

CITY of CYPRESS

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R. A. HICKS Chief of Police

May 31, 2006

Honorable Nancy Wieben Stock Presiding Judge of the Superior Court 700 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701

Dear Honorable Wieben Stock:

The Cypress Police Department is in receipt of the Orange County Grand Jury report, "Improving Child Abuse Response." We are appreciative of the findings and recommendations of the Grand Jury and will do our part to insure the enhanced protocol is implemented.

The following is our response to the findings and recommendations as requested by the Orange County Grand Jury:

Findings

Expansion of the enhanced protocol is planned: Once social worker capacity is increased, SSA will propose to expand the use of protocol to OCSD as well as the following cities: [Cypress]

The Cypress Police Department is aware of the enhanced protocol and will adhere to same. Implementation and training shall be completed by September 1, 2006.

6.2 Law enforcement agency procedures and training on child abuse response:

OCSD and other law enforcement agencies that have not been approached by

SSA on the enhanced protocol, have not included protocol in their procedures
nor trained its officers of its use.

The Cypress Police Department shall include into its policy manual the enhanced protocol and shall provide training to officer's on same by September 1. 2006.

Lydia Sondhi, Mayor

Phil Luebben, Mayor Pro Tem **Mike McGill**, Council Member

Frank McCoy, Council Member Todd W. Seymore, Council Member

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Recommendations

7.1 <u>Law enforcement agency acceptance of SSA Field Response Protocol</u>: All Orange County law enforcement agencies should consider agreeing to the SSA enhanced protocol as social worker capacity is increased to support law enforcement needs.

The Cypress Police Department agrees to the enhanced protocol as social worker capacity is increased to support law enforcement needs.

7.2 <u>Law enforcement training on the enhanced protocol</u>: After a law enforcement agency agrees to the protocol, it should become part of the agency's procedure and line officers should be trained on the revised procedure.

The Cypress Police Department shall include into its policy manual the enhanced protocol and shall provide training to officer's on same by September 1. 2006.

Should you have any questions about our response to the Grand Jury's request feel free to call me at (714) 229-6621. We will look forward to working with the Social Services Agency to improve our services to the community.

Sincerely,

R.A. Hicks, Chief of Police Cypress Police Department

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