



CITY OF SAN RAMON

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September 14, 2016

Foreperson, Jim Mellander  
Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury  
725 Court Street  
P.O. Box 431  
Martinez, CA 94553-0091

Re: Contra Costa County Grand Jury Report No. 1609, "Human Trafficking"

Dear Foreperson Mellander:

Pursuant to California Penal Code Section 933.05, this letter responds to Contra Costa County Grand Jury Report No. 1609, "Human Trafficking."

**Grand Jury Findings**

Finding #1: The San Francisco Bay Area is one of three "hot spots" for human trafficking in California, along with Los Angeles and San Diego.

Response: San Ramon agrees with Finding #1.

Finding #2: The emphasis in human trafficking cases has shifted from solely prosecution to a "victim-centered" approach in which the needs of persons who have been trafficked receive equal consideration.

Response: San Ramon agrees with Finding #2.

Finding #3: Effectively identifying and apprehending traffickers requires knowledge of the local environment and criminal activities acquired through years of experience

Response: San Ramon agrees with Finding #3.

Finding #4: Most police officer training related to human trafficking is acquired through working with more experienced officers and victim advocates.

Response: San Ramon agrees with Finding #4.

Finding #5: The required two-hour POST Training Video in dealing with human trafficking complaints provides a general basis, but more intensive training found in the POST 2014 training manual contains in-depth coverage of the issues important to officers assigned to trafficking cases.

Response: San Ramon agrees with Finding #5.

Finding #6: Successful apprehension and prosecution of traffickers often involves coordination and cooperation among local, State and federal agencies.

Response: San Ramon agrees with Finding #6.

Finding #7: City law enforcement and Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department have no comprehensive or consistent method for analyzing data about the number and type of adult trafficking victims. More data that is complete is needed to define the magnitude of the problem and to support decisions about victim services and resource allocation.

Response: San Ramon agrees with Finding #7.

Finding #8: City law enforcement and Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department does not always use resources offered by State and federal for joint "sting" and "sweep" operations.

Response: San Ramon partially disagrees with Finding #8 as it relates to the City of San Ramon. The City of San Ramon cannot address the practices of other entities; however, the San Ramon Police Department does in fact use resources offered by state and federal agencies when conducting operations. In fact, the case referenced on page 9 (second bullet point) of this Grand Jury report, is a case initiated by, and primarily coordinated through, the San Ramon Police Department. As evidenced in that case, the San Ramon Police Department utilized numerous available resources throughout the County, State, and several other states.

Finding #9: Trafficking frequently occurs in combination with other violent crimes and its victims often have a history of abuse and trauma.

Response: San Ramon agrees with Finding #9.

Finding #10: The use of specialist multidisciplinary teams in high crime areas can increase the likelihood that trafficking will be recognized as a component of other crimes.

Response: San Ramon agrees with Finding #10.

Finding #11: Public awareness is a critical factor in identifying potential human trafficking activity.

Response: San Ramon agrees with Finding #11.

Finding #14: A comprehensive approach to dealing with human trafficking includes robust community engagement; training law enforcement in responding to human trafficking incidents; vigorous prosecution of perpetrators; education of and advocacy to policy makers; and wrap-around services for victims/survivors.

Response: San Ramon agrees with Finding #14.

### **Grand Jury Recommendations**

Recommendation #1: City law enforcement agencies and the Sheriff's Department should consider incorporating expanded training for officers assigned to trafficking related duties.

Response: The recommendation has been implemented. The San Ramon Police Department will continue to expand training for human trafficking for all officers, and officers assigned to investigate human trafficking cases will receive additional training as opportunities become available.

Recommendation #2: City Law enforcement agencies and the Sheriff's Department should consider increasing collaboration with State and federal law enforcement to expand "sweeps" and "stings" in high crime areas

Response: The recommendation has been implemented. The San Ramon Police Department has and will continue to collaborate with the FBI, state, and local law enforcement in any Human Trafficking operation as the need arises.

Recommendation #3: City Law enforcement agencies and the Sheriff's Department should consider the benefits of assigning multidisciplinary teams in areas with significant drug, gang and/or prostitution activity to assist in identifying trafficking activities.

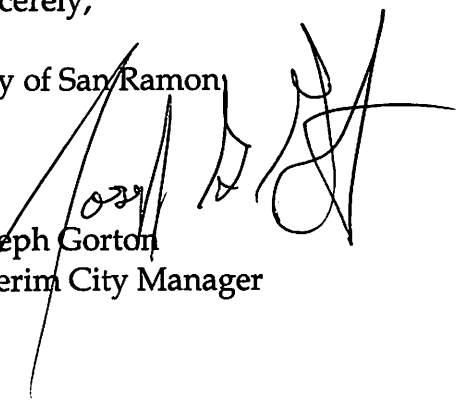
Response: The recommendation has been implemented. The San Ramon Police Department has utilized available resources in the past to combat Human Trafficking and will continue to do so in the future. The City of San Ramon is supportive of the "Contra Costa County Zero Tolerance for Human Trafficking Coalition;" and of the multidisciplinary approach to this problem.

The City of San Ramon appreciates the time and effort spent by the Grand Jury in consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,

City of San Ramon

Joseph Gorton  
Interim City Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Gorton', is written over the typed name and title. The signature is stylized and overlaps the text.