county of ventura

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE
MICHAEL POWERS
County Executive Officer

J. Matthew Carroll
Assistant County Executive Officer

Paul Derse
Assistant County Executive Officer/
Chief Financial Officer

John K. Nicoll
Assistant County Executive Officer/
Human Resources Director

Catherine Rodriguez
Assistant County Executive Officer/
Chief of Operations & Strategic Development

September 16, 2011

Honorable Vincent J. O'Neill II
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
Superior Court of California, Ventura County
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Subject: Board of Supervisors' Consolidated Response to 2010-11 Grand Jury Final Report

Dear Judge O'Neill:

In accordance with State requirements, the consolidated response from the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to the 2010-11 Final Grand Jury report is hereby submitted. The Board approved the response on September 13, 2011.

Should you have any questions, please call Matt Carroll at 654-2864 or Kathleen Van Norman at 654-2566.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Powers
County Executive Officer

Enclosure – Board of Supervisors' Consolidated Response to the 2010-11 Grand Jury Final Report

copies: County Clerk, Mark A. Lunn
Superior Court Jury Services (3 copies as listed)
- For Jury Services, Peggy Yost, Manager
- For transmittal to State Archives
- For transmittal to Grand Jury

BOARD MINUTES

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF VENTURA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**SUPERVISORS STEVE BENNETT, LINDA PARKS,
KATHY I. LONG, PETER C. FOY AND JOHN ZARAGOZA
September 13, 2011 at 8:30 a.m.**

228.3

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE – Approval of Responses to the 2010-2011 Ventura County Grand Jury Reports: "Bullying in the Workplace," "Inmate Processing and Suicide Prevention in the Ventura County Jail," "Emergency Communications Interoperability," "Election Process," and "Under-Enrollment in Proposition 36"

(X) All board members are present.

(X) The following person is heard by the Board: Matt Carroll.

(X) Upon motion of Supervisor Bennett, seconded by Supervisor Foy, and duly carried, the Board hereby approves the attached reports and includes an appreciation to the Grand Jury for their service in terms of presenting their reports to us and complements them for the new and higher standards that they follow.

By: _____
Deputy Clerk of the Board

CLERK'S CERTIFICATE
I hereby certify that the annexed instrument is a true and correct copy of the document which is on file in this office.
MICHAEL POWERS, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Ventura, State of California.

Dated: 9.14.11

By: _____
Deputy Clerk of the Board

Item# 43
09/13/11

DISTRIBUTION: Originating Agency, Auditor, File

county of ventura

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September 13, 2011

County of Ventura
Board of Supervisors
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Subject: Approval of Responses to Five (5) 2010-2011 Ventura County Grand Jury Reports: "Bullying in the Workplace," "Inmate Processing and Suicide Prevention in the Ventura County Jail," "Emergency Communications Interoperability," "Election Process," and "Under-Enrollment in Proposition 36"

Recommendation:

That your Board approves responses to the five subject Grand Jury reports pertaining to County government under your authority for submittal to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court in accordance with State statute.

Discussion:

Penal Code §933.05 requires that your Board comment on the findings and recommendations of the Grand Jury pertaining to county government under your authority. The 2010-2011 Ventura County Grand Jury issued 11 individual reports, seven of which pertain to County government.

Responses from the Board of Supervisors were required on four of the seven reports pertaining to County government and were prepared on your behalf by the County Executive Office. Responses from appointed officials were also required for three of the seven reports. These responses have been coordinated through our office and are submitted for your approval.

For your reference, the report titles and respondents listed in the Grand Jury Report are summarized in the table below. The underlined respondents require Board approval.

Special Property Tax Assessments Responses from the Auditor-Controller and Treasurer-Tax Collector are for information only. Approval is not required.	Auditor-Controller Treasurer-Tax Collector
Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Rangers The RSRPD is an independent entity. Response from the Sheriff is for information only. Approval is not required.	Sheriff
Bullying in the Workplace Response from the Auditor-Controller is for information only. Approval is not required.	Board of Supervisors Auditor-Controller *Director-Human Resources Division (CEO) (*Response was *requested*, not required)
Inmate Processing and Suicide Prevention in Ventura County Jail Responses from the Sheriff and the District Attorney are for information only. Approval is not required.	Sheriff District Attorney Health Care Agency
Emergency Communications Interoperability Responses from the Sheriff and the Ventura County Emergency Planning Council are for information only. Approval is not required.	Board of Supervisors Sheriff *Ventura County Emergency Planning Council (*Response was *requested*, not required)
Election Process Response from the Registrar of Voters (County Clerk and Recorder) is for information only. Approval is not required.	Registrar of Voters Board of Supervisors
Under-Enrollment in Proposition 36	Board of Supervisors *Behavioral Health (Health Care Agency) (*Response was *requested*, not required) *Probation (*Response was *requested*, not required)

The responses that pertain to County government under your control will serve as your Board's response to the subject 2010-2011 Grand Jury Reports to be filed as indicated in the above-recommended action along with any additional comments your Board may wish to make.

If your Board does elect to amend responses submitted from agencies headed by appointed officials or if your Board elects to change a response prepared on your behalf by the County Executive's office, then CEO staff, at your direction, will make such changes or additions prior to submitting the responses to the Presiding Judge.

As you are aware, elected officials submit their Grand Jury responses directly to the Presiding Judge. Although your approval is not required for responses from elected officials, copies of responses from the following elected officials are included here for your information: from the Auditor-Controller and the Treasurer Tax Collector to the report "Special Property Tax Assessments;" from the Sheriff to the report, "Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Rangers;" from the Auditor-Controller to the report, "Bullying in the Workplace;" from the Sheriff and District Attorney to the report, "Inmate Processing and Suicide Prevention in the Ventura County Jail;" from the Sheriff to the report, "Emergency Communications Interoperability," and from the Registrar of Voters to the report, "Election Process."

This letter has been reviewed by County Executive Office, Auditor-Controller and County Counsel. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Matt Carroll at 654-2864 or Kathleen Van Norman at 654-2566.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL POWERS
County Executive Officer

Attachments:
Exhibit 1 – Response to "Special Property Tax Assessments"
Exhibit 2 – Response to "Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Rangers"
Exhibit 3 – Response to "Bullying in the Workplace"
Exhibit 4 – Response to "Inmate Processing and Suicide Prevention in the VC Jail"
Exhibit 5 – Response to "Emergency Communications Interoperability"
Exhibit 6 - Response to "Election Process"
Exhibit 7 - Response to "Under-Enrollment in Proposition 36"

EXHIBIT 2

FY 2010-2011 GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Number (& Date)	Report Title	Respondents (with FI and R #)

REPORT NO. 02. (May 19, 2011)

Title: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Rangers

Required Respondents: Ventura County Sheriff (FI-02 & FI-04)

VENTURA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

• GEOFF DEAN
Sheriff
• GARY PENTIS
Assistant Sheriff
• JOHN CROMBACH
Assistant Sheriff

800 SOUTH VICTORIA AVENUE, VENTURA, CA 93009 PHONE (805) 654-2380 FAX (805) 645-1391

May 25, 2011

RECEIVED

MAY 30 2011

VENTURA COUNTY
GRAND JURY

The Honorable Vincent O'Neill, Jr., Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, Ventura County
800 S. Victoria Avenue, L#2121
Ventura, CA 93009

Dear Judge O'Neill:

Re: Response to the 2010-2011 Grand Jury report entitled, *Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Rangers*

In accordance with California Penal Code §933 (c) (d), this report is a response to the findings and recommendations of the 2010-2011 Grand Jury report entitled, *Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Rangers*. Based on clarification from Grand Jury Foreman, Mr. Robert Peskay, my responses will be limited to two (2) of the five (5) findings (FI-02 and FI-04). Insofar as the conclusions within each finding pertain to an independent district that we have little to no interaction or involvement with, my position is to remain neutral regarding the effectiveness of the park rangers as well as the fiscal propriety of whether or not the district should fund the Ranger Program.

Findings

FI-02. All District properties fall within the jurisdiction of either the SVPD (Simi Valley Police Department) or the VCSD (Ventura County Sheriff's Office). These agencies have the duty to provide law enforcement and public safety at all District properties. Rangers patrolling 47 district parks and facilities distributed over a large area are superfluous and ineffective (FA-05, FA-17 through FA-25).

Response to FI-02: The majority of District properties are within the city limits of Simi Valley and the elimination of the Ranger Program would logically have a greater potential impact to that city, which provides for its own police services.

In terms of the District properties within the unincorporated Sheriff's jurisdiction, the patrol cars covering those beat areas containing District properties are responsible for large geographic areas. Sheriff's response times are generally higher and resources more limited. Assuming the Ranger Program is effective, even a minimal presence of rangers would be better than none. The primary

responsibility of deputy sheriffs patrolling the county areas, including the parks, is to keep the peace and enforce criminal statutes. If there is an assumption that Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District rules would be significantly enforced by deputy sheriffs, that assumption is false. Furthermore, deputy sheriffs would generally not be available to provide security for preplanned events at District properties other than extra patrols when possible.

FI-04. The expenditure of public funds for the Ranger Program should be called into question given the presence and jurisdiction of the SVPD and the VCSD. (FA-04, FA-09 and FA-10, FA-12 through 14, FA-19 through FA-25)

Response to FI-04: Given the limitations of Sheriffs resources as explained above, the decision as to whether or not the Ranger Program is a fiscally responsible use of public funds should not be based on any assumption that the Ventura County Sheriff's Department can fill a potential void created by the elimination of the program. With that in mind, if the program is still deemed to not be a prudent use of public funds, that determination should be made by other stakeholders and public officials with direct knowledge and oversight.

Recommendations

R-01 through R-03: All pertain to recommended actions to be taken by the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District and do not apply to the Ventura County Sheriff's Office.

Thank you. I appreciate the opportunity to respond to this Grand Jury report.

Sincerely,

GEOFF DEAN
Ventura County Sheriff

Cc: Robert Peskay, Grand Jury Foreman
Brown Mail #L3751

RECEIVED

MAY 30 2011

VENTURA COUNTY
GRAND JURY

Response to Grand Jury Report Form

Report Title: RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT RANGERS

Report Date: 5-19-2011

Response by: GEOFF DEAN **Title:** SHERIFF

FINDINGS

- I (we) agree with the findings numbered: _____
- I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: 2 AND 4 *
  (Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons therefor.) * NO POSITION TAKEN. (SEE NARRATIVE)

RECOMMENDATIONS

* RECOMMENDATIONS DO NOT APPLY TO SHERIFFS OFFICE

- Recommendations numbered N/A have been implemented.
  (Attach a summary describing the implemented actions.)
- Recommendations numbered N/A have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.
  (Attach a timeframe for the implementation.)
- Recommendations numbered N/A require further analysis.
  (Attach an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.)
- Recommendations numbered N/A will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.
  (Attach an explanation.)

Date: _____ Signed: _____

Number of pages attached 2