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September 21, 2016

VIA U.S. REGULAR MAIL AND
REQUESTED EMAIL TO: epant@contracosta.courts.ca.gov

Michael Simmons, Foreperson
Civil Grand Jury 2015-16, Contra Costa County
725 Court Street
P O Box 431
Martinez, CA 94553-0091

Re: City Response to Civil Grand Jury Report No. 1609

Dear Mr. Simmons:

Pursuant to a letter dated June 22, 2016 addressed to members of the Clayton City Council pertaining to Civil Grand Jury Report No. 1609, "Human Trafficking," attached is the City of Clayton's official response as required by applicable law.

We appreciate the Civil Grand Jury's efforts and motivation in drawing awareness to this debated subject which unfortunately exists in California's society.

Sincerely,


Howard Geller
Mayor

Attachment: 1. City Reply to Civil Grand Jury Report No. 1609 [4 pp.]

cc: Honorable Clayton City Council Members
Honorable John T. Laettner, Judge of the Superior Court



**CITY OF CLAYTON RESPONSE TO
CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT NO. 1609
“Human Trafficking”**

2015-16 CONTRA COSTA COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY

The City of Clayton, California provides the following response to Civil Grand Jury Report No. 1609, “Human Trafficking”, issued by the 2015-16 Civil Grand Jury of Contra Costa County on 22 June 2016. Pursuant to page 15 of the Report, this City is required to respond to Findings No. 1-11 and No. 14 plus Recommendations No. 1-3, adhering to format guidelines prescribed by the California Penal Code (Section 933.05).

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.*

City Response

The City of Clayton agrees with the Finding, having no cause to disbelieve its conclusion.

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.*

City Response

The City of Clayton agrees with the Finding.

3. *Effectively identifying and apprehending traffickers requires knowledge of the local environment and criminal activities acquired through years of experience.*

City Response

The City of Clayton partially disagrees with the Finding.

Specific training in these areas as well as collaboration with other agencies would likely achieve the same results.

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

City Response

The City of Clayton partially disagrees with the Finding.

Specific training in human trafficking and collaboration with non-governmental organizations such as churches, other law enforcement agencies and advocates, are the primary sources of human trafficking training for law enforcement.

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.*

City Response

The City of Clayton agrees with the Finding.

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

City Response

The City of Clayton agrees with the 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.*

City Response

The City of Clayton agrees with the Finding.

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

City Response

The City of Clayton agrees with the Finding.

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

City Response

The City of Clayton agrees with the 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.*

City Response

The City of Clayton agrees with the Finding.

11. *Public awareness is a critical factor in identifying potential human trafficking activity.*

City Response

The City of Clayton agrees with the 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.*

City Response

The City of Clayton agrees with the Finding.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

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

City Response

The recommendation has been implemented.

The Clayton Police Department utilizes training opportunities with all the agencies within the county as well as the Sheriff's Office as it pertains to human trafficking as well as the mandated training provided by California POST.

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.*

City Response

This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted in this City.

The City of Clayton does not have what are defined as "high crime areas." It is further unclear what resources would be applied in the process of expanding the "sweeps" and "stings" yet all law enforcement agencies are aware of these concerns and will likely continue working together to assist other law enforcement jurisdictions when possible.

- 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.*

City Response

This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted in this City.

The City of Clayton will not develop such a task force as described because it does not have the significant underlying societal activities as described, nor does it have sufficient sworn law enforcement personnel to assist in staffing a multidisciplinary team for deployment to other cities and county areas. The City of Clayton historically is one of the Top Ten Safest Cities in California each year according to FBI indices and social media rankings.

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