

CITY OF GARDEN GROVE POLICE DEPARTMENT

A NATIONALLY ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY JOSEPH M. POLISAR CHIEF OF POLICE

July 20, 2006

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

Re: Orange County Grand Jury Response

Dear Judge Stock,

Pursuant to a letter dated April 26, 2006, I am responding to a request for information from the Orange County Grand Jury. The Grand Jury has asked me to reply to items # 6.2 and 6.3. The responses are as follow:

6.2 - Currently, the Garden Grove Police Department has a partnership with the Orange County Social Services - Child Protective Services. This partnership agreement has been in place for several years and allows for an out-stationed social worker to work at the Garden Grove Police Department, handling Garden Grove cases. The social worker also receives domestic violence cases where children have been identified as being present during Domestic Violence situations. The social worker also works very closely with an on-site advocate that is employed by the Women's Transitional Living Center (WTLC). This advocate focuses on domestic violence incidences for the care and wellbeing of victims and children who are exposed to these types of crimes. The partnership between the two agencies and the Garden Grove Police Department allows for higher levels of victim advocacy and intervention services.

Once the Social Services Agency develops and expands their protocol and hires additional personnel, our department plans to offer these additional services. We have a tentative appointment, scheduled on August 8, 2006, to discuss these protocols and the possibility of Garden Grove being a pilot agency.

6.3 - As a part of our current partnership, the social worker and WTLC worker attend officer briefings, when needed and when a policy change affects their procedures concerning the handling of children. Investigators also work directly with both advocates to ensure those victims are offered the highest levels of victim advocacy services. When this program is formalized, the child abuse investigators and social worker will create a 11301 Acacia Parkway P.O.Box 3070 Garden Grove, CA 92842

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training block to educate first responders about the program and when it should be used. Even though Garden Grove is not formally part of the test programs, we do <u>often</u> use the emergency response protocol to place children in locations other than Orangewood Home.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH M POLISAR

Chief of Police