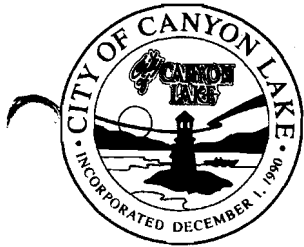


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CITY OF CANYON LAKE

July 3, 2002

Mary Ellen Johnson, Foreperson
2001-02 Riverside County Grand Jury
P.O. Box 829
Riverside, CA 92502

Frank Kessler
Mayor
John Zaitz
Mayor Pro Tem
John Giardinelli
Council Member
Alfred W. Trembly
Council Member
Jack Wamsley
Council Member

Re: City of Canyon Lake

Dear Ms. Johnson:

This letter responds to the 2001-2002 Grand Jury Report regarding the City of Canyon Lake. The City disputes the Grand Jury's findings for the reasons set out in this letter.

The City of Canyon Lake has in place all appropriate and necessary written policies and procedures. No resident has been denied access to public documents at any time. The City has complied with the Public Records Act and its procedures (which are part of state law) at all times. The issues in the report are private issues involving private disputes between landowners and are not within the authority of the City to resolve.

The report complains that some sort of complaint letter regarding a private situation was not found in a file. The letter was written in 1993; under state law it must be retained for 2 years. There is no indication of what "file" this was in or who "discovered" the letter was not in the file. The City has not seen a copy of the letter although the Grand Jury attaches great importance to it. Apparently those complaining had access to the file and removed the letter.

There is no complaint here of a situation which creates a public nuisance or violates a City Code. It is unclear what problem exists except for some alleged lack of a letter. The problem here is a private one. We cannot see any authority here for the City to act and we question the propriety of the Grand Jury's investigation of such a private matter. It appears the Grand Jury found what it wanted to find to support a resident's complaint with a private contractor.

The City Council will receive and file the report.

Very truly yours,

Delbert Powers
City Manager

Cc: City Council Members
City Attorney
Building Official