March 12, 2007

The Honorable Nancy Wieben Stock
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court,
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, Ca. 92701

Dear Judge Stock:

We initially provided you with a written response dated August 24, 2006, to the 2005-2006 Orange County Grand Jury report entitled, "Perspective of Orange County Jails a Continuing Dilema!” regarding findings and recommendations directed to the operation of the Huntington Beach City Jail. In that document, the Orange County Grand Jury recommended that we, "Track inmates using available technology: The Anaheim, Huntington Beach, Santa Ana and Seal Beach detention facilities should consider a GPS-based solution for tracking inmates on work release. The solution should include devices that can be triggered on demand by detention supervisors."

Our letter indicated that during the next six months, jail and police department staff would research the issue to determine the feasibility of using a GPS-based monitoring system to track the location of inmate members of our work-release program. While that research took longer than expected, I am happy to report significant progress.

After extensive research with three different vendors and exploring a number of available options, we believe we have located the appropriate vendor and system for implementation in our jail. The system consists of a one-piece ankle bracelet worn by the inmate that is very tamper resistant and issues an alarm in the event of any suspected unauthorized attempt to remove it. This system is an active real-time monitoring system that we believe is superior to the other systems we examined.

The Huntington Beach City Attorney is currently reviewing the proposed vendor contract. If approved, the City Council will have to take action to increase the fee schedule for inmates in our work-release program in order to offset the costs for the GPS monitoring system. We will also have to modify the existing custody agreement signed by each inmate accordingly to reflect their agreement to be monitored.

While there is still work to be done prior to its implementation, I believe we have made significant progress and will continue to work toward the implementation of a GPS-based monitoring program for our work-release inmates as recommended by the Grand Jury.

We hope to have the program implemented as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Gil Coerper
Mayor

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