



ADMINISTRATION
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October 5, 2007

Honorable Judge Rodney Melville
Superior Court
312-M East Cook Street
Santa Maria, CA 93455-5165

Santa Barbara County Grand Jury
Attention: Foreman
1100 Anacapa Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93121

Dear Judge Melville,

The purpose of this letter is to respond the 2006/2007 Santa Barbara Grand Jury Report entitled, ***Selected Community Challenges.***

Response to Findings and Recommendations:

1. MEDIUM SECURITY DETENTION FACILITIES:

The City of Guadalupe agrees there is a need to reduce overcrowding in the County Main Jail. The jail should house criminals who commit high-level crimes and pose a threat to society. Individuals with mental illness may or may not be a threat to society and depending on the level of crime should be kept at medium detention facilities for diagnosis and analysis.

2. COURT APPOINTED OMBUDSMAN AND FAIR REPORTS

The City of Guadalupe agrees that an unbiased and independent party should always investigate complaints. After hearing from all sides, a court appointed ombudsman should report the true facts and provide solutions to help the detention system.

3. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS ON GANG ACTIVITY:

The City of Guadalupe agrees that early intervention and education of children is key to relieving gang activity and recruitment. Programs should include parents and guardians to stress the importance of their role in guiding their children's lives.

4. PARENT/GUARDIAN LIABILITY FOR CHILDREN MISCONDUCT:

The City of Guadalupe agrees that parents and guardians need to be aware of their responsibility and the legal liability issues regarding their children's conduct. Ignorance is no excuse for their obligation as parents and their responsibility related to misconduct of their children. This should be emphasized by law enforcement agencies.

5. TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC AWARENESS:

The City of Guadalupe agrees that public awareness programs using a combined effort of education, engineering and enforcement is an effective strategy for traffic control and safety on the street and highways. If it produces more courteous and responsible drivers and bicyclists, it is worth expanding the program.

CONCLUSION:

The City appreciates the Grand Jury's recommendations. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours truly,

Carolyn Galloway-Cooper
City Administrator

Enclosures

c: file