



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

FILED

JUN - 5 2013

Clerk of the Napa Superior Court
By: C. Brennan
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Tamie R Fraser
Treasurer – Tax Collector

June 5, 2013

The Honorable Diane Price
Presiding Judge
Superior Court of the State of California
County of Napa
825 Brown Street
Napa, CA 94559

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

SUBJECT: Response to the Grand Jury 2012-2013 Final Report on the Integrity of Grand Jury Investigations

Dear Judge Price,

Napa County Treasurer-Tax Collector has reviewed the findings and recommendation contained in the 2012-2013 Final Report. The Grand Jury is to be commended for its work on behalf of the citizens of Napa County. This letter is my response as requested to the findings and recommendation in accordance with Section 933 of the California Penal Code.

Finding 1. Certain witnesses interviewed by the Grand Jury, knowingly, repeatedly and willfully, violated their lawful secrecy admonition.

RESPONSE: I am unable to agree or disagree with this finding because I have no knowledge that I or any member of the staff of my department violated the Grand Jury's lawful secrecy admonition.

Finding 2. The conduct of the witnesses in repeatedly violating the Grand Jury's lawful secrecy admonition created an atmosphere of apprehension and intimidation which impeded the proper investigation of the Grand Jury.

RESPONSE: I am unable to agree or disagree with this finding because I have no personal knowledge of such violation or the effect on this investigation of the Grand Jury. I agree that if witnesses repeatedly violate the Grand Jury's secrecy admonition, it would impede the proper investigation of the Grand Jury.

Finding 3. The conduct of the witnesses who violate the secrecy admonition is punishable as contempt of the Superior Court.

RESPONSE: I do not have adequate legal background to agree or disagree with this finding. As a matter of principle, I agree that any person who violates the secrecy admonition of the Grand Jury should suffer appropriate legal consequences.

Recommendation No. 1 That the County Board of Supervisors, the City Council of each incorporated jurisdiction, the County Counsel and every publicly elected official not under the authority of the foregoing provide instruction to all county employees within their jurisdiction regarding their duties and responsibilities towards the grand jury process and that said instruction be completed prior to the end to this calendar year.

RESPONSE: I agree to implement this recommendation before the end of this year.

Thank you for assisting with the evaluation of Napa County departments. If you have any questions about these responses, or if I can provide any further information, please feel free to contact me at (707) 253-4328.

Sincerely,



Tamie R. Frasier

Napa County Treasurer-Tax Collector

Cc: Victor J. Connell, Foreperson 2012-2013 Napa County Grand Jury
Napa County Board of Supervisors