## FULLERTON JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

1051 West Bastanchury Road • Fullerton, California 92833-2247

(714)870-2883 FAX (714)870-2892 www.fjuhsd.k12.ca.us **Human Resources** 

September 11, 2007

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

Orange County Grand Jury Administrative Agencies Committee 700 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, Ca 92701

Re: Orange County Grand Jury Report on Disaster Preparedness Plans.

Honorable Judge Stock,

I have read and reviewed the copy of the 2006-07 Orange County Grand Jury report, "Orange County Schools Disaster Plans: a Disaster Waiting to Happen?" dated May 17, 2007. The following responses are provided on behalf of the Fullerton Joint Union High School District concerning the subject report findings and recommendations.

**Finding F-1**: The over-all quality of the 28 Orange County School Districts and their individual school's emergency preparedness plans are in need of much improvement.

**FJUHSD Response**: The FJUHSD believes that the plan it had submitted for review was very comprehensive and met all SEMS criteria. In an effort to provide a more succinct plan the FJUHSD has revised the District plan and each individual school plan, into a single SEMS/Crisis Response Manual. This considerable effort was completed based upon the information identified in the report.

The revised plan is attached for review. The District does not agree with the received rating of "Below Expected" as no information was provided about the evaluation process or the criteria used to achieve this rating.

**Recommendation R-1**: Orange County school districts should make sure that they and their individual schools have a SEMS equivalent plan, and these should be submitted to the Orange County Department of Education/Superintendent of Schools for review.

**FJUHSD Response:** Although current laws do not specify that emergency preparedness plans be specifically "SEMS equivalent", the District recognizes that standardized plans provide a desirable outcome of efficiency and accountability. The District does not support the recommendation of submitting the plans to the Orange County Department of Education/Superintendent of Schools for review. This recommendation is not supported in law and OCDE has provided correspondence to all Orange County school districts that they provide any staff to comply with this recommendation.

The FJUHSD very much appreciates the opportunity to have input on its crisis response and disaster preparedness plan. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance or provide any additional information for your review.

Very truly yours,

Carl D. Erickson

Administrator of Human Resources and Risk Management

**Enclosures**