



TO: Orange County Grand Jury

FROM: Frank Manzo, Director of Business Services

SUBJ: Required Responses to the Orange County Grand Jury Report,
"Orange County Schools Disaster Plans: A Disaster Waiting to Happen?"

DATE: August 6, 2007

Per the Orange County Grand Jury direction of May 23, 2007, a response to the Findings F-1 and Recommendation R-1 is required from all 28 Orange County School District Superintendents within 90 days. In accordance with California Penal Code section 933 and 933.05, the Saddleback Valley Unified School District is submitting the following response.

Finding F-1

The over-all quality of the 28 Orange County Districts and their individual school's emergency preparedness plans are in need of improvement.

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."

Required Response:

Per Section 933.05 Responses to findings, "the responding person or entity shall indicate one of the following:"

1. The respondent agrees with the finding.
2. The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding that is disputed and shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reasons therefore.

Response to Finding F-1 and Recommendation R-1

The respondent disagrees partially with the finding based on the following:

- All SVUSD District and school Disaster Plans are based on SEMS and ICS principles
- All SVUSD District and school Disaster Plans are updated yearly, reviewed by the District and required to provide verification of implementation starting in the fall and extending through the end of the year.
- All SVUSD schools conduct disaster drills on a regular and consistent basis as evidenced by the Site Safety Report.
- SVUSD participates in county-wide drills and OA Radio checks
- SVUSD participates in multi-agency coordination
- SVUSD has established on going interactions with local jurisdictions including law enforcement, fire authority and city governments

Part (b)

The Recommendation R-1 has not been fully implemented with all schools but will be implemented in the future with a timeframe for implementation in the following manner:

- By October 1, 2007, all SVUSD schools will complete a review of their present Disaster Plans to improve the overall scope and quality and to ensure that all SEMS requirements are met.
- By October 1, 2007, all SVUSD schools will expand their present Disaster Plans to include an appropriate response(s) to multi-hazards situations.
- By October 1, 2007, all schools will complete a mitigation study, fitness review, and functionality analysis of each school's disaster plan.
- By October 1, 2007, all schools will identify the individuals assigned to each of the SEMS/ ICS positions/ to ensure effective implementation of duties and responsibilities.