

## SAN ANTONIO BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

August 19, 2025

The Honorable Patricia Kelly Presiding Judge, Santa Barbara County Superior Court 1100 Anacapa Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101 pkelly@sbcourts.org

Santa Barbara County Grand Jury 1100 Anacapa Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101 sbcgj@sbcourts.org

Subject: Response to 2024–2025 Grand Jury Report – "Water Management in Santa Barbara County"

To Hon. Patricia Kelly and the Members of the Santa Barbara County Grand Jury:

The Santa Barbara County Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SABGSA) has reviewed the 2024–2025 Grand Jury Report titled Water Management in Santa Barbara County: Keep Up the Good Work. In accordance with California Penal Code §§933 and 933.05, we provide the following responses to the relevant findings.

## Finding 1: Agree

SABGSA agrees with Finding 1 that public entities in Santa Barbara County, including SABGSA, have made proactive plans to fortify against future droughts and provide sufficient water to support future housing growth and commerce.

## Finding 2: Agree

SABGSA agrees with Finding 2 that coordination among water management entities in the County has improved.

SABGSA would like to respectfully clarify that SABGSA staff were not interviewed as part of the Grand Jury's investigation.

Please contact me at (805) 451-0841 or <u>admin@sanantoniobasingsa.org</u> if you have any questions regarding this response.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Bertoux, Executive Director

San Antonio Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency