



Office of the District Attorney Alameda County

Pamela Y. Price
District Attorney
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August 30, 2023

Hon. Charles A. Smiley, Presiding Judge Alameda County Superior Court 1225 Fallon Street, Executive Office, 2 nd FL Oakland, CA 94612	Alameda County Grand Jury 1225 Fallon Street, Executive Office, 2 nd FL Oakland, CA 94612
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Dear Judge Smiley,

On behalf of the Alameda County District Attorney's Office, I am providing you with our response to the 2022-2023 Alameda County Grand Jury's report on the Misuse of County Information Technology Systems During the 2018 Election Cycle.

The Grand Jury found that the District Attorney's Office staff violated County policies regarding the use of county computers and the use of County time to participate in political campaign activities during the 2018 Primary Election for District Attorney (Finding #23-18), and that the District Attorney's Office failed to provide adequate ongoing training on county policies and State law related to acceptable behavior during political campaigns (Finding #23-19).

I agree with these findings.

The Grand Jury also found relatedly that the Alameda County Human Resource Services does not adequately document countywide staff education on acceptable and prohibited activities during political campaigns (Finding #23-20) and the Grand Jury was unable to determine whether there were any consequences for staff who violated these policies (Finding #23-21).

I agree with these findings.

Recommendation #23-22 from the Grand Jury is that the District Attorney's Office immediately add training on County policies regarding acceptable activities during political campaigns to the District Attorney's on-boarding process, annually and during election years.

This recommendation has been implemented in part. On June 30, 2023, during an orientation meeting for all newly hired employees, we provided a summary of the Grand Jury's findings regarding the misconduct of District Attorney employees in connection with the 2018 Election Cycle and clearly stated that the use of County computer equipment for campaign purposes, the use of County time to solicit campaign support and attendance at campaign events violates County policies and California laws. Employees were cautioned that this misconduct would not be tolerated by the new administration.

Hon. Judge Charles A. Smiley, Presiding Judge
August 30, 2023
Page Two of Two

The additional part of the recommendation regarding training annually and during election years has not yet been implemented. To implement this recommendation, we intend to add a link to the Grand Jury report to every on-boarding email for every newly hired employee, effective September 1, 2023. The next election year is 2024, and by January 30, 2024, we will add a mandatory training module to all employees on the County's policies regarding acceptable activities during political campaigns.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela Y. Price". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Pamela Y. Price, Alameda County District Attorney