



CITY OF SAN RAMON

7000 BOLLINGER CANYON ROAD
SAN RAMON, CALIFORNIA 94583
PHONE: (925) 973-2500
WEB SITE: www.sanramon.ca.gov

July 19, 2016

Michael W. Simmons, Foreperson
Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury
725 Court Street
P.O. Box 431
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Foreperson Simmons,

Re: Contra Costa County Grand Jury Report No. 1605, "Caring for the Victims"

The City of San Ramon appreciates the time and effort that you and the Grand Jury spend on these matters and acknowledge the importance of the role in oversight of local government activities.

Pursuant to California Penal Code Section 933.05, this letter responds to Contra Costa County Grand Jury Report No. 1605, "Caring for the Victims: Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Contra Costa County."

GRAND JURY FINDINGS

Finding #6: Many social workers in CFS, law enforcement, officers in Juvenile Hall and victim advocates in the DA's Office are not implementing the CSEC Protocol because they have not yet seen it.

Response: San Ramon partially disagrees with Finding #6. The practices of other agencies pertaining to CSEC implementation are unknown. Respectively, San Ramon is unaware of the CSEC Protocol.

Finding #7: CFS, the leader of the Oversight Committee, has not followed up with its interagency partners that have signed off on the Protocol, but have not submitted their own CSEC department plan/protocols to the Oversight Committee.

Response: San Ramon partially disagrees with Finding #7. San Ramon has received follow up on the Protocol from CFS. San Ramon cannot address the procedures and operations of other agencies.

Finding #9: Suspected CSEC victims are being arrested and booked into Juvenile Hall for their own safety pursuant to various statutes under the Welfare & Institutions Code, relating to infractions and crimes committed by youth, while the County assesses the appropriate health and social services to provide.

Response: San Ramon partially disagrees with the finding. San Ramon cannot address procedures from other agencies when addressing CSEC victims. The San Ramon Police attended a summit about Human Trafficking in Contra Costa County, hosted by the District Attorney's Office in January 2015. In the past, San Ramon Police officers authored and executed a search warrant for an investigation of prostitution and human trafficking. During the course of the investigation, the prostitute was believed to be the victim of human trafficking. Victim advocates were contacted and responded to the scene and took the victim to a safehouse.

Finding #11: No single database covering all CSEC-related arrests, referrals and pending cases exists in the County.

Response: San Ramon agrees with the finding #11.

Finding #12: Due to the lack of a single database in the county covering all CSEC-related arrests, referrals and pending cases, the County does not know the number of victims of CSEC and where they are located.

Response: San Ramon partially disagrees with finding #12. San Ramon is unable to make a determination regarding if the County knows the number of victims of CSEC and where they are located.

Finding #13: County personnel and law enforcement dealing with victims of CSEC are well-meaning, compassionate and dedicated people trying to make the best of a very well difficult situation.

Response: San Ramon agrees with the finding #13 in principle.

Finding #14: Most County personnel and law enforcement dealing with victims of CSEC lack in-depth CSEC training, necessary facilities for temporary accommodating the victims and a clear-cut plan of action, which lays out how to rescue, protect and serve the victims of CSEC in a manner that is caring and trauma-informed.

Response: San Ramon partially disagrees with finding #14 While San Ramon cannot address what resources other agencies may have, San Ramon Police officers employ various CSEC strategies/resources to protect and serve the victims in a manner that is caring and trauma informed. Nonetheless, San Ramon aggressively trains officers and would benefit from in-depth CSEC training.

GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS

R2: The Board of Supervisors, City Councils and Sheriff's Department should consider recommending that all CSEC interagency partners, as listed in the CSEC Protocol, in Contra Costa County adopt their own CSEC protocols and submit them to CFS for approval.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. San Ramon supports the adoption of a uniform, county wide CSEC protocol. San Ramon will continue to utilize all available resources to deliver the most efficient service/care to CSEC victims.

R9: The Board of Supervisors, City Councils, and Sheriff's Department should consider recommending that all first responders (usually law enforcement) refer suspected victims of CSEC to specialized and dedicated CSEC personnel, to be established within CFS.

Response: The recommendation has been partially implemented. Adoption of a uniform, countywide CSEC protocol would further refine response to CSEC incidents.

R11: City Councils and Sheriff's Department should direct law enforcement to avail themselves of CSEC training programs formulated by CFS.

Response: This recommendation has been implemented. CSEC training from CFS would be well received by San Ramon.

We trust the Grand Jury will find the responses to this survey helpful to its endeavor.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide this response. If you have questions, please contact me or Joseph Gorton, Interim City Manager at 925-973-2530 or jgorton@sanramon.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

CITY OF SAN RAMON



Bill Clarkson,
Mayor

cc: City Council
City Manager