



# City Of Camarillo

601 Carmen Drive • P.O. Box 248 • Camarillo, CA 93011-0248

Office of the City Manager  
(805) 388-5307  
Fax (805) 388-5318

July 9, 2012

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

Subject: Grand Jury Report, "Graffiti in Ventura County Cities"

Dear Judge O'Neill:

This letter is in response to the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations pertaining to the impact caused by graffiti on the communities in Ventura County.

## FINDINGS

### Finding FI-02:

*With the exception of Ojai, graffiti represents a significant financial impact in all the other Cities.*

#### Response:

We concur with this finding.

### Finding FI-03:

*The eight cities reporting direct costs for abatement programs, reported total costs in excess of \$1.5 million in FY 2010/2011.*

#### Response:

We concur with this finding.

### Finding FI-06:

*There is no "one size fits all" graffiti abatement program for the Cities. The Cities' abatement plans vary.*

#### Response:

We concur with this finding.

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VENTURA COUNTY  
GRAND JURY

July 9, 2012  
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Grand Jury Report: "Graffiti in Ventura County Cities"

**Finding FI-07:**

*Only the city ordinances for the cities of Port Hueneme and Santa Paula contain provisions for the city to petition the sentencing court for the delay or suspension of driving privileges for those convicted of graffiti vandalism, as allowed for in the state vehicle code.*

**Response:**

We concur with this finding:

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Recommendation R-01:**

*The Cities should aggressively pursue the recovery of costs from the individual(s) convicted of graffiti vandalism.*

**Response:**

We agree with the recommendation and want to ensure you that the Camarillo Police Department submits a restitution form with every graffiti vandalism case to the County Probation Department requesting full restitution by the arrestee when the City of Camarillo is the victim. (See Exhibit 1 attached.)

**Recommendation R-04:**

*The Cities should enlist the assistance of volunteer groups within the County for graffiti abatement. Such groups might include: Sheriff's and Youth Graffiti Removal Incident Team; Keep America Beautiful; and various civic groups.*

**Response:**

We agree with the recommendation and the Camarillo Police Department's Crime Prevention Officer and Graffiti Investigator will work on fostering a working relationship with civic groups.

**Recommendation R-05:**

*The Cities, with the exception of Port Hueneme and Santa Paula, should amend their city codes regarding graffiti vandalism to include provisions for the city to petition the sentencing court for the delay or suspension of driving privileges for those convicted of graffiti vandalism, as allowed for in the state vehicle code.*

**Response:**

We disagree with this recommendation. The State Vehicle Code section cited, 13202.6, provides for mandatory instructions for the court to suspend or delay driving privileges upon a defendant's conviction for 594, 594.3, or 594.4 of the California Penal Code. There is no requirement or necessity for the Camarillo Police Department or the City of Camarillo to petition the court to suspend or delay the driver's license of a convicted person since per this section it is already a mandatory action of the court.

July 9, 2012  
The Honorable Judge Vincent J. O'Neill, Jr.  
Grand Jury Report; "Graffiti in Ventura County Cities"

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this Grand Jury report. If additional explanation is needed, please feel free to contact Police Commander Steve DeCasari at 388-5102.

Sincerely,

  
Bruce Feng  
City Manager

Attachments: Response to Grand Jury Report Form  
Exhibit 1 – Probation Disposition Recommendation Form

cc: **David H. Gale, Foreman**  
Ventura County Grand Jury (2011-2012)  
800 S. Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009  
Camarillo City Council  
Camarillo City Clerk

## Response to Grand Jury Report Form

Report Title: Graffiti in Ventura County Cities

Report Date: May 16, 2012

Response by: Bruce Feng Title: City Manager

### FINDINGS

- I (we) agree with the findings numbered: FI-02, FI-03, FI-06, FI-07
- 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 therefor.)

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered R-01, R-04 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 R-05 will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.  
(Attach an explanation.)

Date: 07/09/12 Signed: Bruce Feng

Number of pages attached 1

**Probation Disposition Recommendation Form**

Agency Case Number:

Subject Name:  
Subject Date Of Birth:  
Date Of Arrest:  
Arresting Officer:

Subject History Summary:

Recommendation of Graffiti Investigations Unit:

Formal Probation       Informal Probation

Factors:

Restitution:  Unknown at this time

Investigator's Signature

Detective Matthew Curtin  
Special Enforcement Detail / Graffiti Investigations  
Ventura County Sheriff's Department / Camarillo  
805-383-4803