

September 3, 2026

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

Copy to:

Orange County Grand Jury
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Subject: City of Westminster response to the Findings and Recommendations of the Grand Jury
2025-2026 report titled: PFAS and Public Awareness: A Closer Look at Orange County
Drinking Water

Dear Judge Hanson:

On behalf of the City of Westminster (City), enclosed is the response to the findings and recommendations of the 2025-2026 Orange County Grand Jury report, "PFAS and Public Awareness: A Closer Look at Orange County Drinking Water." The City of Westminster commends the 2025-2026 Orange County Grand Jury for its service to our community.

We are pleased to respond to the Grand Jury Report ("report") on the subject line. Per the Grand Jury's instructions, the City will address Findings F2, F4, F6, F8 and Recommendations R2, R4, and R5.

The response was prepared and coordinated by Jake Q. Ngo, P.E. Director of Public Works.

Please contact Director Ngo at (714) 548-3459 or jngo@westminster-ca.gov if you need additional information.

Sincerely,



Chi Charlie Nguyen
Mayor

cc: City of Westminster City Council

**RESPONSES TO THE ORANGE COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT 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.

The City of Westminster agrees that community water systems are required to report PFAS monitoring results in their annual Consumer Confidence Reports if the concentration is above a state set Report Detection Level, 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.

The City of Westminster agrees that OCWD and the Producers are proactive in addressing PFAS in its water supply and in the Orange County Groundwater Basin.

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

The City of Westminster 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.

The City of Westminster included a PFAS advisory in its 2025 Consumer Confidence Report. In addition, the City's website provides direct reference to the PFAS information hosted by the Orange County Water District.

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.

The City of Westminster agrees with this recommendation. The City and OCWD continue to maintain a proactive comprehensive joint monitoring program for PFAS. These PFAS water quality monitoring efforts have continued for more than a decade and include multiple US 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, OCWD will ensure that all its Producer agencies meet the initial monitoring requirements contained within US EPA's PFAS National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR). OCWD has continued to meet with and maintain communication with many local water agencies and regulatory agencies to share PFAS monitoring results and related information. OCWD has also performed multiple phases of pilot testing of PFAS treatment media to help Producers determine the best treatment options. OCWD has implemented a PFAS treatment policy to fund 100% of the design and construction, and 50% of the operation and maintenance costs for Producer drinking water well treatment facilities. OCWD and the Producer water systems have worked closely and collaboratively to develop this PFAS treatment policy and maintain PFAS agreements in support of the policy resulting in implementation of treatment throughout OCWD well in advance of much of the rest of the country.

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

The City of Westminster agrees with this recommendation. The City included a PFAS advisory and compliance information in its 2025 Consumer Confidence Report and provides the same information on the City's website. These materials are presented using clear and understandable language to ensure accessibility for the public

- 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.

The City of Westminster agrees with this recommendation. The City will coordinate with OCWD and regional water partners to provide consistent public education regarding PFAS and drinking water safety. The City directs customers to the Orange County Water District's PFAS materials to ensure consistent and accurate public information. In addition, the City participates in community outreach events and provides educational material on PFAS.

