



City of Anaheim
POLICE DEPARTMENT

September 11, 2006

Bette Flick, Foreperson
Orange County Grand Jury
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Re: Response to "Oversight of Orange County Law Enforcement Agencies,
Resolving a Dichotomy," 2005-2006 Grand Jury Report

Dear Ms. Flick:

Thank you for your efforts in addressing the issues in the above referenced report and for the opportunity to respond to various points raised within that report.

6.1 Best Practices Goal – Contrary to the suggestion in your report that our policies and procedures may not ensure best practices, the Anaheim Police Department has subscribed to the outside services of LEXIPOL to develop and update all of its policies on a regular basis. In addition to our internal review of all policies, LEXIPOL provides state of the art policies to over 300 law enforcement agencies throughout the state. As such, the Anaheim Police Department is ensured that all of our policies meet the latest legal issues and best practices. Further, as an active member of the Orange County Chiefs and Sheriff's Association (OCCSA), we carefully coordinate our policies to coincide with county-wide protocols on issues of mutual concern.

6.2 Independent Review of LEA's – In addition to policy review by LEXIPOL, the city of Anaheim annually contracts with outside legal counsel to conduct an audit of the Professional Standards (Internal Affairs) Unit. Moreover, the Police Department answers directly to the City Manager, the City Council and ultimately the public and has always been receptive, sensitive and responsive to any issues raised.

6.3 Orange County is Changing – Although we do not ever envision Orange County facing the same issues facing our neighboring counties, we could not agree more that the inevitable growth of our unique county will continuously provide new challenges for all law enforcement agencies. In this regard, we not only work closely as a member of the OCCSA to meet these demands, but we remain in constant communication and coordination with our neighboring cities and counties as well as all involved state and federal agencies.

6.4 Self-Assessment – Please see responses to 6.1 and 6.2 above.

7.1 Best Practice Guidelines – As outlined above, we believe that California law enforcement, much less Orange County law enforcement, is already moving in this direction with the assistance of groups such as LEXIPOL as well as local and state protocols from groups such as the OCCSA.

7.2 Near-term, Independent Review of LEA – As noted above, the city of Anaheim has already implemented an annual audit of its Professional Standards Unit as well as ongoing review and updating of its policies through the outside services of LEXIPOL.

7.3 Periodic, Independent Review of LEA – Please see response to 7.2 above.

Once again, thank you for your service and efforts on behalf of Orange County law enforcement and we hope that these responses are helpful to you.

Sincerely,



JOHN WELTER
CHIEF OF POLICE