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September 9, 2015

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CONTRA COSTA GRAND JURY
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Martinez, CA 94553-0091
Attn: Celia Lopez, clope2@contracosta.courts.ca.us

**Subject: Response to Civil Grand Jury Report No. 1510,
"Community Courts"**

Ms. Rufini:

This letter is in response to this Grand Jury report regarding Community Courts. Our letter is consistent with Section 9333.05 of the California Penal Code and includes the requested responses to the Grand Jury findings and recommendations on this topic.

With regard to **Finding #6**, the City agrees with the finding that, while the City of Oakley has not yet established a community court program, the City does have a diversion program that serves to achieve similar goals. As mentioned below, the City is also very interested in implementing a community court program similar to what has been done in other communities.

Recommendation #1 – The City should consider establishing a Community Court.

City Response: This recommendation will be implemented. An evaluation of the benefits of a community court will be conducted and the methods of other communities that have implemented a program will also be evaluated.

The City of Oakley is undergoing a transition of its police services from primarily being provided by the Contra Costa Sheriff's Office through a contract, to being brought in house. This transition is a considerable task, but should be completed in May of 2016. The evaluation of a community court will likely have to wait until after the transition is complete, but it will be

conducted. (In fact, the City's new Chief of Police began implementation of a community court program in the city where he served previously and his experience will be valuable to the evaluation).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bryan H. Montgomery". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bryan" being the most prominent.

Bryan H. Montgomery
City Manager

cc: Mayor and City Council
Chris Thorsen, Chief of Police
CM file