



David L. Maggard, Jr., Director of Public Safety
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October 15, 2012

Honorable Thomas J. Borris, Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California
County of Orange
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Honorable Judge Borris:

Our agency received a copy of the 2011-2012 Orange County Grand Jury report, "Elder Abuse: The Perfect Storm." The report included valuable information and identified a number of collaborations that may assist in elder abuse prevention, resource response, suspect prosecution and victim recovery and re-integration.

Our elderly population is clearly increasing in Orange County and across the country. The elderly are extremely vulnerable to abuse in many categories. Detectives with the Irvine Police Department have developed a senior safety training presentation and have provided this training at one of our local senior centers and at an assisted living home. The heart of the program addresses seniors protecting themselves from financial crimes and scams. It also touches on making good decisions about home safety. These presentations were extremely well-received and as a result, we have been invited to a number of venues on future dates. Our personnel will continue to share quality information with our senior population about how they can best protect themselves, whether it is financially or physically.

Our officers work closely with Adult Protective Services personnel. In fact, we have a designated Social Worker who spends at least one full day per week working with personnel out of our police station. The development of this relationship has added value to our effectiveness and service delivery to our elderly population.

It was the Grand Jury's Recommendation 5 that indicates: By December 31, 2012, the Sheriff's Department and city police departments should evaluate and update their programs on responding to elder abuse cases. Our elder abuse policy was reviewed by detectives, supervisors and managers in March 2012 to ensure current legal

Honorable Judge Borris
October 15, 2012
Page 2

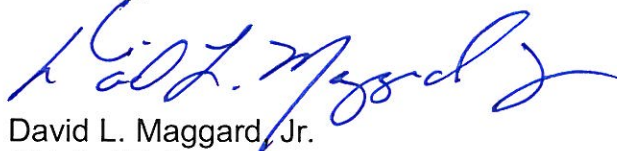
requirements are met, officer response procedures are clear and information on resources are being appropriately disseminated.

Members of the Irvine Police Department working with Adult Protective Services investigate approximately seven cases of suspected elder abuse per month (based on statistics over the past 12 months.) The sources of the initial suspected elder abuse reports come from mandated reporters and members of the community. These calls come in to either Adult Protective Services or the police department.

Each report of suspected elder abuse is assigned by the detective bureau supervisors to one of six detectives assigned to the Crimes Against Persons work unit. These detectives have specialized training and experience in elder abuse investigations and work to ensure a thorough investigation is completed and also provide the appropriate referrals and resources to assist the victim and their families.

Irvine Police Department employees are dedicated to providing quality service to all members of our community. We appreciate the hard work and dedication of the members of the 2011-2012 Orange County Grand Jury.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David L. Maggard, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

David L. Maggard, Jr.
Chief of Police

DM/SD/rm