



City of Pleasant Hill

July 24, 2015

✓ John T. Laettner, Judge of the Superior Court
Sherry Rufini, Foreperson, 2014-2015 Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury
Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury
725 Court Street
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: City of Pleasant Hill's Response to Report "Community Courts" (Number 1510)

Dear Judge Laettner and Foreperson Rufini:

In June 2015, the 2014-2015 Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury issued a report entitled "Community Courts" (number 1510). Below find the City of Pleasant Hill's responses to the report's findings and recommendations.

FINDINGS

Finding 1: Participants in Community Court benefit by resolving their issues outside of the traditional court system and avoiding having a criminal record.

City Response: Agree

Finding 2: The city benefits by receiving income from fines imposed on Community Court participants.

City Response: Agree

Finding 3: The city benefits from Community Court participants providing compulsory community service hours.

City Response: Agree

Finding 4: The District Attorney's Office and Superior Court both benefit from Community Court due to the reduction in misdemeanor cases that each must process.

City Response: Agree

Finding 5: The hearing officer for Community Court issues directives that include fines, restitution, community service, diversion programs, and/or counseling.

City Response: Agree

Finding 6: The city does not have a Community Court program.

City Response: Agree

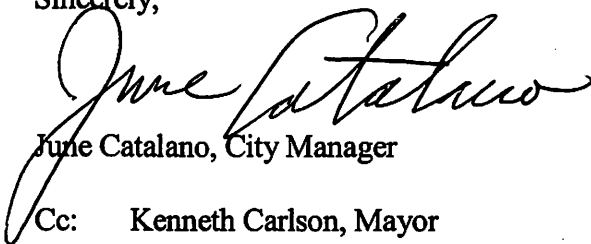
RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1: The city should consider establishing a Community Court.

City Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but the recommendation (to consider establishing a community court) will be implemented in the future. The City's Police Department will research the opportunities and challenges presented by establishing a community court program, beginning with interviewing the cities within the County that have community court programs in place. If the Police Department determines that it would be beneficial to the City to establish a community court program, it will present a recommendation of such to the City Council for consideration.

Please feel free to contact me for additional information regarding the City's response at 925-671-5204.

Sincerely,



June Catalano, City Manager

Cc: Kenneth Carlson, Mayor
David E. Durant, Vice-Mayor
Timothy M. Flaherty, Councilmember
Michael G. Harris, Councilmember
Sue Noack, Councilmember
Janet Coleson, City Attorney
John Moore, Chief of Police
Andrew Murray, Assistant City Manager

Attachments: - Letter from Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury dated July 14, 2015 Regarding Report No. 1510, "Community Courts"
- Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury Report "Community Courts" (Number 1510)

Grand Jury

Contra
Costa
County

725 Court Street
P.O. Box 431
Martinez, CA 94553-0091



July 14, 2015

Pleasant Hill City Council
100 Gregory Lane
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Dear Pleasant Hill City Council:

Attached is a copy of Grand Jury Report No. 1510, "Community Courts" by the 2014-2015 Contra Costa Grand Jury.

In accordance with California Penal Code Section 933.05, this report is being provided to you at least two working days before it is released publicly.

Section 933.5(a) of the California Government Code requires that (the responding person or entity shall report one of the following actions) in respect to each finding:

- (1) The respondent agrees with the finding.
- (2) The respondent disagrees with the finding.
- (3) The respondent partially disagrees with the finding.

In the cases of both (2) and (3) above, the respondent shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed, and shall include an explanation of the reasons thereof.

In addition, Section 933.05(b) requires that the respondent reply to each recommendation by stating one of the following actions:

1. The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary describing the implemented action.
2. The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a time frame for implementation.
3. The recommendation requires further analysis. This response should explain the scope and parameters of the analysis or study, and a time frame for the matter to be prepared for discussion. This time frame shall not exceed six months from the date of the publication of the Grand Jury Report.

4. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation thereof.

Please be aware that Section 933.05 specifies that no officer, agency, department or governing body of a public agency shall disclose any contents of the report prior to its public release. Please ensure that your response to the above noted Grand Jury report includes the mandated items. We will expect your response, using the form described by the quoted Government Code, no later than **September 12, 2015**.

Please send a copy of your response in hard copy to the Grand Jury, as well as a copy by e-mail in Word to clope2@contracosta.courts.ca.gov .

Sincerely,



Sherry Rufini, Foreperson
2014-2015 Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury

Enclosure