in Achieving Positive Outcomes with the Homeless Mentally Ill*.

## **FINDINGS NO. 1 THROUGH NO. 8 AND NO. 10**

**Response:** *The respondent agrees with the findings.*

## **RECOMMENDATION NO.1**

Require specific continuing education for all police officers and sheriff's deputies in interacting with the mentally ill and homeless population:

- Orange County City Police Chiefs and the Sheriff-Coroner shall collaborate with the Orange County Chiefs and Sheriff's Association to set the type, hours and frequency of this supplemental training;
  - Include Crisis Intervention Training (perhaps the Memphis model);
  - Training is to be documented. (F1-8, F10)

**Response:** *The respondent disagrees with the recommendation. The Anaheim Police Department (APD) already adheres to training standards established by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). These standards are developed by the California Legislature when it periodically passes and submits Public Safety Training Bills to the Governor. The Bills become incorporated into the Penal, Government, Education, and/or Vehicle Code(s). The resulting training requirements often require POST to develop, disseminate, or otherwise make available such training to law enforcement agencies.*

*Moreover, APD recently elected to enter into an operational agreement with the Orange County Health Care Agency (OCHCA). Pursuant to this agreement, activities will include:*

- *OCHCA will assign a mental health professional (clinician) to APD on a part-time basis*
- *APD intends to normally utilize the clinician as a resource to patrol, but may utilize the clinician in other divisions or bureaus so long as that use is consistent with program objectives*
- *OCHCA will assist officers in responding to events, reviewing event histories, and review of APD direct referrals to determine if enhanced clinical services would be of benefit*
- *OCHCA will provide on-going behavioral health related training to APD personnel*

- *OCHCA will track the process and use data from this project to evaluate the program and the effectiveness of a combined police/clinician response*
- *OCHCA will assist APD in identifying individuals with a mental illness*
- *OCHCA and APD will establish a protocol that guides appropriate use of OCHCA personnel*

## **RECOMMENDATION NO. 2**

All Orange County City Police Departments and the Sheriff's Department shall be accredited with a national accreditation agency within five (5) years. (F4)

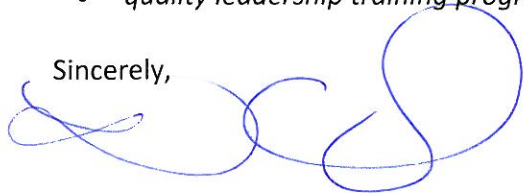
**Response:** *The respondent disagrees with the recommendation. Accreditation through a national accreditation agency such as the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement (CALEA) is voluntary. Pursuing accreditation is an arduous task for law enforcement agencies requiring a significant devotion of manpower and funding all during a time when counties and cities are struggling to negotiate budgetary and staffing demands during a tough economic climate. The benefits to APD are insignificant compared to those benefits reaped from utilizing organizations such as Lexipol and POST to guide the organization in its leadership and management decisions.*

*Lexipol provides contracted services to APD in order to establish the APD Policy Manual. Lexipol's policy manual content is based on federal and state law, regulations and best practices from public safety experts. The Lexipol policy manual is written by legal and law enforcement professionals who constantly monitor major court decisions, legislation and emerging trends affecting law enforcement operations. Lexipol provides regular updates in response to legislative mandates, case law and the evolution of law enforcement best practices. Lexipol is an adequate provider of services for APD based upon a cost-benefit analysis.*

*The POST Program is voluntary, incentive-based and cost effective. Participating agencies such as APD agree to abide by the standards established by POST. More than 600 agencies participate in the POST Program and are eligible to receive the Commission's services and benefits which include:*

- *job-related assessment tools*
- *research into improved officer selection standards*
- *management counseling services*
- *the development of new training courses*
- *reimbursement for training, and*
- *quality leadership training programs*

Sincerely,



RAUL QUEZADA  
INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE