



**SHERIFF-CORONER DEPARTMENT
COUNTY OF ORANGE
CALIFORNIA**

550 N. FLOWER STREET
P.O. BOX 449
SANTA ANA, CA 92702-0449
(714) 647-7000

December 3, 2008

**SANDRA HUTCHENS
SHERIFF-CORONER**

**UNDERSHERIFF
JOHN L. SCOTT**

**EXECUTIVE COMMAND
JACK ANDERSON
JOHN B. DAVIS
RICK DOSTAL
MICHAEL R. HILLMANN
MIKE JAMES**

The Honorable Nancy Wieben Stock
Presiding Judge
Orange County Superior Court
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92702

Subject: Amended response to the Orange County Grand Jury Report, "After the BIG ONE will
Critical County Services Survive."

Judge Wieben Stock:

In accordance with California Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05, enclosed please find the
Orange County Sheriff's Department amended response to the above referenced FY 07-08
Grand Jury Report.

If you have any questions regarding this response document, please contact Executive Director
Rick Dostal at (714) 647-1803.

Respectfully,

**SANDRA HUTCHENS
Sheriff-Coroner**

cc: James R. Pe'rez, Grand Jury Foreman
Members, Board of Supervisors
Thomas G. Mauk, County Executive Officer

PROUDLY SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF ORANGE COUNTY AND THE FOLLOWING CITIES AND AGENCIES:

ALISO VIEJO • DANA POINT • LAGUNA HILLS • LAGUNA NIGUEL • LAGUNA WOODS • LAKE FOREST • MISSION VIEJO
RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA • SAN CLEMENTE • SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO • STANTON • VILLA PARK
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James R. Perez
Grand Jury Foreperson
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Dear Mr. Perez:

The grand Jury requested follow-up information regarding the Orange County Grand Jury report titled "After the Big One, Will Critical County Services Survive." We were asked to provide an update on the fire suppression project at the Loma Ridge facility; specifically, the time frame for implementation of the project. Our initial response is below along with an updated response for your review.

Finding 4

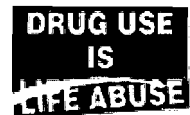
Some County data centers housing critical computer and telecommunications equipment are using water in their fire suppression system rather than inert gas.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a timeframe for implementation as stated below.

The dry fire suppression project, for the Loma Ridge facility is a funded project and is currently in Scope Development. At this stage of the project, a timeframe for implementation cannot be accurately stated. The Grand Jury recommendations for the type of clean agent will be included in the scope development process.

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The recommended system coverage is greater than the original budgeted scope of work. This will require a cost analysis and a funding request to be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for review and approval after the completion of a cost estimate.

Updated response:

Below is the updated information you requested. Specifically, you asked the timeframe for updating and/or modifying the fire suppression system at Loma Ridge. The information below is a synopsis of where the project is currently.

This information was provided by:

Tom C. Davis, Principal A/E Project Manager,
Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Department,
Research and Development Division / Facilities Planning.

After reviewing your request for information the project manager explained the following as it relates to this project. In early June the OCSD solicited Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) from all the Architect /Engineers (A/Es) on our current master list of A/Es wishing to do business with the County. Tom believed this notice was sent to over 150 A/Es. Additionally, notices were sent to several trade publications that notify their subscribers of impending County projects.

From this solicitation we received only two SOQs and neither firm was found to have acceptable experience for this type of work. Because it is our belief that were we to submit another SOQ to the same group of recipients we would get the same previous responses. So the OCSD is investigating other avenues to find qualified designers. We have since been in contact with several manufactures of dry type fire suppression systems in an effort to locate A/E's that have the experience to design this type of system and would be willing to submit the necessary SOQ information.

On Oct. 24, 2008 a second Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) solicitation was sent out to the A/Es currently on our vendor list which included the addition of firms that were recommended by several fire suppressions system manufacturers and installers in the area. From that solicitation we received six SOQ responses. The SOQ responses were rated and a ranked slate was established. We are currently meeting with the top ranked A/E firm to determine an estimate of probable design costs. Based on the estimate of design costs, we will pursue the proper course of action (Board of Supervisors approval or Purchase Order) to complete the design agreement for the dry fire suppression system. If the design agreement can be done via Purchase Order then design would start just after the first of the year. If the design agreement requires Board approval then the estimated start time for the design is March 2009.

If you need additional information regarding this project please contact Executive Director Rick Dostal at 714-647-1803.