



CITY OF FULLERTON

Police Department

Patrick E. McKinley Chief of Police

May 2, 2006

Nancy Wieben Stock
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

RE: Response to Grand Jury Report: "Improving Child Abuse Response"

Dear Judge Stock:

This correspondence is a response to the Grand Jury's report entitled "Improving Child Abuse Response." The Grand Jury requested a response to Finding 6.2.

Finding No. 6.2

Finding No. 6.2 reads, Expansion of the enhanced protocol is planned: Once social worker capacity is increased, SSA will propose to expand the use of protocol to OCSD as well as the following cities: Brea, Buena Park, Costa Mesa, Cypress, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Irvine, Laguna Beach, La Habra, La Palma, Los Alamitos, Newport Beach, Orange, Placentia, Seal Beach, and Westminster.

The Fullerton Police Department is supportive of the expansion of a protocol and the employment of more social workers to fulfill the Social Services Agency's plan for improving child abuse response.

Finding No. 6.3

Finding No. 6.3 reads, Law enforcement agency procedures and training on child abuse response: OCSD and other law enforcement agencies that have not been approached by SSA on the enhanced protocol, have not included protocol in their procedures nor trained its officers of its use...

The findings of the Grand Jury are correct. However, if the protocols are made available to the Fullerton Police Department and approved by the Fullerton Police Department, training would be provided to the officers.

Recommendation No. 7.1

Recommendation No. 7.1 reads, Law enforcement agency acceptance of SSA Field Response Protocol: All Orange County law enforcement agencies should consider agreeing to the SSA enhanced protocol as social worker capacity is increased to support law enforcement needs. (See Findings 6.1 and 6.2).

The Fullerton Police Department supports the recommendation and would consider the Social Services Agency's enhanced protocol to support our enforcement needs.

Recommendation No. 7.2

Recommendation No. 7.2 reads, Law enforcement training on the enhanced protocol: After a law enforcement agency agrees to the protocol, it should become part of the agency's procedure and line officers should be trained on the revised procedure. (See Finding 6.3).

The Fullerton Police Department supports Recommendation No. 7.2 and would make the protocol part of our agency's procedure and train our line officers on those revised procedures.

With best regards,



PATRICK E. MCKINLEY
Chief of Police

PEM:rk

cc: City Manager
City Council