

AMENDED RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT FORM

Report Title: School Resource Officers Revisited

Report Date: May 23, 2019

Public Release Date: May 30, 2019

Response By: Mayor Gary Phillips and San Rafael City Council (Revised October 14, 2019)

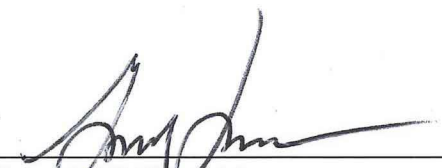
FINDINGS:

- We agree with the findings numbered N/A
- We disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered N/A

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Recommendations numbered R1, R2, R7, R8 and R10 have been implemented.
(See Attachment A)
- Recommendation numbered R12 has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future.
(See Attachment A)
- Recommendations numbered R5, R11 requires further analysis.
(See Attachment A)
- Recommendations numbered R3 will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.
(See Attachment A)

Date: 10/14/19

Signed: 
Gary O. Phillips, Mayor

Attest: B. Nuumi for LL
Lindsay Lara, City Clerk

RECOMMENDATIONS:

R1. SRO programs in Marin County should be retained or expanded where they now exist. SRO programs should be established to cover those school districts where they do not exist.

Response: Agreed. The City of San Rafael has no plans to eliminate the SRO program and is continually researching for funding to add another position.

R2. Municipalities, school districts, and law enforcement agencies in Marin County should make SRO programs a high budgetary priority.

Response: Agreed. Our SRO position is extremely important for the schools, the community and the police department. The position is funded by the police department budget and was maintained even through the most recent economic recession.

R3. To insure continuity, each SRO should be assigned to serve for at least a four-year term.

Response: Disagree. Our SRO position has historically been a three-year assignment. This allows for more opportunity for our officers to be an SRO. We have not seen a necessity to extend it to four years.

R5. The City of San Rafael should have at least one additional full-time SRO.

Response: Agreed. We value the SRO position and continue to seek funding for another SRO. A second SRO would be very beneficial to the community. We have partnered with the San Rafael City Schools and applied for a grant to fund a second SRO. We are still waiting on a response from the grantor and should know by November 30, 2019.

R7. All SRO's should complete SRO POST training by July 1, 2020.

Response: Our current SRO attended POST SRO Training in October 2018.

R8. Law Enforcement agencies should fund additional training for SROs that will help them keep up with and handle their responsibilities.

Response: Agreed. Upon entering the assignment of School Resource Officer, our officer is scheduled for POST School Resource Officer training as soon as possible. The SRO also attends 80 hours / two-week Core Investigative course along with Parent Project training as part of their duties.

R10. School districts and municipalities should explore funding sources such as grants, bond issues, special taxes, and other sources.

Response: We are partnering with the San Rafael City Schools to apply for a grant for a School Resource Officer (SRO) to conduct Tobacco education and enforcement at the 13 schools within the district. The California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tax Act of 2016 (Proposition 56) provides local public agencies with funding to promote a healthier California by reducing illegal sales and marketing of cigarettes and tobacco products to minors. The Office of the Attorney General makes these annual funds available to local law enforcement agencies through the California Department of Justice Tobacco Grant Program. If approved, this grant would provide funding for a second SRO through 2024.

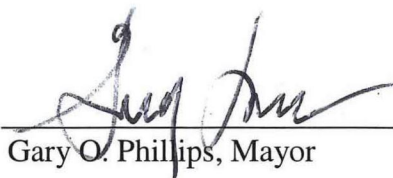
R11. School Districts and municipalities should consider sharing the costs and services of SRO programs.

Response: Agreed. The cost of the SRO program whether there is one or two SROs, should involve cost sharing between the school districts and municipalities. The San Rafael Police Administration looks forward to working with the new San Rafael City Schools Superintendent and should have a proposal moving forward by November 30, 2019.

R12. County law enforcement agencies should provide the time and facilities for the SROs to meet regularly to exchange information, ideas, and discuss new trends by October 1, 2019.

Response: Agreed. The county's SROs are meeting regularly to exchange information. The county's SROs met on August 21st and they will meet quarterly throughout the school year.

Date: 10/14/19

Signed: 
Gary O. Phillips, Mayor

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