

San Antonio Basin Water District

July 15, 2025

The Honorable Patricia Kelly, Presiding Judge
Santa Barbara County Superior Court
1100 Anacapa Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Subject: Santa Barbara County Grand Jury Report — “Water Management in Santa Barbara County: Keep up the Good Work”

Judge Kelly:

Please find below San Antonio Basin Water District’s response to the findings and recommendations of the Grand Jury Report referenced above.

Findings

The District was instructed to respond to Finding 1 and Finding 2, and does so as follows.

Finding 1: Despite community concerns about water scarcity, all of the public entities the Jury investigated that provide and manage water in Santa Barbara County have made proactive plans to fortify against future droughts and provide sufficient water necessary to support future housing growth and commerce.

Response: Agree.

Finding 2 Despite a 2016-17 Grand Jury finding that limitations exist in coordinating water management, the Jury finds that coordination among different water management entities in the County has improved significantly.

Response: Agree.

Recommendations

The Report contains no recommendations.

This concludes the District’s comments on the Finding and Recommendations of Santa Barbara County Grand Jury Report, “Water Management in Santa Barbara County: Keep up the Good Work”

Sincerely,

Kevin Merrill
District President