



CITY of CYPRESS

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

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December 9, 2020

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

RE: City of Cypress Response to 2019-2020 Orange County Grand Jury Report
"Protecting Those Who Serve"

Honorable Presiding Judge Nakamura:

The City of Cypress has received and reviewed the above referenced Grand Jury Report. In accordance with the Grand Jury's request for a response, I authored the following response.

Findings

F1: Peer Support Programs are effective in helping Peace Officers develop healthy coping techniques for themselves and their families.

The City of Cypress agrees with the finding.

F2: A written policy documenting each agency's Peer Support Program helps ensure the program's continuation after changes in staff.

The City of Cypress agrees with the finding and has such a policy in place.

F3: The benefits in the peer support statute, effective January 1, 2020, are important to Peace Officers and Peer Support Team members.

The City of Cypress agrees with the finding.

Rob Johnson, Mayor

Mariellen Yarc, Mayor Pro Tem
Paulo M. Morales, Council Member

Stacy Berry, Council Member
Jon E. Peat, Council Member

F4: It is important that Peer Support Team members receive periodic training.

The City of Cypress agrees with the finding and sends its Peer Support Team members to periodic training along with regional meetings and events with local peer support partners.

F5: Allocating a specific budget line item for Peer Support Programs help ensure adequate training and continuation of the programs.

The City of Cypress agrees with the finding.

F6: Continuous communication to Peace Officers about the Peer Support Programs is important to increase awareness and use of the Peer Support Programs.

The City of Cypress agrees with this finding and endeavors to increase awareness and use of the Peer Support Program on a regular basis through printed materials, briefing trainings, new employee orientations, and casual conversations amongst employees.

Recommendations

R1: 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. (F1, F2)

Accomplished. The City of Cypress' Peer Support Program policy was implemented in 2020, and was recently updated to incorporate changes codified in the peer support statute.

R2: The 2019-2020 Orange County Grand Jury recommends that all Peer Support Programs be in compliance with the peer support statute. (F3)

Accomplished. The Cypress Police Department Peer Support Team is in compliance with the peer support statute.

R3: The 2019-2020 Orange County Grand Jury recommends that Peer Support Team members receive periodic training and that completion of training is documented. (F4)

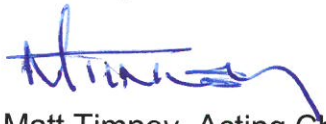
Accomplished. All members of the Cypress Police Department Peer Support Team have completed the basic peer support class. Members of the Cypress Police Department Peer Support Team receive additional periodic peer support training and the completion of this training is documented.

R4: The 2019-2020 Orange County Grand Jury recommends that all law enforcement agencies allocate a specific budget line item for their Peer Support Program. (F5)

Accomplished. The City of Cypress budget provides for peer support supplies and training on an annual basis.

On behalf of the City of Cypress, I would like to thank the Grand Jury for addressing this issue critical to the men and women who faithfully serve our community. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 714/229-6644.

Sincerely,



Matt Timney, Acting Chief of Police
Cypress Police Department

cc: Orange County Grand Jury
City Manager Peter Grant