



City of Port Hueneme

"The Friendly City By The Sea"

October 29, 2012

Jay Whitney, Foreman
Ventura County Grand Jury
800 S. Victoria Ave.
Ventura, CA 93009

Honorable Vincent O'Neill, Presiding Judge
California Superior Court
800 S. Victoria Ave.
Ventura, CA 93009

RE: Mandatory Detention Facilities Inspections

Dear Mr. Whitney and Judge O'Neill:

The Port Hueneme City Council approved the attached reply on June 18, 2012 and directed staff to submit it to the Grand Jury. I'm not sure how or why it was not submitted but I apologize on behalf of the City. Please accept these copies of the original response and contact me if anything further is needed.

Sincerely,

Michelle Ascencion
Deputy City Clerk
(805) 986-6503

c: City Council
Chief of Police

RECEIVED

OCT 31 2012

VENTURA COUNTY
GRAND JURY

Response to Grand Jury Report Form

Report Title: Mandatory Detention Facilities Inspections

Report Date: June 18, 2012

Response by: Kathleen Sheehan **Title:** Police Chief, Port Hueneme

FINDINGS

- I (we) agree with the findings numbered: FI-01, FI-02, FI-04, FI-08 (all findings addressed toward our City)
- I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: _____
(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons therefore.)

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered R-03 and R-05 have been implemented.
(Attach a summary describing the implemented actions.)
- Recommendations numbered _____ have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.
(Attach a timeframe for the implementation.)
- Recommendations numbered _____ 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 _____ will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.
(Attach an explanation.)

Date: June 18, 2012

Signed: _____



Number of pages attached 2



City of Port Hueneme

June 18, 2012

Ventura County Grand Jury
Honorable David H. Gale, Foreman
800 South Victoria Avenue, L#3751
Ventura, CA 93009

California Superior Court
Honorable Vincent J. O'Neil, Jr.,
Presiding Judge
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

SUBJECT: 2011-2012 VENTURA COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT
Mandatory Detention Facilities Inspections

The Honorable Vincent J. O'Neil, Jr., Presiding Judge, Superior Court of California:

The Honorable David H. Gale, Foreman:

In accordance with California Penal Code 933.05, the City Council offers the following responses for itself and on behalf of the Chief of Police to the subject Grand Jury Report dated May 23, 2012:

- With regard to the Report's findings, the City Council accepts those findings pertaining to the Port Hueneme Police Department without challenge or further comment, and acknowledges the Grand Jury has made findings pertaining to other agencies of which the City of Port Hueneme has not made an independent inspection upon which it may accept such findings.
- With regard to the Report's recommendations, both recommendations have been implemented by Port Hueneme. The following responses are offered:

Recommendation R-03: That the City of Port Hueneme stock non-perishable food and not rely solely on officers making "fast food runs" for arrestees.

Response: This recommendation has been implemented.

The Police Department has vending machines stocked with granola bars, chips, candy bars, energy drinks, and bottled water. These items are available for purchase from a petty cash fund to provide snacks for arrestees at no cost. Given that very few arrestees stay at our detention facility longer than four hours, it is likely that stocked food would go stale. The vending machine operator is responsible for ensuring that stocked items are not sold beyond their expiration date, thus the snacks are fresh and Police Department resources are not needed to manage rarely-used food stores.

Response to Grand Jury: Mandatory Detention Facilities Inspections

June 18, 2012

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The Police Department will also continue to supplement these snack food items with meals from nearby fast food restaurants, one of which is within a short walking distance. When needed, these "fast food runs" are most often made by Reserve Police Officers or Property and Evidence Technicians, therefore this practice is not removing a police officer from patrol duties. It should also be noted that the practice of using meals from fast-food restaurants has passed inspection and approved multiple times by other detention inspection agencies, specifically the County Environmental Health Department and the Ventura County Delinquency Prevention Commission.

Recommendation R-05: That the cities without parenting programs for juveniles review and implement innovative programs such as those of Camarillo and Ojai.

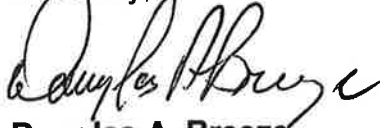
Response: This recommendation has been implemented.

Based upon this recommendation by the Grand Jury, the Port Hueneme Police Chief and Community Relations Sergeant contacted the Ojai and Camarillo stations. Camarillo agreed to share access to the "Parent Project," a ten-week, one night per week course of instructions for parents of teens and pre-teens who engage in risky or destructive behaviors. The course teaches parents how to cope with and correct a wide variety of behaviors, from mere stubbornness to truancy, curfew violations, gangs, drugs, alcohol, and inappropriate relationships.

For now, Port Hueneme police officers will distribute information and refer affected parents to attend the "Parent Project" training course in Camarillo. Should demand for the course grow, Port Hueneme will consider sending one or more of its officers to become certified trainers who can host courses in our city. We are hopeful that the "Parent Project" will help young people make more positive life choices, guiding them away from criminal behavior and causing an overall reduction in crime.

Should the Grand Jury have any questions regarding this response letter, please contact Kathleen Sheehan, Chief of Police, at (805) 986-6531.

Sincerely,



Douglas A. Breeze
Mayor

c: City Council
City Manager
Chief of Police