

Response to Grand Jury Report Form

Report Title: Graffiti in Ventura County Cities

Report Date: May 16, 2012

Response by: Joseph Gately **Title:** Housing and Facilities Maint. Director

FINDINGS

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

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Date: July 2, 2012 Signed: _____

Number of pages attached 2

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VENTURA COUNTY
GRAND JURY



City of Port Hueneme

July 2, 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
Graffiti in Ventura County Cities

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 City Manager to the subject Grand Jury Report dated May 16, 2012:

- With regard to the Report's findings, FI-02, FI-03, FI-06 and FI-07, the City Council accepts those findings pertaining to the City of Port Hueneme without challenge or further comment, and acknowledges the Grand Jury has made findings pertaining to other Municipalities of which the City of Port Hueneme has not made an independent review upon which it may accept such findings.
- With regard to the Report's recommendations, R-01 and R-04, the following responses are offered:

Recommendation R-01: The Cities should aggressively pursue the recovery of costs from the individual(s) convicted of graffiti vandalism.

Response: This recommendation has been implemented since 2006.

The City of Port Hueneme has tracked all of the reimbursable fines of graffiti vandals since 2006. Each vandal's reimbursement payments to the City are routinely monitored to ensure the vandal is making timely payments. Based on its cost effectiveness, the City may take the vandal back to court to enforce a judgment if it finds payments are not being made.

GRAND JURY RESPONSE: GRAFFITI IN VENTURA COUNTY CITIES

July 2, 2012

Page 2

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: This recommendation has been implemented.

The City has implemented this recommendation in a variety of ways. Since 2008, and with the financial support of Hueneme Beautiful, the City has purchased graffiti removal kits for distribution to members of the community who wish to assist in graffiti abatement. These kits are distributed at no charge and to date, approximately 400 kits have been distributed.

The City also supplies more extensive removal kits to City field staff where they also perform graffiti abatement in addition to their regular duties throughout the workday.

The City has also held public graffiti forums at City Hall to exchange information about the graffiti issue, educate the residents and solicit interested citizens to voluntarily assist in abatement.

Should the Grand Jury have any questions regarding this response letter, please contact Joseph Gately, Housing and Facilities Maintenance Director, at (805) 986-6522.

Sincerely,



Douglas A. Breeze
Mayor

- c: City Council
- City Manager
- Housing and Facilities Maintenance Director