



City of La Habra

"A Caring Community"

DARE

TO PROTECT
TO SERVE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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November 13, 2006

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

Your Honor:

The following is the La Habra Police Department's response to the Orange County Grand Jury's request on "Improving Child Abuse Response."

GRAND JURY FINDINGS

6.2 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: Brea, Buena Park, Costa Mesa, Cypress, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Irvine, Laguna Beach, La Habra, La Palma, Los Alamitos, Newport Beach, Orange, Placentia, Seal Beach and Westminster.

Response: The La Habra Police Department agrees with the finding.

6.3 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 officers of its use.

Response: The La Habra Police Department agrees with the finding.

GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS


7.1 Law enforcement agency acceptance of SSA Field Response Protocol: 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. (See Findings 6.1 and 6.2)

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The La Habra Police Department supports the Grand Jury's recommendation and will consider the Social Services Agency's enhanced protocol when they are adequately staffed and ready to provide the service to the City of La Habra.

7.2 Law enforcement training on the enhanced protocol: 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. (See Finding 6.3)

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The La Habra Police Department supports the Grand Jury's recommendation, and should it become part of our operational procedure, police officers will be trained on the revised Social Services Agency protocol.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis R. Kies". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dennis R. Kies
CHIEF OF POLICE