

July 11, 2007

Santa Barbara County Civil Grand Jury
Attention: Foreman
1100 Anacapa Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Dear 2006-2007 Civil Grand Jury Members,

The City of Lompoc has received the report of the 2006-2007 Santa Barbara County Civil Grand Jury. We are encouraged by the fact that the Civil Grand Jury chose to address the County's jail overcrowding issue and gang prevention and intervention for all communities in Santa Barbara County.

The men and women of the City of Lompoc are proud to serve our community and hold sacred the public trust that has been bestowed upon each member. Our staff dedicate themselves to providing services at the highest level possible within the means of our existing resources.

DETENTION FACILITIES INSPECTIONS

On behalf of the City of Lompoc, we are pleased to respond to the findings and recommendations pertaining to our City issued under the "Detention Facilities Inspections" heading by the 2006-2007 Santa Barbara County Civil Grand Jury.

Lompoc Police Department Response to Finding / Recommendation 1

The Lompoc Police Department is pleased that the 2006-2007 Santa Barbara County Civil Grand Jury found no deficiencies in the Lompoc City Jail. We are proud of the fact that the Lompoc City Jail routinely receives high marks for cleanliness and efficiency by the Corrections Standards Authority (formerly California Board of Corrections) and the Health Department. We will endeavor to maintain this sterling record for years to come and continue to encourage personnel to use initiative and make a positive impact on the Lompoc City Jail work environment.

Lompoc Police Department Response to Finding / Recommendation 2

Again, the Lompoc Police Department is pleased that the 2006-2007 Santa Barbara County Civil Grand Jury found no major flaws or shortfalls in staff

performance in the Lompoc City Jail. Our staff pride themselves on their professionalism and the pristine condition of our jail.

As to the recommendation, it would not be fiscally prudent to implement video arraignment procedures in the Lompoc City Jail considering that the courtroom is less than 100 feet away from the Lompoc City Jail.

Lompoc Police Department Response to Finding 3

This finding is not applicable to the Lompoc Police Department, as the staffing levels in the Lompoc City Jail have remained adequate and constant for decades.

Lompoc Police Department Response to Finding 4

This finding is not applicable to the Lompoc Police Department because the Lompoc City Jail is next door to the court. However, as mentioned earlier in this report, the City of Lompoc is currently negotiating with the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department to allow deputies assigned to the Lompoc Valley to book prisoners into the Lompoc City Jail, thereby alleviating, to a small degree the jail overcrowding problem and reducing the need for the County Sheriff to transport persons arrested in the Lompoc Valley from Sheriff's Department facilities to the Lompoc Court.

CONCLUSION

The City of Lompoc exists to serve its citizens. We continually strive to provide the highest level of services possible given our existing resources. Every community wrestles with tightening budgets and social issues. The City of Lompoc and the Lompoc Police Department are committed to excellence and innovation. We appreciate the validation and prompting to action provided by the 2006-2007 Santa Barbara County Civil Grand Jury and look forward to future improvements in 2007-2008.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the findings and recommendations of the 2006-2007 Santa Barbara Civil Grand Jury.

Sincerely,

Dick DeWees
Mayor
City of Lompoc

Timothy L. Dabney
Chief of Police
City of Lompoc

Attachment: Computer disc containing electronic version of this response.