September 22, 2016

The Honorable Charles Margines
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701


Dear Judge Margines:

The following is the City of Orange’s Amended response to recommendations contained in the Grand Jury’s Report, “Drones: Know Before You Fly.” The City of Orange was asked to amend its responses to recommendations R.2 and R.9.

Grand Jury Recommendations.

R2. Each City should adopt a recreational drone ownership and operation ordinance with regulations similar to those found in Los Angeles City ordinance #318392, by March 31, 2017, to the extent not preempted or superseded by Federal law or Federal regulations.

Response. The recommendation requires further analysis by our City Attorney to determine the legality of such ordinances in light of arguments that the FAA preempts such ordinances and the effects new adopted FAA Rules. We would hope such a review can be concluded prior to the City of Orange City Council meeting scheduled for December 13, 2016.

R9. The County and each City should formally gather data on recreational drone incidents within their jurisdictions and review these data annually and report the results publicly. The first analysis and publication should occur within 1 year of publication of this report.

Response. The recommendation requires further analysis to determine the benefits of such reporting. At this time the level of drone activity in the City of Orange is minimal. If this activity increases, we will review our data collection procedures and determine if
additional reporting is necessary. This review will take place at the same time as any proposed ordinance review, December 13, 2016.

Thank you for your service and efforts on behalf of the City of Orange. We hope this response will be helpful.

Sincerely,

Teresa E. Smith
Mayor, City of Orange

cc: The Orange County Grand Jury
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701