

IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY SYSTEMS RECOMMENDATIONS

December 12, 1991

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

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TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Los Angeles County's Economy & Efficiency Commission

DATE: December 12, 1991

SUBJECT: Implementation of Security Systems Recommendations

This is our second report to your Board on the progress of implementation of our recommendations on improving County security, which were contained in our report adopted by you on December 4, 1990.

The Commission's Security Systems Task Force met on September 24, 1991, with Lt. Patrick Soll, County Security Program Manager, to review the activities of his office since our last meeting with him on February 15, 1991.

We are happy to report that substantial progress has been made on virtually all our recommendations, and that the overall awareness of security issues has been substantially increased within the County. We attribute this to the efforts of Lt. Soll and his staff, and to the support he has received from your Board and the Chief Administrative Office.

We were particularly impressed with the following accomplishments:

- As of September 26, 1991, thirty-nine security training classes have been held with 807 employees in attendance. The classes covered Rape\Assault Awareness, Safety Awareness, Self Defense Awareness, and Anti-terrorist Awareness. The high level of employee interest and participation is a good indication of the level of need which has existed within the County.

- The County-wide security incident reporting system is now on line, with all major departments participating. Other departments will be included in the near future. We were surprised by the high number of incidents being reported. This indicates many more security violations are occurring than we originally anticipated. With this data, departments can begin to focus on problem areas and take corrective actions.
- The County Security Program Office has taken a lead role in security matters. For example:
 - Review of security measures, and recommendations for improvements at the Music Center following the recent armed robbery.
 - Review of security at the Van Nuys Courthouse.
 - Assumed additional responsibility as the official security representative to the Courthouse Security Task Force.
 - Review of security measures for the Supervisors and top level managers in the work environment and while traveling.
 - Identification of security issues through wide distribution of Security Awareness Bulletins {900 each printing}.
- The County Security Program Office has established a Building Security Coordinator network. Each County building now has an individual designated as the Building Security Coordinator who will be responsible for overseeing building security. In some cases this will be the Building Emergency Coordinator. {This is an additional duty, as these are not full-time positions.}

This network establishes an individual responsible for security matters, and a contact point for security communications. The security coordinators are also involved in the development of County security standards under the leadership of the Security Program Office. Lt. Soll anticipates those standards will be completed in one year's time.

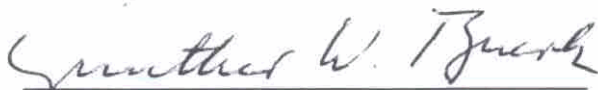
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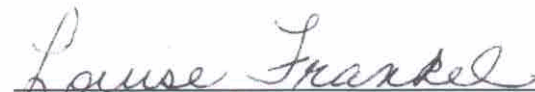
Our original report to your Board had recommended the establishment of a County Security Advisory Council composed of a representative from each major County department which provides security services. This Council was to assist the Security Program Manager in formulating security policy standards. Lt. Soll has advised us he does not believe such an advisory council would be effective because its representatives, in many cases, lack decision-making authority within their own departments. Therefore, he has not implemented the Security Advisory Council.

Lt. Soll believes it would be more effective and cost efficient to consider more centralization of the County security organizations, and he is reviewing alternatives of how this might be achieved. Our Commission agrees that this approach is well worth pursuing. At this time, therefore, we are not pursuing the establishment of a Security Advisory Council, pending our review of Lt. Soll's organizational recommendations at a future date.

Overall, our Commission believes that a great deal of progress has been made since the appointment of Lt. Soll to improve personal and property security for County clients, visitors, and employees. More will need to be done in the future, and we request the continuing support of your Board in this vital area.

We will report to you again following our next review.


Gunther W. Buerk, Chairperson


Louise Frankel, Security
Systems Task Force Chairperson

cc: All Commissioners
Lt. Patrick Soll
Richard B. Dixon, Chief Admin. Officer