



COUNTY of VENTURA

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Sevet Johnson, PsyD

Interim County Executive Officer

Mike Pettit

Assistant County Executive Officer

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County Chief Financial Officer

Shawn Atin

Assistant County Executive Officer/

Human Resources Director

Labor Relations

July 26, 2022

Board of Supervisors
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

SUBJECT: Approval of Responses to the 2021-2022 Ventura County Jury Reports, Entitled "Cybersecurity of Water Providers in Ventura County" and "Mental Health Services and Wellness Centers in Ventura County Schools" for Submittal to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that your Board consider and approve, with or without modification, the responses to the 2021-2022 Ventura County Grand Jury Reports, entitled "Cybersecurity of Water Providers in Ventura County" (Exhibit 1) and "Mental Health Services and Wellness Centers in Ventura County Schools," (Exhibit 2) pertaining to County Government under your Board's authority, for submittal to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court in accordance with Penal Code section 933(c).

DISCUSSION:

Penal Code §933 and §933.05 require that your Board comment on the Findings and Recommendations of the Grand Jury pertaining to County government under your authority.

The 2021-22 Grand Jury issued a report dated May 11, 2022, entitled "Cybersecurity of Water Providers in Ventura County." The Grand Jury required a response from your Board and from the Public Works Agency (PWA). The response for your Board was prepared by the PWA and the County Executive Office for your Board's approval and is attached as **Exhibit 1**.

The Grant Jury Report recommends water purveyors within the County take various actions related to cybersecurity to protect water supplies from two primary areas of vulnerability: the systems used to bill customers and record water usage; and the operational systems used to control, monitor, treat, and deliver the water supply to the community. Contained within the Grand Jury Report were six (6) recommended actions

for water purveyors to implement to better mitigate the threat of these vulnerabilities and improve the cybersecurity of their water systems.

As noted in the response from PWA to the Grand Jury Report, findings within the report generally identified inconsistencies with the level of complexity, training, and reporting of cybersecurity across the numerous water purveyors rather than specific deficiencies of an individual water purveyor, including PWA. As a result, PWA determined that the recommendations of the Grand Jury are already in place and meet the standard of the Grand Jury's Report as implemented.

The 2021-22 Grand Jury issued a report dated June 2, 2022, entitled "Mental Health Services and Wellness Centers in Ventura County Schools." The Grand Jury required a response from your Board and requested a response from the Health Care Agency's Behavioral Health Department (BHD). The response for your Board was prepared by the

BHD and the County Executive Office for your Board's approval and is attached as **Exhibit 2**.

The Grand Jury Report recommends the BHD, in collaboration with the Ventura County Office of Education (VCOE), expand the Wellness Center pilot program into all Ventura County public high schools by June 30, 2024. The Grand Jury Report also recommends the Behavioral Health Department, in collaboration with the VCOE, develop a strategy to expand the Wellness Center pilot program into Ventura County public middle schools by June 30, 2025.

Both recommendations are currently in the process of being implemented. The BHD/Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) team, in partnership with VCOE, have applied for a third round of grant funding with the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) to expand the Wellness Center program to additional high schools in Ventura County. As approved and ratified by your Board on May 24, 2022, BHD directed \$2 million of MHSA Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) dollars to the VCOE Wellness Center expansion, which will support the addition of six middle schools to the existing VCOE Wellness Center expansion.

Note that both recommendations to expand Wellness Centers are dependent on two factors: 1) voluntary participation and hosting of Wellness Centers by the school districts, and 2) availability of funding.

This letter has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, County Counsel, and the Auditor-Controller's Office.

If you have any questions, please contact Mike Pettit, Assistant County Executive Officer, at (805) 654-2720.

Board of Supervisors
July 26, 2022
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sevet Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sevet" and last name "Johnson" clearly distinguishable.

Sevet Johnson, PsyD
Interim County Executive Officer

Exhibit 1: Response to Grand Jury Report "Cybersecurity of Water Providers in Ventura County"

Exhibit 2: Response to Grand Jury Report "Mental Health Services and Wellness Centers in Ventura County Schools."

Exhibit 3: Copy of Grand Jury Reports for Reference