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

Re: Response to Orange County Grand Jury Report

Dear Judge Dunning:

Enclosed please find the Office of the District Attorney's responses to Findings F. 1 through F. 6 and Recommendation R.3 of the 2008-2009 Orange County Grand Jury Report, **"Education of Parents in the Development of Strategies to Keep Their Children Out of Gangs."**

My Office appreciates the work of the Grand Jury, especially highlighting the importance of efforts to prevent children from joining gangs.

Sincerely,

Tony Rackauckas
District Attorney

TR:ru

Enclosure

**2008-2009 Orange County Grand Jury Report:
"Education of Parents in the Development of Strategies
to Keep Their Children Out of Gangs."**

Office of the District Attorney's Responses to Findings and Recommendations

Responses to Findings 1 through 6

F.1. The early gang prevention and intervention efforts provided by the Probation Department, the District Attorney's Office, and such collaborative efforts as the Pio Pico Collaboration are extremely cost effective when compared to the growth of gangs in Orange County and the subsequent cost of prosecution and incarceration of gang members.

Response: The Office of the District Attorney agrees with this finding.

F.2. The most effective way to prevent children from joining gangs in most cases is to work with parents of young children to teach them to spot the danger signs for gang activity and to help them develop effective strategies to keep their children from joining gangs.

Response: The Office of the District Attorney agrees with this finding.

F.3. The most effective time to begin gang prevention efforts is when children are in elementary school.

Response: The Office of the District Attorney agrees with this finding.

F.4. The most effective gang prevention and intervention programs are done by a collaboration of government agencies and private organizations and it is important for government entities to support such collaborations.

Response: The Office of the District Attorney agrees with this finding.

F.5. Stable leadership of the GRIP program has been an important factor within the District Attorney's Office and will contribute to its rapid growth.

Response: The Office of the District Attorney agrees with this finding.

F.6. Gang Injunctions and the Tri-Agency Resource/Gang Enforcement Team have been effective in efforts to reduce gang activity.

Response: The Office of the District Attorney agrees with this finding.

Response to Recommendation 3

R.3. Keep the GRIP program growing by seeing that funding is available to provide stable leadership for the program.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because funding has not been identified to grow the program. The Office's first priority is to continue the GRIP program as resources allow. Furthermore, the Office continues to research and apply for grant funding to support this critical program.