



County of Orange

County Executive Office

August 26, 2026

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

Subject: "PFAS and Public Awareness: A Closer Look at Orange County Drinking Water" Grand Jury Response

Dear Judge Hanson:

Per your request, and in accordance with Penal Code 933, please find the County of Orange response to the subject report as approved by the Board of Supervisors. The respondent is the Orange County Board of Supervisors and the Orange County Health Care Agency.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Fernandez of the County Executive Office at 714-834-7219.

Sincerely,

KC Roestenberg
Interim County Executive Officer

Enclosure

cc: 2025-26 Orange County Grand Jury Foreman
Jessica Witt, Chief Operating Officer
Lisa Fernandez, Assistant Chief Deputy Operating Officer
Elizabeth Guillen-Merchant, Assistant Chief Deputy Operating Officer

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

STAFFING IMPACT:

N/A

REVIEWING AGENCIES/DEPARTMENTS:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A - Grand Jury Report

Attachment B - Draft Responses

Attachment C - Draft Transmittal Letter

Responses to Findings and Recommendations 2025-26 Grand Jury Report:



PFAS and Public Awareness: A Closer Look at Orange County Drinking Water

SUMMARY RESPONSE STATEMENT

On June 9, 2026 the Grand Jury released a report titled, "PFAS and Public Awareness: A Closer Look at Orange County Drinking Water." This report includes findings and recommendations directed to the Orange County Board of Supervisors and Orange County Health Care Agency. The responses to those findings and recommendations are provided below.

FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

F3. PFAS exposure is associated with potential adverse human health effects.

Response: *Agrees with the finding.*

In alignment with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), PFAS exposure can be associated with potential adverse human health effects.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESPONSES

R3. By September 30, 2026, OCWD, in collaboration with the Orange County Health Care Agency, should update public education and guidance continually as scientific understanding and regulatory standards evolve.

Response: *The recommendation has been implemented.*

While the County does not have the authority to direct OCWD to collaborate with the Orange County Health Care Agency (HCA), HCA has communicated with OCWD regarding this recommendation. HCA and OCWD have agreed to collaborate to update and post public educational materials.

