June 20, 2011

Mr. Thomas J. Borris  
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
700 Civic Center Drive West  
Santa Ana, California 92701

SUBJECT: ORANGE COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT: COMPENSATION OF ORANGE COUNTY CITIES

Dear Judge Borris:

Per the request of the Orange County Grand Jury, the following is in response to the Compensation Study of Orange County Cities. The City of Stanton is required to respond to the following.

Finding F.4: Public Disclosure of municipal compensation levels is widely inconsistent, ranging from good to non-existent.

Response: The City of Stanton has not done an independent evaluation of the statement and has no comment.

Finding F.7: There is currently no disclosure of written employment contracts on the majority of the cities’ websites.

Response: The City of Stanton has not done an independent evaluation of the statement and has no comment.

Recommendation R.1: Transparency – All cities in Orange County report their compensation information to the public on the internet in an easily accessible manner. The Compensation Disclosure Model (Appendix 4) provides a sample as to the items that should be included in determining total compensation.
Response: Public employee compensation information for Stanton employees has always been public and therefore transparent. Individuals can ask for the information and it will be provided in a prompt fashion. Many individuals do not have access to the internet and the Grand Jury report does not address this issue. This information can be placed on the internet, however that does not guarantee anyone will review the information. In addition, placing this information on the website does not preclude any individual from asking for compensation information with other criteria. The amount of time and resources already dedicated to providing this information in multiple ways at the state, local and individual levels has been a draw on limited city resources.

In order to address the request of the Grand Jury, the City of Stanton will place salary information on the personnel page of the City website based on the “Compensation Disclosure Model as recommended by the Orange County Grand Jury within 90 days of this letter.

Recommendation R.2: Employment contracts – Each city reveal any individual employment contracts in an easily accessible manner.

Response: The City will place each employee contract on the personnel page of the City’s website within 90 days of this letter.

Sincerely,

Carol Jacobs
City Manager

(City Council
Orange County Grand Jury)