CITY OF ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA

Police Department
May 15, 2003

The Honorable Frederick P. Horn
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Dear Judge Horn:

The City of Anaheim has reviewed the Grand Jury's report, "A Shortfall in Proposition 36 Support." Our response to Finding No. 3 and Recommendation No. 4 is as follows:

Finding No. 3

"Crime rates in some Orange County cities show increases since the inception of Proposition 36 that may be attributable to Proposition 36, or to other factors such as economy downturns, and drug driven property crimes."
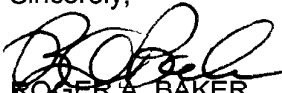
The City of Anaheim agrees with Finding No. 3, and believes that the recent rise in crime rates is well documented.

Recommendation No. 4

"Examine county and city arrests and incarceration records and statistical data of persons enrolled in Proposition 36 Court to determine the program's effectiveness relative to reducing criminal involvement in serious crimes."

The City of Anaheim supports Recommendation No. 4. However, we do not have the resources to conduct the extensive research required to "examine county and city arrest and incarceration records and statistical data of persons enrolled in Proposition 36." The arrestees eligible for the program leave our system at arraignment. We do not track the people we arrest for narcotic possession or narcotic influence in any way that documents their participation in Proposition 36. The Orange County District Attorney's Office screens defendants for the program, and maintains records of those referred. As to how many of these subjects successfully complete the program and whether or not they are ever again involved in "serious crimes" is also impossible to assess without conducting costly and extensive research based on statistics from the Probation Department and the District Attorney's Office. The request for response to "Recommendation 4" on Page 8 is better prepared at the County level by those who implement the program.

Sincerely,

ROGER A. BAKER
CHIEF OF POLICE

SW:KS:bc

DRUG USE
IS
LIFE ABUSE