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## GRAND JURY SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

April 6, 2009

Guadalupe City Council  
918 Obispo Street  
Guadalupe, CA 93434

Gentlemen:

The 2008-2009 Civil Grand Jury is reviewing a response given to the 2005-2006 Civil Grand Jury report entitled "Guadalupe... Again", specifically Recommendation #5.

This recommendation reads: "The City Council should set forth clearly and concisely the requirements for consent and approval of any action taken by the City administration and impose appropriate sanctions for violation."

The response from the City Council was: "Decisions... are made at the Council level. Political battles affect staff and are a disappointment when politics prevent staff from working in the best interest of the public."

The Grand Jury is requesting an update on the current status of progress on the matter and, if concluded, information documenting and detailing the conclusion and the date completed. Please reply in detail to the Grand Jury at the above address at your earliest convenience, but in any event not later than 30 days from this date.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Ted Sten  
Foreman  
Santa Barbara County Civil Grand Jury



Received

MAY 4 2009

Santa Barbara  
Grand Jury

**ADMINISTRATION**  
**918 Obispo Street**  
**Guadalupe, CA 93434**  
**805-356-3891**

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April 28, 2009

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

Dear Mr. Sten,

This letter is in response to your letter dated April 6, 2009 requesting an update on Recommendation #5 of the 2005-2006 Civil Grand Jury report.

The City's Response stated, "Decisions...are made at the Council level. Political battles affect staff and are a disappointment when politics present staff from working in the best interest of the public.

We are pleased to let you know the previous members of Council were voted out of office. The new Council has no animosity and puts the public first at all times. The spirit of cooperation with staff is a rewarding experience for our community.

Policies and procedures in place to ensure staff is able to work in the public interest include: a) Public Purchasing and Procurement Ordinance No. 2003-362 – Delineates a clear dollar value for consent and approval by staff versus Council. b) The hiring of a Human Resources officer – Reporting mechanism for employment workplace deficiencies and unethical behavior that result at all levels of governmental positions.

In addition, department head contracts include sanctions for employee's dishonesty, fraud, self-dealing, or willful misconduct as cause for termination.

**CONCLUSION:**

The City respects the Grand Jury's recommendations and we hope this response demonstrates our desire to maintain policies and procedures to protect the financial interests of our citizens. The City Council approved this response at the regular meeting of April 28, 2009. Please accept our sincere thanks and appreciation.

Sincerely,



Carolyn Galloway-Cooper, CPA  
City Administrator

Attachment:

c: Mayor and Council  
2005/2006 Grand Jury file