



Westminster Police Department
Mark Lauderback, Chief of Police
8200 Westminster Boulevard, Building 5, Westminster, CA 92683
www.westminster-ca.gov (714) 898-3315



November 2, 2020

Kirk H. Nakamura
Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, County of Orange
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Honorable Judge Nakamura,

I respectfully submit the following response in regards to the Grand Jury Report titled, "Protecting Those Who Protect and Serve."

FINDINGS

- 1) Peer Support Programs are effective in helping Peace Officers develop healthy coping techniques for themselves and their families. **AGREE**
- 2) A written policy documenting each agency's Peer Support Program helps ensure the program's continuation after changes in staff. **AGREE**
- 3) The benefits in the peer support statute, effective January 1, 2020, are important to Peace Officers and Peer Support Team members. **AGREE**
- 4) It is important that Peer Support Team members receive periodic training. **AGREE**
- 5) Allocating a specific budget line item for Peer Support Programs help ensure adequate training and continuation of the program. **AGREE**
- 6) Continuous communication to Peace Officers about the Peer Support Programs is important to increase awareness and use of the Peer Support Programs. **AGREE**

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) The 2019-2020 Orange County Grand Jury recommends that the four law enforcement agencies without a written policy on their Peer Support Program institute a policy.
Has not been implemented, but will be implemented no later than July 1, 2021.
- 2) The 2019-2020 Orange County Grand Jury recommends that all Peer Support Programs be in compliance with the peer support statute.
Has been implemented.

- 3) The 2019-2020 Orange County Grand Jury recommends the Peer Support Team members receive periodic training and that completion of training is documented.
Has been implemented.
- 4) The 2019-2020 Orange County Grand Jury recommends that all law enforcement agencies allocate a specific budget line item for their Peer Support Program.
Has been implemented.

On behalf of the men and women of the Westminster Police Department, please extend my gratitude to the members of the Orange County Grand Jury and all those involved with this meaningful study.

Sincerely,



Mark Lauderback
Chief of Police