



## CITY OF FULLERTON

Office of the Mayor and City Council

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor, Leland Wilson  
Mayor Pro Tem, Don Bankhead  
F. Richard Jones, M.D.  
Shawn Nelson  
Sharon Quirk

September 20, 2006

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

RE: Response to Grand Jury Oversight of Orange County Law Enforcement Agencies

Dear Judge Wieben Stock,

My office has received the Orange County Grand Jury's report, "***Oversight of Orange County Law Enforcement Agencies, Resolving a Dichotomy!***" The following paragraphs contain my responses to cited findings and recommendations:

### Findings

*6.2 Independent reviews of LEAs: The use of independent reviews of LEAs' practices is limited to unique reviews rather than to periodic reviews of policies, procedures, and compliance.*

As Fullerton's Mayor I tend to disagree with this finding. I know the actions of our Police Department are subject to regular review by state and federal judicial systems. I also know we maintain internal checks and balances within the City. The actions of the Police are constantly reviewed by the offices of the City Manager, City Attorney and Risk Manager. As an elected official I occasionally review our Police Department's procedures when concerns are raised by constituents; in doing so I have discovered nothing of concern. Our Police Department has an excellent reputation within the community and I am proud of the professionalism our officers display. I see no need for a source of review beyond those already in place.

*6.3 Orange County is changing: Orange County and city LEAs will face new challenges as the number of crimes increase, reflecting those of surrounding counties.*

I agree, Orange County is changing and Fullerton welcomes the change. I am convinced our City and Police Department will meet the challenges brought forth by the increasing population and diversity. I am confident we will draw upon the abilities of our personnel to overcome any challenge we face, including responding to increased levels of crime and disorder.



## Recommendations

*7.2 Near-term, independent review of LEA policies, procedures, and compliance: The Orange County municipal police departments, in cooperation with the Orange County City Mayors, should consider contracting for a near-term independent review of LEAs' current policies, procedures, and compliance to provide current status as compared to best practices (See Findings 6.2 and 6.3)*

At this point I do not see a need to implement this recommendation. I believe the Police Department's policies and procedures rise to the level of best practices. I further believe the regular and ongoing review of the Police Department's policies, procedures and compliance, as mentioned in the preceding paragraphs, safeguards the City from criminal or civil exposure

*7.3 Periodic, independent reviews of LEA compliance to policies and procedures: The Orange County municipal police departments, in cooperation with the Orange County City Mayors, should consider contracting for periodic, independent reviews of LEAs' policies and procedures, using best practices guidelines as criteria. (See Findings 6.2 and 6.3)*

As indicated in Section 7.2, I do not see a need to implement this recommendation. I believe the Fullerton Police Department has appropriate protocols in place to direct the efforts of our officers as they carry out their duties and that these guidelines can withstand any review or scrutiny from those responsible for ensuring appropriate policies and procedures are in place.

On behalf of the City of Fullerton, I wish to thank and extend my appreciation to the Grand Jury for its efforts in researching and preparing this report.

Sincerely,



Leland Wilson  
Mayor

LW:gem

cc: Orange County Grand Jury  
City Council  
City Manager  
Chief Patrick McKinley