



City of Villa Park

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July 27, 2011

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

RE: CITY OF VILLA PARK RESPONSE TO THE 2010-2011 ORANGE COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT: "COMPENSATION STUDY OF ORANGE COUNTY CITIES."

Dear Judge Borris:

On behalf of the City of Villa Park, I am pleased to provide you a response to the Grand Jury's report regarding the above titled report.

The City of Villa Park provides the following responses:

Finding F-4: *Public disclosure of municipal compensation levels is widely inconsistent, ranging from good to non-existent.*

City Response: The City disagrees partially with the finding. While this has certainly been a concern in the past, the State Controller has established a standardized statewide system that provides this information in a readily-searchable format. The City of Villa Park offers this information in an easily accessible format through the city's website.

Finding F-7: *There is currently no disclosure of written employment contracts on the majority of cities' websites.*

City Response: The City disagrees partially with the finding. The City of Villa Park discloses this information on its website in an organized manner. Copies of employment contracts in Villa Park are easily found by using our website's search feature.

Recommendation R-1: *Transparency- All cities in Orange County report their compensation information to the public on the Internet in an easily accessible manner. The Compensation Disclosure Model (Appendix 4) provides a sample as to the items that should be included in determining total compensation.*

City Response: The City of Villa Park wholly embraces the importance of public accessibility and transparency regarding employment compensation. However, the recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable. The City of Villa Park has provided a link on our website to the State Controller's Local Government Compensation Report. We do not believe that use of an additional compensation reporting format will benefit the public; it could actually create confusion.

Recommendation R-2: Employment Contracts- Each city reveal any individual employment contracts in an easily accessible manner.

City Response: The recommendation will be implemented. The information has previously been available via a search of the City's website. In addition, the City will post the information on its website in a single location.

The City of Villa Park greatly appreciates the opportunity to respond to the Grand Jury Report.

Sincerely,

THE CITY OF VILLA PARK



W. Richard Ulmer

Mayor

C: City Council
Orange County Grand Jury