



## CITY OF LAGUNA HILLS

*City Council*

July 8, 2003

MAYOR  
L. Allan Songstad, Jr.  
MAYOR PRO TEMPORE  
Joel Lautenschleger

COUNCIL MEMBERS  
Randal J. Bressette  
Melody Carruth  
R. Craig Scott

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

RE: 2002-2003 Orange County Grand Jury Report - "Wood Roofs are Dangerous"

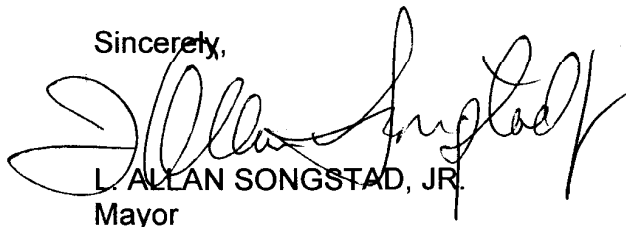
Dear Honorable Judge Horn:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Orange County Grand Jury Report - Wood Roofs are Dangerous. The Orange County Grand Jury is requesting that the City of Laguna Hills provide a response to each of the findings and recommendations cited in the Report, and describe the implementation status.

The Laguna Hills City Council considered the Orange County Grand Jury Report, Wood Roofs are Dangerous, at its July 8, 2003, meeting and is pleased to provide the attached responses.

If you have any questions, please contact Vern Jones, Community Development Director, at 949-707-2670.

Sincerely,



L. ALLAN SONGSTAD, JR.  
Mayor

### Attachments

cc: Orange County Grand Jury  
Bruce Channing, City Manager  
Vern Jones, Community Development Director

Dev/0110-05/WoodRoofs/MayorsResponseLtr

Attachment

CITY OF LAGUNA HILLS RESPONSES TO THE 2002-2003 ORANGE COUNTY GRAND JURY  
REPORT "Wood Roofs are Dangerous"

**RESPONSES TO GRAND JURY FINDINGS**

Under California Penal Code §933 and §933.05, responses are required to all findings. The 2002-2003 Orange County Grand Jury has made the following four findings:

<b>2002-2003 Grand Jury Findings</b>	<b>City of Laguna Hills Responses</b>
<b>Finding 1:</b> There is a lack of uniformity in local building codes involving roofs for identical environmental conditions within Orange County.	Agree. However, not every community in Orange County has identical environmental conditions.
<b>Finding 2:</b> The testing and qualification standards of wood shakes and shingles are below the environmental conditions of Orange County.	Generally, agree.
<b>Finding 3:</b> The cities' and county's roofing codes do not adequately take into account the climate, particularly the Santa Ana winds, and topographical conditions unique to Orange County.	Generally, agree.
<b>Finding 4:</b> Fire conflagrations stress finite fire fighting resources especially during the period of Santa Ana winds.	Agree.

## RESPONSES TO GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS

In accordance with California Penal Code §933 and §933.05, each Grand Jury recommendation requires a response from the government entity to which it is addressed.

<b>2002-2003 Grand Jury Recommendations</b>	<b>City of Laguna Hills Response/Implementation Status</b>
<p><b>Recommendation 1:</b>            Each responding jurisdictional agency should consider amending the Building Code to require the most fire retardant class of roof covering (Class A) for new construction of all residential structures (Group R) in all fire zones.</p>	<p>Agree.</p> <p>During the next code adoption cycle, we will consider amending the Building Code to require a more restrictive roof-covering requirement to enhanced fire safety.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 2:</b>            Each responding jurisdictional agency should consider amending the Building Code to require the most fire retardant class of roof covering (Class A) for new construction of all residential structures (Group R) in all fire zones, when more than 50 percent of the roof is replaced within one year.</p>	<p>Agree.</p> <p>During the next code adoption cycle, we will consider amending the Building Code to add a more restrictive roof-covering requirement, when more than 50 percent of the roof is replaced within one year.</p>