



City of St. Helena

*"We will conduct city affairs on behalf of our citizens
using an open and creative process."*

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March 31, 2008

FILED

APR - 2 2008

Clerk of the Napa Superior Court
By: C. Brennan
Deputy

The Honorable Francisca P. Tisher
The Honorable Raymond A. Guadagni
Presiding Judges 2007/2008
Napa County Superior Court
825 Brown Street
Napa, CA 94559

Subject: Response to 2007-2008 Grand Jury

Dear Honorable Judges Tisher, Guadagni, and Members of the Grand Jury:

This letter is in response to the 2007-2008 Grand Jury Report which was released on January 16, 2008, and is intended to fulfill the legal requirements for response. We appreciate the comments by the Grand Jury and the opportunity to respond.

Finding 5:

"That the Safely Surrendered Baby Law program has saved the lives of many infants, one in Napa, and can save the lives of many more."

Response to Finding 5:

The City of St. Helena agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 5.

"That all Municipal Fire Departments continue to actively provide information about the Safely Surrendered Baby Law program to the public, including all middle and high schools in Napa County, as a part of their public education programs and that the Calistoga Fire Department investigate a method of offering this program to the residents of Calistoga."

Response to Recommendation 5:

The St. Helena Fire Department currently has a Safe Baby Surrender Program in place. City employees including Public Works and Police Department employees are aware of the program and assist with monitoring the Fire Station.

Received
Napa Superior Court

APR - 1 2008

Court Executive Office

The St. Helena Fire Department will work in conjunction with the St. Helena Unified School District to develop an effective Public Education program to be delivered to all High School and Middle school students.

Finding 7:

“That the City of St. Helena and the St. Helena Fire Department has a different lock and key system than other fire protection agencies in Napa County creating a risk factor for the citizens of the area covered by the St. Helena Fire Department.”

Response to Finding 7:

The City of St. Helena disagrees with this finding

Recommendation 7:

“That the St. Helena Fire Department provides their “Knox” keys to all other Napa County fire protection agencies for immediate use and embarks on a short term (1-2 year) project to re-key all St. Helena area “Knox” locks to the County standard.”

Response to Recommendation 7:

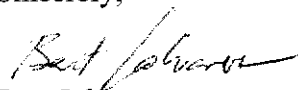
The Knox System used by the SHFD has been in place for many years. The City of Napa Fire Department and the American Fire District each have their own Knox key system in place. Calistoga Fire Department is the only agency using the County Knox key system.

Security of access keys is a main issue with a Rapid Entry system. All St. Helena Fire Department keys are kept secure. The St. Helena Fire Department has provided Knox Keys to Napa County Fire Department engines and Battalion Chief that respond to the City on ‘Automatic Aid’ response. These keys are supplied to units responding regularly to support the City on incidents. To date the City’s program has never created a ‘increased risk factor’ for citizens in our response area or caused a ‘response delay’ that critically affected the outcome of an incident.

The City of St. Helena believes that the individuals that have purchased required Knox boxes and key systems should not be responsible to bear the cost of changing the system. Cost of replacing or re-keying the existing system is a major issue. The City currently has the following Knox items in service: 131 Lock cylinders, 15 switch locks, and 27 padlocks. The cost of providing parts to re-key these items is \$5,161.00. This does not include the costs of labor or travel time to re-key each lock.

These comments are respectfully submitted for the City of St. Helena, as approved by the St. Helena City Council at their regular meeting of March 25, 2008.

Sincerely,



Bert Johansson
City Manager