



CITY of LAGUNA WOODS

Robert Bouer
Mayor

September 25, 2006

Milt Robbins
Mayor Pro Tem

Bert Hack
Councilmember

Bob Ring
Councilmember

Brenda Ross
Councilmember

Leslie A. Keane
City Manager

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

Re: Orange County Grand Jury Report: Oversight of Orange County Law Enforcement Agencies, *Resolving a Dichotomy!*

Dear Judge Stock:

Pursuant to Penal Code §933 and §933.05, the City of Laguna Woods has reviewed the Grand Jury Report: "Oversight of Orange County Law Enforcement Agencies, *Resolving a Dichotomy!*" and provides the following responses. Since its incorporation in 1999, the City of Laguna Woods has contracted with the Orange County Sheriff's Department (OCSD) for its police services. We find those services to be responsive to the needs of our community.

Finding 6.2 Independent reviews of LEAs: As the Mayor of the City of Laguna Woods, I believe that the practices of law enforcement agencies in Orange County are subject to the scrutiny on independent reviews by the communities they serve. Their policies and procedures come under regular review by the state and federal judicial systems, their elected and appointed officials, their legal counsel and their residents. In addition to making complaints to the law enforcement agency itself, members of our communities have many options available to them if they believe that their law enforcement agency is not performing competently, or they believe they were treated unfairly. In the seven years since the City incorporated, we have received very few complaints about OCSD service and those have been investigated by our staff and successfully resolved. I believe that the review systems currently being used in our City and the OCSD are working effectively and that the amount of oversight currently provided is sufficient.

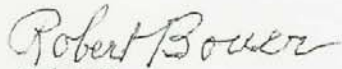
Finding 6.3 Orange County is changing: Certainly the County is changing and will continue in change in the future. But there is no evidence that the cities within Orange County will face the same type of criminal activity that has affected cities in San Diego and Los Angeles Counties. The City of Laguna Woods continues to be ranked the safest city in the County and one of the safest in the state and the nation. We are committed to working with OCSD and our residents and businesses to maintain this distinction.

Recommendation 7.2 Near-term, independent review of LEA policies, procedures, and compliance: The City of Laguna Woods believes that the internal and external system of checks and balances currently in place in the OCSD are functioning effectively. There are periodic and ongoing reviews of policies, procedures and compliance. There is no evidence to suggest that the recommendations proposed by the Grand Jury would enhance the systems currently in place. We do not support additional independent review.

Recommendation 7.3 Periodic, independent reviews of LEA compliance to policies and procedures: As noted in my answer to 7.2, I believe that the OCSD is already using best management practices in attempting to carry out its mission of providing effective and efficient law enforcement services to the residents and businesses in Laguna Woods. There is no evidence to suggest that the recommendations proposed by the Orange County Grand Jury would enhance the system already in place.

On behalf of the City of Laguna Woods, I want to thank the Orange County Grand Jury for their work on behalf of the citizens of our community. I appreciate the opportunity to respond to the recommendations in their report.

Sincerely,



Robert Bouer
Mayor

cc: Leslie A. Keane, City Manager
Lt. William Griffin, Chief of Police Services