

2009-2010  
from judge



# CITY OF COSTA MESA

CALIFORNIA 92628-1200

P.O. BOX 1200

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

May 23, 2011

Kim Dunning  
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
700 Civic Center Drive West  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Re: Response to 2010 Grand Jury Report

To the Honorable Judge Dunning:

Thank you for the follow up fax regarding the City of Costa Mesa's open item from July 2010 Grand Jury Report.

The Grand Jury reported the following finding: "Section 5, FINDINGS F.3, Costa Mesa's back up EOC is located either in the Police Department Communications Room or at Fire Station #5, both in the same area as the primary EOC.", and made the following recommendation, "Section 6. RECOMMENDATIONS: R.3 Costa Mesa should find a back up EOC location that is not within the Civic Center complex." The City's initial response was that this recommendation would be implemented in the near future, which is still the City's intention.

Shortly after the Grand Jury made this recommendation, the City was faced with a serious financial crisis and was forced to lay off the Emergency Services Coordinator. As such, service levels and projects have been reorganized/reassigned and while Disaster Preparedness remains at the forefront, simply stated the available staff dedicated solely to this project is not available.

With that said, it does remain a project the City has been researching to identify alternative solutions. The City's Disaster Preparedness Committee, which is comprised of representatives from each City Department, recently participated in the California State Wide and County of Orange Operational Area Golden Guardian (GG) 2011 exercise. As a part of that exercise and recognizing the need to identify an alternate EOC away from the primary EOC, City officials successfully exercised and drilled at the Mesa Consolidated Water District EOC, 1965 Placentia Avenue, Costa Mesa. This location is approximately three (3) miles from the City's primary EOC.

This served as the first practice and functional exercise conducted outside of the City Hall compound. While the drill was successful, the City recognizes it is premature to

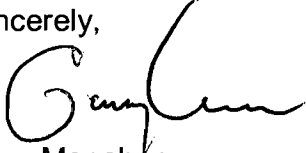
Grand Jury Letter – May 23, 2011

Page 2

make any assertion as to a future plan, until complete evaluation of the drill can take place. An after action debrief is scheduled for this Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 for all GG 2011 participating Operational Area jurisdictions.

We will continue to keep you posted as we move forward to complete this recommendation. If you have any questions, please contact Anna Tellez at (714) 754-5142.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Monahan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping tail.

Gary Monahan  
Mayor

C: Tamara Letourneau, Interim Administrative Services Director  
Anna Tellez, Telecommunications Manager