



August 21, 2023

Honorable Maria Hernandez, Presiding Judge  
Superior Court of California, County of Orange  
700 Civic Center Drive West  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

**RE: Response to 2022-2023 Orange County Grand Jury Report "School Shooting: How Prepared are Orange County Schools?"**

Dear Judge Hernandez:

The City of Los Alamitos ("City") has reviewed the Orange County Grand Jury Report titled "School Shooting: How Prepared are Orange County Schools?" As required by California Penal Code §933 and §933.05, the City is responding to the findings and recommendations included within the report. The required responses are contained below:

*Findings and Responses:*

**F1. Law enforcement, first responders, and other stakeholders have demonstrated a strong interest in working cooperatively with Orange County public schools to mitigate the risk of an active shooter incident; establishment of MOUs between law enforcement and school districts would strengthen this cooperation.**

***Response: Agree***

Currently, there is no MOU between the Los Alamitos Police Department and the Los Alamitos Unified School District in reference to mitigating the risk of an active shooter. The Police Department is in collaboration with the School District to establish an MOU to enhance communication and to facilitate an efficient and streamlined response.

**F8. School Resource Officers (SROs) are a valuable asset for school safety, yet many cities/districts do not allocate sufficient funds to hire needed officers.**

***Response: Agree***

The Los Alamitos Police Department currently has a School Resource Officer (SRO) assigned to the Los Alamitos Unified School District. The position is partially funded by the City and partially funded through a grant from the California Department of Justice.

Recommendations and Responses:

**R1. Each Orange County school district should arrange for local law enforcement to do an annual safety inspection of each school. The written safety checklist should include as audit of the integrity of site boundaries and a review of safety plans and policies. This annual safety audit should commence with the 2023-24 school year by October 1, 2023, and annually thereafter.**

***Response: Recommendation is being implemented***

The Los Alamitos Police Department is currently working in conjunction with the Los Alamitos Unified School District to standardize a safety audit and written safety checklist for each school campus, which will be completed prior to October 1, 2023. Thereafter, the safety audit will be done prior to the beginning of every school year.

**R3. Each Orange County school district, in conjunction with law enforcement, should develop and implement tabletop exercises to be conducted in district schools by December 31, 2023.**

***Response: Recommendation is being implemented***

The school district has existing tabletop exercises that are currently being conducted at each school during the school year. The Los Alamitos Police Department is working in conjunction with the Los Alamitos Unified School District to develop and implement new tabletop exercises. It is the goal of the Los Alamitos Police Department to continue to collaborate with the school district on these exercises.

**R4. Each Orange County school district should work with local law enforcement to plan and conduct a district-wide active shooter drill by July 1, 2024, and at least every other year thereafter.**

***Response: Recommendation has been implemented***

The Los Alamitos Police Department, in collaboration with the Los Alamitos Unified School District, conducted an active shooter drill on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022, incorporating other surrounding police departments and the Orange County Sheriff's Department. The next active shooter drill has been scheduled for December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Moving forward, a district-wide active shooter drill will be implemented annually.

**R12. Each Orange County School District should assess the need for SRO's or additional SRO's, reaching out to appropriate community partners to facilitate funding by July 1, 2024.**

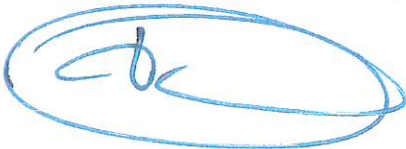
***Response: Recommendation has been implemented***

In 2022, the Los Alamitos Police Department assessed the need for a School Resource Officer (SRO). The Department concluded that an SRO was necessary, and the SRO position was re-instated on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. The Department pursued and was granted funding through the California Department of Justice Tobacco Grant Program, which pays 50% of the SRO salary and 100% of the SRO training and equipment. The remaining 50% of the SRO's salary is currently being funded by the City.

In the event that you need additional information regarding the City's responses, please contact City Manager, Chet Simmons, via email at [csimmons@cityoflosalamitos.org](mailto:csimmons@cityoflosalamitos.org).

Sincerely,

**CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS**



Tanya Doby  
Mayor