



# CITY OF FOUNTAIN VALLEY

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Maggie Le

August 18, 2026

The Honorable Sheila F. Hanson  
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
700 Civic Center Drive West  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

**SUBJECT:** Response to the 2025-2026 Orange County Grand Jury Report – *PFAS and Public Awareness: A Closer Look at Orange County Drinking Water*

Dear Judge Hanson:

In accordance with California Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05, the City of Fountain Valley respectfully submits the following response to specific findings and recommendations of the 2025-2026 Orange County Grand Jury report entitled *PFAS and Public Awareness: A Closer Look at Orange County Drinking Water*.

## FINDINGS

**F2. PFAS is widespread, and contamination has been detected in Orange County groundwater sources. Community water systems are required to report PFAS monitoring results in their annual Consumer Confidence Reports.**

*Response: Fountain Valley agrees that PFAS has been detected in Orange County groundwater sources and that community water systems are required to report PFAS monitoring results in their annual Consumer Confidence Reports if the concentration exceeds the detection limits for reporting (DLR), consistent with requirements established by the state Division of Drinking Water.*

**F4. OCWD has taken a proactive leadership role in addressing PFAS in the Orange County Groundwater Basin, though PFAS treatment implementation varies across local cities and water districts.**

*Response: Fountain Valley agrees that OCWD has taken a proactive leadership role in addressing PFAS in the Orange County Groundwater Basin, though PFAS treatment methods and implementation vary across local cities and water districts. Fountain Valley and OCWD*

*provide drinking water that consistently meets or exceeds the water quality standards required by federal and state regulatory agencies. Despite playing no role in releasing PFAS into the environment, OCWD is working with its Producers to remove PFAS from local water supplies to comply with state and federal regulations. More than 100 of the 200 Producer wells within OCWD have been impacted by various state and federal regulations.*

**F6. Orange County drinking water meets or exceeds state and federal standards and is safe for consumption without additional home filtration.**

*Response: Fountain Valley agrees with this finding.*

**F8. There are limited online PFAS education and outreach programs among Orange County water retailers. Most retailers rely on OCWD for PFAS education and outreach. PFAS advisories were included in approximately 55% of the Orange County water retailers' annual water quality reports in 2025.**

*Response: Fountain Valley disagrees partially with this finding; OCWD plays a central role in coordinating public awareness and technical resources and maintains a detailed PFAS section on its website that includes a PFAS fact sheet and Quarterly PFAS updates. Fountain Valley recognizes that while OCWD leads at the regional level, local water retailers such as Fountain Valley must also engage directly with their customers to ensure awareness of PFAS risks, treatment measures, and ongoing monitoring. Community water systems are required to report PFAS monitoring results in their annual Consumer Confidence Reports if the concentration exceeds the detection limits for reporting (DLR), consistent with requirements established by the state Division of Drinking Water.*

## RECOMMENDATIONS

**R2. By July 1, 2029, OCWD and its member agencies should monitor PFAS in groundwater and surface water sources and promptly implement PFAS treatment when response levels are exceeded. [F2, F4]**

*Response: The recommendation has been implemented. Fountain Valley and OCWD continue to maintain a proactive and comprehensive monitoring program for PFAS, and OCWD funds treatment in cooperation with its Producers. These PFAS water quality monitoring efforts have continued for more than a decade and include multiple U.S. EPA Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule programs that include PFAS (UCMR3 and UCMR5), as well as multiple PFAS monitoring orders issued by the California Division of Drinking Water. OCWD has steadily expanded PFAS monitoring to include additional drinking water wells, groundwater monitoring wells, and surface waters throughout the Orange County Groundwater Basin and the Santa Ana River watershed. Through these efforts, Fountain Valley and OCWD will ensure that the initial monitoring requirements outlined in the U.S. EPA's PFAS National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) are met.*

**R4. By July 1, 2029, all Orange County water retailers should consistently include a PFAS advisory, treatment facilities status, and compliance information in consumer confidence reports and on agency websites, using clear and understandable language for the public. [F2, F8]**

*Response: The recommendation has not yet been fully implemented, but it is anticipated to be implemented by July 1, 2029, where applicable. The City of Fountain Valley is committed to transparency and public health. We already incorporate PFAS compliance metrics into our mandated Consumer Confidence and Public Health Goals Reports and public hearings. We will continue to review and refine our messaging to ensure it remains clear, accessible, and understandable to all members of the public through the 2029 target date and beyond.*

**R5. By September 30, 2026, OCWD and all Orange County water retailers should enhance coordinated public education efforts to reassure their customers about drinking water safety. [F6, F8]**

*Response: The recommendation has not yet been fully implemented, but the City of Fountain Valley actively collaborates with OCWD and regional retail partners to ensure consistent messaging regarding local water reliability. To meet the goals of this recommendation by September 30, 2026, the City plans to update its website to reshare educational graphics, simplified water-quality data, and direct links to OCWD's regional safety updates, as well as links to DDW and U.S. EPA PFAS informational websites. Fountain Valley will continue to participate in county-wide public information campaigns and joint outreach events to reassure consumers that their drinking water meets or exceeds the water quality standards required by federal and state regulatory agencies.*

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Grand Jury report. We hope our answers add to the general understanding of the water quality issues in Orange County. Should you have any questions about this letter, please contact Maggie Le, City Manager, at (714) 593-4410, or at [maggie.le@fountainvalley.gov](mailto:maggie.le@fountainvalley.gov).

Sincerely,



Jim Cunneen  
Mayor  
City of Fountain Valley

cc: Orange County Grand Jury  
Maggie Le, Fountain Valley City Manager  
Scott Smith, Fountain Valley Director of Public Works  
Mark Sprague, Fountain Valley Field Services Manager