



# City of Westminster

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September 25, 2006

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

MARGIE L. RICE  
MAYOR

FRANK G. FRY  
MAYOR PRO TEM

KERMIT D. MARSH  
COUNCIL MEMBER

ANDY QUACH  
COUNCIL MEMBER

ANDREW E. HALL  
INTERIM CITY MANAGER

Dear Foreperson Flick,

The following response is provided by Mayor Margie Rice of the City of Westminster in compliance with Penal Code § 933 and 933.05, to the findings and recommendations in the 2005-2006 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 6.2 through 6.3 as well as Recommendations 7.2 through 7.3.

Response to Findings:

*6.2 Independent Reviews of LEAs:* I disagree. As Mayor of the City of Westminster, I have found that the policies of the Westminster Police Department have 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's Office. My office also has occasion to review the citizen complaint policies of the Police Department as they respond to concerns raised by constituents. The Department has an excellent reputation among the resident and business community of Westminster. If that were not the case, the Council would be well aware of it. I believe the amount of oversight from all 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 law enforcement responsibilities evolve to meet these internal and external changes.

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 necessary. 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 Westminster Police Department rise to the level of best practices.

*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 that the Westminster Police Department is using best practice guidelines in carrying out their responsibilities. Those guidelines withstand sufficient review and scrutiny by a variety of sources to ensure they are appropriate, and continue to reinforce successful community protection and service.

On behalf of the City of Westminster, I want to thank the Grand Jury for your work on behalf of all of our residents.

Sincerely,

Margie Rice  
MAYOR