



"Citrus Capital of the World"

# City of Santa Paula

970 Ventura Street • Santa Paula, California • Mailing Address: P.O. Box 569 • 93061 • Phone: (805) 525-4478 • Fax: (805) 525-6278

November 15, 2010

RECEIVED  
NOV 23 2010  
VENTURA COUNTY  
GRAND JURY

Mr. Don Cody  
Mr. Robert A. Peskay  
Ventura County Grand Jury  
800 S. Victoria Ave.  
Ventura, CA 93009

Subject: Response to the Ventura County Grand Jury 2009-2010 Report-  
Utilization of the Ventura County Juvenile Justice Facilities

Dear Mr. Cody and Mr. Peskay:


The City Council appreciates the efforts of the 2009-2010 Grand Jury in drafting the report on "Utilization of the Ventura County Juvenile Justice Facilities", which provides an overview of the current utilization of the housing component of the Ventura County Juvenile Justice Facilities.

The City has reviewed and discussed the conclusions and recommendations presented in the Grand Jury report with Police Department staff. City staff has expressed some concern about a lack of cooperation from Ventura County Juvenile Justice Facilities in the past. As a result, significant efforts were initiated to address those concerns and they found the facility agreeable in attempting to improve relations. While City's Police Department has experienced some improvements regarding this issue, Police Officers still encounter some resistance from Ventura County Juvenile Justice Facilities staff during the intake process and having detained juveniles accepted into the facilities who clearly meet the intake criteria.

The City agrees with recommendation (R-10) and will continue to ensure that officers training will include Probation Agency information regarding the criteria for accepting juveniles into the Juvenile Justice Facility, the use of the Risk Assessment Instrument, and Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative. We also strongly encourage the Ventura County Juvenile Justice Facilities to also provide the same training to their staff on how to best interact with law enforcement agencies in accepting juveniles into there facilities.

I hope that the above information proves useful in completing the Grand Jury Report. If there are any questions or if further clarification is needed, please contact Elisabeth Amador, Assistant to the City Manager at (805) 525-0626.

Sincerely,

  
Jim Tovias,  
Mayor

cc: Mr. Jaime Fontes, City Manager  
Mr. Karl H. Berger, City Attorney