

# 2015-2016 GRAND JURY REPORT

## City of Wildomar

### Background

The Wildomar town site was established in 1886 in San Diego County before Riverside County was created. The name *Wildomar* was derived by combining the names of the town site founders, *Wil* for William Collier, *do* for Donald Graham, and *mar* for Margaret Collier Graham, wife of Donald Graham and sister of William Collier.

The citizens of Wildomar and Sedco Hills voted on February 5, 2008, to incorporate. Wildomar became the 25<sup>th</sup> city in Riverside County on July 1, 2008. The city is located in a fast growing area along Interstate 15. As of the 2010 census, the population of Wildomar was 32,000, an increase from 14,000 at the 2000 census, when the area was still an unincorporated census-designated place.

### Methodology

For the purpose of this investigation, the 2015-2016 Riverside County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) examined applicable California Government Codes. The Grand Jury also conducted interviews with a citizen of Wildomar, the Wildomar City Clerk, and the Wildomar Library Branch Manager. Members of the Grand Jury visited the Wildomar City Clerk's Office, the Wildomar Library and the U.S. Post Office located in the City of Wildomar.

#### Interviewed:

- Citizen of Wildomar (Complainant)
- Wildomar City Clerk
- Wildomar Library Branch Manager

#### Reviewed:

- California Government Code Sections 54970-54974
- California Government Code Sections 6250-6270
- Emails between the citizen who filed the complaint and the Wildomar City Clerk
- Wildomar City Council Agendas 2008-2016

Visited:

- Office of the Wildomar City Clerk
- Wildomar Public Library (three occasions)
- U.S. Post Office (Wildomar)

## Findings

1. Unscheduled vacancies (boards, commissions, committees) have not been posted at the public library as required by California Government Code Sections 54970-54974 also known as the "Maddy Act." The vacancy notices have been posted only at the City Clerk's office.

*54974. (a) Whenever an unscheduled vacancy occurs in any board, commission, or committee for which the legislative body has the appointing power, whether due to resignation, death, termination, or other causes, a special vacancy notice shall be posted in the office of the clerk of the local agency, the library designated pursuant to Section 54973, and in other places as directed by the legislative body,...*

2. The postings at the library are for the City Council agendas and other boards, such as Wildomar Cemetery District and Planning Commission. The postings are on a securely locked bulletin board located near the entrance of the Wildomar Public Library. Parts of the agendas posted are obscured by the door frame. However, a small note is located at the bottom of the bulletin board door, which states "Please ask library staff to view the entire agenda."
3. Postings at the U.S. Post Office in Wildomar are posted by the city clerk, or her deputy on a clip board that is unsecured.

## Recommendations

### City of Wildomar

1. Develop policy and procedure ensuring the city complies with the “Maddy Act” by posting all vacancies at the city clerk’s office, the public library and other designated location(s).
2. The bulletin board currently being used at the Wildomar Public Library be replaced with a secure bulletin board, large enough to display the entire postings.
3. If the U.S. Post Office in Wildomar is continued to be utilized a secure bulletin board of adequate size be used, otherwise, a different location be designated, such as the city website or local fire station.

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