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August 7, 2013

Honorable David Warner
Presiding Judge of San Joaquin County Superior Court
222 East Weber Avenue, Room 303
Stockton, California 95202

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO 2012-2013 SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY GRAND
 JURY REPORT – CASE NO. 0912

Dear Judge Warner:

The City of Lodi reviewed the San Joaquin County Grand Jury Report as amended (Case No. 0912) regarding Safe Communities dated May 23, 2013. The City Council considered the findings and recommendations of the Grand Jury as applicable to the City of Lodi, discussed the same with its professional staff and submits its comments pursuant to Penal Code Section 933.05 as set forth below. As required by Penal Code Section 933(c), the City Council's comments were approved at its regularly scheduled meeting of August 7, 2013.

Findings

F 1.1 The staffing of all law and justice agencies in the County has been reduced increasing the threat to the safety of the citizens and their property.

The City of Lodi agrees with this finding.

F 1.4 Continued and increased use of technologies would make law enforcement agencies more efficient and offset some of the decreased staffing.

The City of Lodi agrees with this finding. The police department anticipates implementing a technology committee or working group during the 2013-14 fiscal year. This entity will be tasked with researching technological solutions and options that may improve the department's policing capabilities in the future.

F 3.1 The duplication of special units, specialized training and police functions (e.g., property room, dispatch, investigation technicians) cause inefficient use of limited resources.

This finding is too broad for an "agree" or "disagree" response. Clearly, there are areas in law enforcement, and other aspects of government, where duplication exists and a regional approach may improve efficiency. The police chiefs and other law enforcement leaders in San Joaquin County regularly discuss partnership options that may improve

efficiency for individual communities and in the aggregate. Generally speaking, however, the consolidation of several critical functions like property rooms and investigation technicians is not immediately practical for a myriad of reasons, including geography between cities, logistics, and accountability.

F 3.2 There are examples of cooperation between different agencies in the County but each agency still operates autonomously most of the time.

The City of Lodi agrees with this finding. We also recognize that the communities of San Joaquin County are vastly different from one another, so retaining autonomy should be viewed as positive.

Recommendations

R 1.1.2 Each City Council, before September 1, 2013, adopt a policy that states it is a priority of the City to increase law enforcement staffing.

Law enforcement staffing is a priority in Lodi, and the City Council intends to bolster police staffing as economic conditions improve. The Lodi City Council, however, does not believe such a resolution is necessary.

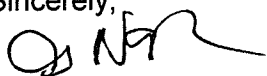
R 1.4 The Sheriff's Department and each city's police department review their current use of crime prevention technologies and develop a plan to implement new technologies that could help increase the efficiency of their agencies.

The City of Lodi recognizes that prevention measures are an essential component of reducing crime and expects that technological solutions will enhance those measures in the future. Crime prevention is also a priority of the Lodi Police Department, which hopes to bolster its prevention efforts as economic conditions improve. In addition, members of the Lodi Police Department continually survey allied agencies for new ideas, innovative programs, and best practices that may effectively address crime in our community using existing resources.

R3 The Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of Escalon, Lathrop, Lodi, Manteca, Ripon, Stockton, and Tracy, before September 1, 2013, each appoint two representatives, one to represent law enforcement and one to represent the governing body or management, to form an *ad hoc* committee. The committee's purpose is to conduct a study on how to increase countywide efficiency of law enforcement agencies by taking a regional approach to some or all of their services. A preliminary report is to be released before December 31, 2013, of actions already taken to increase efficiency and additional actions that will be taken between January 2014 and June 2015.

The City of Lodi disagrees with this recommendation. As proposed, ad hoc committee is not necessary because it would essentially be a duplication of effort. Elected officials, City Managers, and law enforcement executives regularly meet with their neighboring counterparts to discuss problems and solutions affecting local and regional government.

Sincerely,



Alan Nakanishi
Mayor