

September 3, 2015

Sherry Rufini, Foreperson 2014-2015 Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury 725 Court Street P.O. Box 431 Martinez, California 94553-0091

Re: Response to Grand Jury Report No. 1510 – "Community Courts"

Dear Ms. Rufini,

This correspondence will serve as the City of Walnut Creek's response to your June 9, 2015 letter regarding Grand Jury Report No. 1510 – "Community Courts".

FINDINGS:

F1. Participants in Community Court benefit by resolving their issues outside of the traditional court system and avoiding having a criminal record.

Response: The City of Walnut Creek agrees with the finding.

F2. The city benefits by receiving income from fines imposed on Community Court participants.

<u>Response</u>: The City of Walnut Creek agrees with the finding. In connection with its participation in the Community Court program, the City remits fifty percent (50%) of any income derived from fines to the Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office. The remaining income is generally utilized by the police department to purchase necessary materials, supplies, and equipment in furtherance of its overall mission to protect and serve the community.

F5. The hearing officer for Community Court issues directives that include fines, restitution, community service, diversion programs, and/or counseling.

Response: The City of Walnut Creek agrees with the finding.

The City Council approved this response at their September 1, 2015 regular meeting.

Sincerely,

Ken Nordhoff City Manager