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August 17, 2015

**[Via Hand Delivery and First Class Mail]**

Honorable Marla Anderson  
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
240 Church Street  
Salinas, CA 93901

Re: 2014-2015 Monterey County Civil Grand Jury Final Report No. 2-  
"Over Militarization of Local Police Departments: Myth of Fact?"

Dear Honorable Anderson:

Pursuant to Penal Code section 933.05(f), I am responding on behalf of City of Del Rey Oaks ("City" or "DRO") to the Findings and Recommendation of the Grand Jury found in above-referenced Grand Jury Report.

On July 28, 2015 after review and consideration of the Report, the City Council for Del Rey Oaks responded to Findings Nos. F4, F5, F6, F7 and F8 as follows:

No. F4: ***Agreed*** that the DRO Police Department has a written policy governing the use and deployment of its MRAP and that all deployments will require prior approval by the Chief of Police.

No. F5: ***Agreed*** the DRO Police Department is not a member of the Monterey Peninsula Regional SRU, PRVNT, STOPP, or the County's Mobile Field Force.

No. F6: ***Agreed*** the DRO Police Department's MRAP is not likely to be requested by other local agencies for anything, but a rare prolonged active shooter situation or a catastrophic natural disaster.

No. F7: ***Disagreed*** that the DRO's MRAP would be more useful if it joins the Monterey Peninsula Regional SRU and participates in the joint training exercises. The City Council found that joining the SRU and participating in the joint training exercises would expose the City to liability for the acts or omissions of third parties out of their control or influence and could therefore jeopardize the City's general fund.

No. F8: *Agreed* the problems noted in the American Civil Liberties Union's 2014 report, in which they concluded that American policing has become "unnecessarily and dangerously militarized," do not appear to be present in the Monterey area police departments reviewed by the MCCGJ or in the Salinas Police Department.

The City Council respectfully declines to follow the MCCGJ recommendation R1 that the DRO Police Department become a member of the Monterey Peninsula Regional SRU. As previously stated under Findings No. F7, liability concerns for acts or omissions of other members of the SRU not under the authority, control or influence of DRO would make the City general fund vulnerable to potential liability claims arising from DRU actions. As the City grows it will continue to look for regional issues that the DRO Police Department could become a member including the SRU that would directly benefit the citizens of DRO.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christina Trujillo', written in a cursive style.

Christina Trujillo  
CITY ATTORNEY FOR DEL REY OAKS

cc: Dan Dawson, City Manager of Del Rey Oaks  
Charles McKee, County Counsel

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