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Ventura County Grand Jury
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City Council

Claudia Bill-de la Peña
Mayor

Response to Grand Jury Report Form

Report Title: Campaign Contributions Transparency

Report Date: December 1, 2016

Response By: City Council of the City of Thousand Oaks

Pursuant to California Penal Code Sections 933.05 (a) and (b), the City Council of the City of Thousand Oaks provides the following responses to the findings and recommendations included in the above-referenced Grand Jury Report.

BACKGROUND

After receiving a citizen complaint regarding access to records of monetary contributions received by candidates for public office in Ventura County and the cities within Ventura County, the Grand Jury examined the official websites of the County and the ten cities within the County, and interviewed government officials. The Grand Jury found that information concerning monetary contributions to candidates for public office is available for the County and the ten cities within the County. However, the Grand Jury found that there was a wide variation in accessibility to this information. Further, the Grand Jury made a recommendation for the City to implement to further address public access.

FORMAT OF RESPONSE

The City Council's detailed response to the Grand Jury Report is set forth in the following pages. The response is ordered in the same manner as the report itself--Facts, Conclusions and Recommendations. The City Council is required to respond to Conclusion C-04 and Recommendation R-02.

RESPONSE TO FINDINGS/CONCLUSIONS

The City agrees with Conclusion C-04.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation number R-02 has been implemented. The Grand Jury made one recommendation that the City Council establish a direct link on its City homepage for public online access to its campaign disclosures (FA-10).

The City implemented a direct link to the campaign disclosures on the City's homepage at www.toaks.org/i-want-to/find/forms-documents by clicking on Campaign Disclosures. Additionally, the City's campaign disclosures are located on the City Clerk's Department page, which can be found under departments/city clerk/elections/campaign disclosures.

SUMMARY

The City of Thousand Oaks wishes to thank the Grand Jury for its review of current practices related to public access to the City's campaign disclosures. The City Council appreciates and welcomes the efforts of the Grand Jury in their review of City practices.

Date: 2/14/17

Signed: 
Claudia Bill-de la Peña, Mayor
City of Thousand Oaks

Number of pages attached: 0