



CITY OF FOUNTAIN VALLEY

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October 5, 2006

Mayor:
Cheryl Brothers

Mayor Pro Tem:
Gus Ayer

Council Members:
Guy Carrozzo
John J. Collins
Larry R. Crandall

City Manager:
Raymond H. Kromer

City Attorney:
Alan R. Burns

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

Dear Judge Stock:

My office has received the Orange County Grand Jury report on "**Oversight of Orange County Law Enforcement Agencies, Resolving a Dichotomy!**" Per the request detailed in the report, responses for Findings 6.2 through 6.3 as well as Recommendations 7.2 through 7.3 follow.

Response to Findings:

6.2 Independent Reviews of LEAs: I disagree wholly. As Mayor of the City of Fountain Valley, I have found that the policies of the Fountain Valley Police Department come under regular review by the state and federal judicial systems, the City Manager as well as the City's Risk Manager and City Attorney. My office has also had occasion to review the citizen complaint policies of the Police Department as they respond to concerns raised by constituents. Overall, the Police Department has an excellent reputation with the Fountain Valley resident and business community. If that were not the case, the City Council would be well aware of it. I believe the amount of oversight from these sources is sufficient.

6.3 Orange County is Changing: I agree. The county is changing and growing. As a result, I believe that law enforcement agencies will face new challenges as the county grows and crime increases.

Response to Recommendations:

7.2 Near-term, independent review of LEA policies, procedures and compliance: This recommendation will not be implemented because I do not believe it is warranted. This belief is supported by periodic and ongoing review of the Police Department's policies, procedures and compliance. I believe the policies put in place by the City of Fountain Valley's Police Department rise to the level of best practices.

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7.3 Periodic, independent reviews of LEA compliance to policies and procedures: This recommendation will not be implemented for the same reasons stated in Recommendation 7.2. I believe the City of Fountain Valley Police Department is using best practice guidelines in carrying out their responsibilities and that those guidelines withstand sufficient review and scrutiny by a variety of sources to ensure they are appropriate.

On behalf of the City Council and the City of Fountain Valley, I want to thank the Grand Jury for your work on behalf of our residents.

Sincerely,



Cheryl Brothers
Mayor

CB/mb

c: OC Grand Jury
City Council
Police Chief