

CHRISTINE L. COHEN  
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER  
County of Ventura  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, Ca 93009-1540



CHIEF DEPUTIES  
BARBARA J. LOPEZ  
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LOUISE WEBSTER  
SANDRA BICKFORD

July 25, 2003

RECEIVED

JUL 30 2003

Honorable Bruce A. Clark  
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
Ventura County Hall of Justice  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

**SUBJECT: GRAND JURY REPORT ON COUNTY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY**

Dear Judge Clark:

In accordance with Penal Code Section 933.05, the Auditor-Controller's Office provides the following response to the Grand Jury's 2002-2003 report on County Information Technology (IT) Security.

Recommendation R-3: "That the Auditor-Controller review ISO 17799 as the basis for an information system internal control program for the County. The internal controls so developed could then be included as part of the management controls for various departments."

Response: Staff has reviewed ISO 17799 general guidelines. These guidelines appear to have been developed primarily for international organizations. We have also reviewed the Information Audit and Control Association's standards for Information Systems Auditing. These standards will be incorporated in our audits of departmental compliance with IT security policies. These audits will evaluate not only compliance by departments under audit, but also provide results to the Information Systems Department and/or County Executive Office for Countywide policy for possible action. As a result of this effort, we also intend to initiate an internal control program involving the periodic evaluation of IT controls.

We appreciate the opportunity to respond to this Grand Jury Report. If you have any questions or need additional information, please call me at (805) 654-3151.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christine L. Cohen".

CHRISTINE L. COHEN  
Auditor-Controller

cc: Grand Jury