September 6, 2011

The Honorable Thomas J. Borris
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA  92701

Regarding: Orange County Grand Jury 2010-2011
Response to Findings and Recommendations

Dear Honorable Judge Thomas J. Borris:

In response to the 2010-2011 Orange County Grand Jury Report, “Compensation Survey of Water and Sanitation Districts”, the Moulton Niguel Water District would like to present the following responses:

Finding F.1: District websites often do not provide easy public access to compensation and financial data of the district, if available at all.

The District disagrees wholly or partially with the finding. The District’s website (www.mnwd.com) currently contains all of the financial information discussed in the Grand Jury Report, as well as agendas and minutes for District Meetings.

Finding F.2: District websites were sometimes not updated to reflect public meeting changes or cancellations.

The District disagrees wholly or partially with the finding. The District’s website (www.mnwd.com) currently contains all of the financial information discussed in the Grand Jury Report, as well as agendas and minutes as far back as January 2011, and even further back in time for some meetings.

Recommendation R.1: Provide an easily accessible format on the district’s website, data on compensation for the board of directors and general manager, as well as current budget and financial reports.

This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The District is in the process of modifying our website by the addition of a “Transparency” tab. This tab will contain links to all of the information discussed in the Grand Jury Report, as well as other information the District deems necessary for Transparency of its operations. It is anticipated that this revision to www.mnwd.com will be completed by the end of September 2011.

a public agency at:
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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 30203, Laguna Niguel, CA 92607-0203
949/831-2500
Recommerzdation R.2: Maintain and update agendas, minutes, meeting schedules and location on the district’s website.

This recommendation has been implemented. On our website, under the Board of Directors tab, agendas (including attachments), minutes and schedules are shown for the District’s monthly Board meeting, as well as the District’s five regularly scheduled committee meetings (Engineering and Operations, Finance, Personnel and Salary, Investment, and Community Relations). Special meeting are also shown, along with agendas for these meetings.

Very Truly Yours,

MOULTON NIGUEL WATER DISTRICT

Robert C. Gumerman, PhD., P.E.
General Manager

cc:  Orange County Grand Jury
     Orange County Board of Supervisors
     Moulton Niguel Water District Board of Directors