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July 23, 2012

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

Dear Judge Borris:

Enclosed you will find the Santa Ana Police Department response to pertinent findings and recommendations found in the 2011-2012 Orange County Grand Jury report entitled Sex Trafficking of Girls.

A copy of this letter, along with the findings and recommendations, is mailed to the Orange County Grand Jury as requested.

Respectfully,

PAUL M. WALTERS

Chief of Police

CARLOS ROJAS, Deputy Chief Field Operations Bureau

/mag

Enclosure

Copy to Orange County Grand Jury

### GRAND JURY REPORT PENAL CODE 933 AND 933.05

#### **SEX TRAFFICKING OF GIRLS**

#### **FINDINGS**

F1. The Human Trafficking Task Force (HTTF) recognized that more law enforcement training is needed in sex trafficking.

**Response:** The Santa Ana Police Department agrees with the finding.

F3. Child victims of sex trafficking are often misidentified. Due to the lack of proper identification of the child's age, law enforcement agencies may be unable to charge the trafficker/pimp with the child related sex trafficking violations.

**Response:** The Santa Ana Police Department partially disagrees with this finding. The Santa Ana Police Department has not experienced this misidentification of child victims related to sex trafficking. However, it is acknowledged that this may be true based on research or case studies. If proper identification of a child's age is not accurate the Santa Ana Police Department recognizes this may affect the ability to charge a trafficker/pimp with child related sex trafficking violations.

F4. Trafficked minors often flee non-secure shelters. Law enforcement and prosecutor may request detention of a child to protect them from repeated exploitation by pimps.

**Response:** The Santa Ana Police Department partially disagrees with this finding. The Santa Ana Police Department has not experienced trafficked minors fleeing from a non-secure shelter. The Santa Ana Police Department agrees that it may request the protective custody of a child via Orange County Social Services, which has staff that is assigned to handle human trafficking cases, in order to protect them from repeated exploitation by pimps.

F5. Penal Code 1275.1 allows the courts to set conditions on bail, including presenting probable cause that the bail money (or security for the bond) was illegally obtained. This provision allows law enforcement and the courts to hold the perpetrators, which may keep them from intimidating and victimizing young girls once released.

**Response:** The Santa Ana Police Department agrees with the finding.

## F7. Currently no data base is available to law enforcement agencies to check and identify victims of sex trafficking.

**Response:** The Santa Ana Police Department agrees with the finding.

#### **Recommendations:**

**Recommendation 1:** Police and Sheriff Departments should provide additional training for officers to clarify law enforcement's understanding and awareness of minor sex trafficking of girls.

The Santa Ana Police Department provides the following training to all police officers via the Media Resource Library which is available on the department's intranet:

## (The Crime of) Human Trafficking – A Law Enforcement Guide to Identification and Investigation 2006 – Various – 30 minutes

Originally produced in 2006 by the IACP (International Association of Chiefs of Police) features three roll call appropriate length segments of aspects of this crime: Segment One — Defining the Crime 9:46; Segment Two - Identifying and Responding 10:13; Segment Three — Investigating and Interviewing 9:23. Also includes a program guide. Topics include methods by which traffickers operate, reasons why victims may be reluctant to report, way to address the safety and other needs of victims and federal laws and resources.

# Human Trafficking Update September 25, 2010 – 118 minutes

Human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery-- a criminal business that profits from enslaving people for sexual servitude and forced labor. Victims of trafficking are subjected to force, fraud, or coercion. Victims range from young children and teenagers to adult men and women. California ranks among the top three states in the nation for human trafficking. This program provides an update to the November 2006 "Response to Human Trafficking" training telecourse and is designed to help peace officers recognize today's indicators of trafficking and know what actions to take.

Additionally all Santa Ana Police officers are provided training through the California Peace Officers Training and Standards (P.O.S.T.) on-line training portal which offers the following course update on Human Trafficking:

<u>Program Description:</u> Human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery-- a criminal business that profits from enslaving people for sexual servitude and forced labor. Victims of trafficking are subjected to force, fraud, or coercion. Victims range from young children and teenagers to adult men and women. California ranks among the top three states in the nation for human trafficking.

#### Implementation:

In addition to the available training the Santa Ana Police Department will be developing a Training Bulletin and incorporating Human Trafficking update training into the perishable skills training evolutions that all police officers in Santa Ana are required to attend. The updated training to be incorporated as part of the Santa Ana Police Department training evolution is the "Response to Human Trafficking of Minors" sponsored by the Human Trafficking Task Force, Community Service Programs and the Westminster Police Department.

### **Implementation Schedule:**

- 1. Training Bulletin on Human Trafficking to be completed and available to all Santa Ana Police Department officers **December 2012**
- 2. Updated Human Trafficking training to be incorporated into the Santa Ana Police Department Perishable Skill training evolution **Completed July 2012**

**Recommendation 2:** The Sheriff's Department, city police departments and responsible Orange County agencies should develop a data base using a single term such as "Minor Sex Trafficking" to allow the trafficked victims to be systematically tracked with the result of proper identification and status as a victim of crime. A consistent label for the crime would allow multiple agencies, communities and regions to research and intervene in a single coordinated effort.

**Response:** The Santa Ana Police Department supports a common term such as "Minor Sex Trafficking" in order for agencies to more readily research and intervene in a single coordinated effort. However, the development of such a data base would be more effectively coordinated by a county entity in order to achieve regional uniformity across all cities and jurisdictions in Orange County.

**Recommendation 3:** Law enforcement agencies and district attorneys should consider using the provision of California Penal Code 1275.1 more frequently if they have cause to believe that the source of bail money for a 'pimp' or 'john' was illegally obtained.

**Response:** The Santa Ana Police Department will include Penal Code 1275.1 and its provisions as part of the Training Bulletin that will be developed for distribution to all officers and placed on the police department's intranet. This will provide officers with a ready reference on how to proceed in circumstances when Penal Code 1275.1 is applicable.