

Mayor
SCOTT W. NELSON

Mayor Pro Tem
JOSEPH V. AGUIRRE

Council members
CONSTANCE M. UNDERHILL
CHAD P. WANKE
JEREMY B. YAMAGUCHI

City Administrator
TROY L. BUTZLAFF, ICMA-CM



Chief of Police
R.A. HICKS

Deputy Chief
WARD SMITH

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Placentia Police Department
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December 19, 2012

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

Judge Borris,

The Placentia Police Department has received the Orange County Grand Jury Report, "Elder Abuse: The Perfect Storm." The Department is pleased to form a partnership with the Grand Jury in an effort to decrease the potential for elder abuse. I have reviewed the findings and recommendations made by the Grand Jury and offer the following for your consideration:

Finding F3: Reviewing procedures in law enforcement agencies, law enforcement academies under Orange County government jurisdictions and the District Attorney's office could improve recognition of elder abuse.

The Placentia Police Department accepts the finding and agrees there is a need for improvement. The Department makes every effort to educate and train its officers and supervisors on the subject matter. Training begins in the police academy where Police Recruits receive the prescribed training hours on elder abuse per state recommended guidelines. Upon completion of the police academy officers and supervisors receive "in-house" training specific to elder abuse and training about elder abuse as it pertains to Domestic Violence. Lastly, all Detectives receive elder abuse training as part of the I.C.I. "Core Course" training, from the Robert Presley Institute of Criminal Investigation.

Recommendation R5: By December 31, 2012, the Sheriff's Department and city police departments should evaluate and update their programs on responding to elder abuse cases.

The Placentia Police Department has implemented this recommendation which is covered under the Placentia Police Department Policy Manual 326 (revised November, 2012). Policy 326 provides members of the department with guidelines for the most appropriate response for handling elder abuse investigations. This policy also defines the different types of elder abuse, details officer responsibilities, the obligations of support personnel, and Emergency Protective Order procedures. Lastly, Policy 326 mandates that elder abuse **shall** be documented.

The Placentia Police Department is proud to be in partnership with the Grand Jury in an effort to protect the elderly at a higher level, and making our community safer as a whole.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R.A. Hicks".

R.A. Hicks
Chief of Police