



*"Small Town Atmosphere
Outstanding Quality of Life"*

August 17, 2016

Honorable John T. Laettner
Judge of the Superior Court
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 Judge Laettner:

Pursuant to California Penal Code Section 933.05, this letter responds to Contra Costa County Grand Jury Report No. 1609, "Human Trafficking." This response was reviewed and authorized by the Town Council at a duly noticed Town Council meeting on August 16, 2016.

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: Danville 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: Danville 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: Danville 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.

510 LA GONDA WAY, DANVILLE, CALIFORNIA 94526

August 17, 2016

Page 2

Response: Danville 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: Danville agrees with Finding #5.

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

Response: Danville 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: Danville 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: Danville partially disagrees with Finding #8. The Town cannot address the practices of other entities. The Danville Police Department through a contract with the Contra Costa Sheriff's Office does in fact use all resources offered by state and federal agencies when conducting "sting" and "sweep" operations. Other state and federal agency resources used include agents, high tech specialists and victim advocates from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

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

Response: Danville 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: Danville agrees with Finding #10.

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

Response: Danville agrees with Finding #11.

Finding #12: 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: Danville agrees with Finding #12.

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: Danville 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: This recommendation has been implemented. The Danville Police Department, through a contract with the Office of the Sheriff, has expanded training for human trafficking. Detectives assigned to investigate human trafficking have received training and will continue to be trained 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

August 17, 2016
Page 4

Response: This recommendation has been implemented. The Danville Police Department has and will continue to increase collaboration with the FBI and state law enforcement to expand "sweeps" and "stings" in high crime areas.

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: This recommendation has been implemented. The Danville Police Department, through its police contract with the Contra Costa Sheriff's Office, are part of the Contra Costa County SAFE Streets Task Force and the Contra Costa County Anti-Violence Support Effort. These multidisciplinary teams are focused on drug, gang and prostitution activity to assist in identifying trafficking activities. The Town of Danville also utilizes the Contra Costa Sheriff's Office Vice Unit and a Special Victims Unit. In May 2016, the Contra Costa Sheriff's Office assigned a detective from the Special Victims Unit to participate on the Contra Costa County Human Trafficking Multidisciplinary Team.

The Town appreciates the time and effort spent by His Honor and the Grand Jury in consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,

TOWN OF DANVILLE



Karen G. Stepper
Mayor