



# City of Banning

## Office of the Mayor

99 East Ramsey Street

Banning, CA 92220

August 28, 2019

John W. Vineyard, Presiding Judge  
Superior Court of California,  
County of Riverside  
4050 Main Street  
Riverside, CA 92501

Riverside County Clerk-Recorder  
2720 Gateway Drive  
Riverside, CA 92507

Riverside County Grand Jury  
Post Office Box 829  
Riverside, CA 92502

Re: Response to the Riverside County Grand Jury's Report entitled "2018 - 2019 Civil Grand Jury 'City of Banning Council and City Manager Relationship'"

Dear Judge Vineyard:

On June 18, 2019, the Riverside County Grand Jury issued its 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report to the City of Banning that was entitled "City of Banning Council and City Manager Relationship." For ease of reference, we will refer to this Report as the "2019 Report." The 2019 Report became public on June 21, 2019. Pursuant to the cover letter to the Banning City Council's Office from Michael McDonald, Foreperson, the City Council was instructed to file a response to the 2019 Report to each of you within ninety days (by September 16, 2019). The 2019 Report was divided into sections for background, methodology, findings and recommendations.

The Banning City Council appreciates the opportunity to provide the following responses to these findings and recommendations in accordance with Penal Code Section 933.

### ***A. The City Council's Responses to the Findings in the 2019 Report***

The Grand Jury's Finding No. 1 was as follows:

#### "City Council Member Circumvents City Manager Relationship"

1. The 2018 – 2019 RCCGJ investigation discovered recent incidents where one City Council Member frequently circumvented the authority of the City Manager and dealt directly with department heads and city employees. In one example, a Council Member directed a police officer to open a criminal investigation into the water use activities of a private citizen."

