

# Response to Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Grand Jury Report Form

Report Title: Elections and Pollng

Report Date: June 3, 2013 Responding Agency/Dept. Board of Supervisors

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## FINDINGS

- I (we) agree with the findings numbered: FI-02
- I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: FI-01  
(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons therefore.)

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered \_\_\_\_\_ 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-02 will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.  
(Attach an explanation.)

Date: October 1, 2013

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Peter C. Foy, Chair, Board of Supervisors

Number of pages attached: 1



Response to Ventura County Grand Jury Report  
Elections/Polling  
From the Board of Supervisors

**FINDINGS**

**FI-01 The Grand Jury finds that the security of the counting room was compromised when election officials allowed individuals who were not election officials into the counting room, a restricted area, on Election Day (FA-01-02).**

*The Board of Supervisors disagrees.*

The Elections Division has a written protocol regarding restricted access to the Elections Technology Room (the "Counting Room"). Such restricted access must be acquired in advance with the Elections Division executive leadership team, so that arrangement can be facilitated to escort individuals at all times.

Through the County Executive Office, it is confirmed this policy is strictly adhered to at all times.

**FI-02 The Grand Jury finds that the Elections Division should concentrate on the secure counting of votes as its primary responsibility to County voters (FA-03).**

*The Board of Supervisors agrees.*

The Elections Division administers and conducts registration and voting procedures in general, primary and special elections in accordance with the California Election Code, Government Code and county laws and ordinances. As such, the Elections Division must possess thorough knowledge in various practices and procedures of the California Election Code, Government Code and local ordinances/laws involving in the registration of voters, elections and campaign disclosure in accordance with federal, state, and local elections laws.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**R-02 The Grand Jury recommends that the BOS should set penalties for breaches of security in the Elections Division and that the BOS direct the Sheriff to assign a uniformed deputy at the entrance to the Elections Division counting room on elections days (FI-04)**

*The Board of Supervisors disagrees.*

The Sheriff's Office staff continues to collaborate and provides key critical support to safeguard the security of the Elections Technology Room (the "Counting Room") at each election cycle. Furthermore, the Elections Division has a written policy/procedure (as aforementioned in FI-01) to monitor restricted access at all times.