



CITY OF NOVATO
CALIFORNIA

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City Manager
Adam McGill

December 9, 2020

The Honorable Judge Andrew Sweet
Marin County Superior Court
P.O. Box 4988
San Rafael, CA 94913-4988

RE: Response to Grand Jury Report "The Gun Next Door: Firearm Safety in Marin County"

Dear Judge Sweet,

At its regular meeting on December 8 2020, the Novato City Council reviewed the above report which requests the City Council respond to Findings F1 through F6 and Recommendations R2 through R4 as contained in the report.

Attached please find the City of Novato's response.

If the members of the Grand Jury require additional information, please contact City Manager Adam McGill at amcgill@novato.org .

We appreciate the work of the Grand Jury and thank you for your service to our residents and the Marin County community.

Sincerely,

Pat Eklund, Mayor
City of Novato

Attachments (1)

cc: Lucy Dilworth, Foreperson
Marin County Civil Grand Jury
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room #275
San Rafael, CA 94903

Response to Grand Jury Report

Report Title: The Gun Next Door: Firearm Safety in Marin County

Respondent/Agency Name: City of Novato

Your Name: Pat Eklund **Title:** Mayor

FINDINGS

- I (we) agree with the findings numbered: **F1, F2, F3, F4, F5 and F6**
- I (we) disagree *partially* with the findings numbered: **N/A**
- I (we) disagree *wholly* with the findings numbered: **N/A**

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered **R2, R3 and R4** have already been implemented and will continue to be implemented in the future.

Date: 12/9/20

Signed: _____



Mayor
City of Novato

Number of pages attached: **2**

RESPONSE OF THE CITY OF NOVATO TO GRAND JURY REPORT THE GUN NEXT DOOR: FIREARM SAFETY IN MARIN COUNTY

FINDINGS

- F1. A comprehensive public awareness campaign that reaches all Marin residents would be effective in reducing the risk from unsafely handled and stored guns.

Response: The City agrees with the finding numbered F1.

- F2. A comprehensive public awareness campaign that reaches all Marin residents would be effective in reducing the risk from unsafely handled and stored guns. Marin residents should be reminded that firearms stored unsafely increase the potential for accidental injury or death.

Response: The City agrees with the finding numbered F2.

- F3. Firearms that are not stored in a gun safe pose an unacceptable risk of being stolen or used in crime.

Response: The City agrees with the finding numbered F3.

- F4. Marin residents should be reminded that a gun in a home increases the risk of suicide for all members of the household.

Response: The City agrees with the finding numbered F4.

- F5. Gun buyback programs reduce the availability of lethal weapons to suicidal individuals, the risk of accidental injury or death, and the possibility that a gun will be stolen

Response: The City agrees with the finding numbered F5.

- F6. Gun violence restraining orders can play an important role in keeping guns away from those who should not have them. .

Response: The City agrees with the finding numbered F6.

RECOMENDATIONS

- R2. **Each town, city, police authority, as well as the sheriff, should, at least annually, beginning in fiscal year 2020–21, send reminders to its residents regarding the need for safe handling and storage of firearms, and this reminder should be posted on official websites and social media platforms.**

This recommendation has been implemented on the Novato Police Department webpage and will continue to be promoted on at least an annual basis on our social media platforms.

- R3. Each town, city, police authority, as well as the sheriff should, within six months of the date of this report, offer free gun locks and publicize a procedure for residents to turn in unwanted weapons. This message should also be posted on official websites and social media platforms.**

This recommendation has been implemented on the Novato Police Department webpage and will continue to be promoted on at least an annual basis on our social media platforms.

- R4. The Marin County district attorney should work with other law enforcement agencies to continue to offer gun buyback programs, funded by public donations or grants.**

The Novato Police Department would partner with the Marin County District Attorney's Office, as it has in past years, on any future gun buyback program.

2020 DEC 15 A 2: 34

MARIN COUNTY
COUNSEL'S OFFICE