



**CITY OF GARDEN GROVE  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

A NATIONALLY  
ACCREDITED LAW  
ENFORCEMENT  
AGENCY

JOSEPH M. POLISAR  
CHIEF OF POLICE

(714) 741-5901

September 19, 2006

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

Dear Judge Wieben Stock:

My office has received the Orange County Grand Jury report, "**Oversight of Orange County Law Enforcement Agencies, Resolving a Dichotomy!**" Per the request detailed in the report, I have compiled responses to Findings 6.1 through 6.4 as well as Recommendations 7.1 through 7.3.

Response to findings:

**6.1 Best Practices Goal:** We disagree wholly. The Garden Grove Police Department's policies and procedures rise to the level of best practices. This is evident by our agency being nationally accredited through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). In addition, "best practices" of our policies and procedures are maintained through review with the Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST), the California Association of Chiefs of Police, the Orange County Chiefs and Sheriffs Association, and our own legal advisors.

**6.2 Independent Reviews of LEAs:** We disagree wholly. The policies and practices of the Garden Grove Police Department are regularly reviewed independently. As mentioned above, this is accomplished through accreditation by CALEA. Moreover, the City Council, City Manager, Risk Management, the City Attorney, and the court system consistently review the department's policies and procedures.

**6.3 Orange County is Changing:** We agree. The County is changing and growing. As a result, we believe that law enforcement agencies and their communities will face new challenges. We are equally confident that as we work

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together, the challenges will be met with an enthusiastic commitment and dedication toward resolution.

**6.4 Self-Assessment:** We disagree partially. The Garden Grove Police Department engages in ongoing self-assessment and monitoring. Part of the accreditation process is a self-assessment of our policies and procedures. The Department also hosts a Community Policing Advisory Board, which is made up of citizens throughout the city. The board meets on a monthly basis to discuss issues that include policies and procedures.

Response to recommendations:

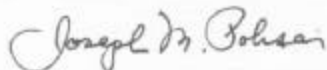
**7.1 Best Practices Guidelines:** The recommendation has been adopted. Most importantly, the Garden Grove Police Department works to meet 446 CALEA standards through accreditation. In addition, we work with the other organizations mentioned in 6.1 and 6.4.

**7.2 Near-term, independent review of LEA policies, procedures, and compliance:** This recommendation will not be implemented. The Garden Grove Police Department does not feel it is necessary at this time. The current internal and external reviews that are in place meet the needs of the community, city, and organization.

**7.3 Periodic, independent reviews of LEA compliance to policies and procedures:** This recommendation will not be implemented for the reasons outlined in 7.2. The Garden Grove Police Department feels the spirit of this recommendation is presently being met through existing reviews such as the one performed as part of the national accreditation process.

On behalf of the dedicated men and women of the Garden Grove Police Department, I would like to thank you for your time and effort examining these relevant issues. The success of any organization depends on its ability to re-examine current practice and the ability to adapt and evolve when change is necessary.

Sincerely,



JOSEPH M. POLISAR  
Chief of Police  
Garden Grove Police Department

cc: Orange County Grand Jury