



July 26, 2016

Michael Simmons, Foreperson  
2015-2016 Contra Costa County Grand Jury  
725 Court Street  
P.O. Box 431  
Martinez, CA 94553-0091

**RE: City of Richmond's Response to Grand Jury Report 1605: "Caring for the Victims"**

Dear Foreperson Simmons:

In accordance with California Penal Code Sections 933.5(a) and 933.5(b), please find below the response of the City of Richmond to the findings and recommendations of the Grand Jury. The City's response is in italics directly below each finding or recommendation.

**FINDINGS**

6. Many social workers in CFS, law enforcement, officers in Juvenile Hall and victim advocates in the DA's Office are not implementing the CSEC Protocol because they have not seen it.

*Response: The City of Richmond Police Department agrees with the finding.*

7. CFS, the leader of the Oversight Committee, has not followed up with its interagency partners that have signed off on the Protocol, but have not submitted their own CSEC department plan/protocols to the Oversight Committee.

*Response: The City of Richmond Police Department agrees with the finding.*

9. Suspected CSEC victims are being arrested and booked into Juvenile Hall for their own safety pursuant to various statutes under the Welfare & Institutions Code, relating to infractions and crimes committed by youth, while the County assesses the appropriate health and social services to provide.

*Response: The City of Richmond Police Department agrees with the finding.*

11. No single database covering all CSEC-related arrests, referrals and pending cases exists in the County.

*Response: The City of Richmond Police Department agrees with the finding. Richmond is aware that no single database exists.*

12. Due to the lack of a single database in the County covering all CSEC-related arrests, referrals and pending cases, the County does not know the number of victims of CSEC and where they are located.

*Response: The City of Richmond Police Department agrees with the finding.*

13. County personnel and law enforcement dealing with victims of CSEC are well-meaning, compassionate and dedicated people trying to make the best of a very difficult situation.

*Response: The City of Richmond Police Department agrees with the finding.*

14. Most County personnel and law enforcement dealing with victims of CSEC lack in-depth CSEC training, necessary facilities for temporarily accommodating the victims and a clear-cut plan of action, which lays out how to rescue, protect and serve the victims of CSEC in a manner that is caring and trauma-informed.

*Response: The City of Richmond Police Department partially disagrees. We cannot address the practices of other agencies. However, the Richmond Police Department does work towards protecting and serving the victims of CSEC in a manner that is caring and trauma-informed. Domestic and Sexual Violence Unit (DSVU) detectives are currently working out of the West County Family Justice Center and offer services to CSEC victims.*

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2. The Board of Supervisors, City Councils and Sheriff's Department should consider recommending that all CSEC interagency partners, as listed in the CSEC Protocol, in Contra Costa County adopt their own CSEC protocols and submit them to CFS for approval.

*Response: This recommendation will not be implemented. Public safety agencies should not create their own CSEC protocols. We believe CFS should create a uniform protocol for all county agencies.*

9. The Board of Supervisors, City Councils and Sheriff's Department should consider recommending that all first responders (usually law enforcement) refer suspected

victims of CSEC to specialized and dedicated CSEC personnel, to be established within CFS.

*Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a time frame for implementation.*

11. City Councils and Sheriff's Department should direct law enforcement to avail themselves of CSEC training programs formulated by CFS.

*Response: The recommendation has been implemented. The Richmond Police Department has and will continue to attend CSEC training programs presented by CFS.*

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The Richmond City Council reviewed and approved this response at their meeting of July 26, 2016.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond on this very important issue. Please contact me at (510) 620-6512 or at [bill\\_lindsay@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto:bill_lindsay@ci.richmond.ca.us) if you have any additional questions.

Respectfully,

William A. Lindsay  
City Manager

cc: Tom Butt, Mayor  
Bruce Reed Goodmiller, City Attorney  
Chief Allwyn Brown, Police Chief