ASSESSOR / RECORDER

MARC C. TONNESEN
Assessor/Recorder



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May 17, 2011

Honorable D. Scott Daniels Presiding Judge of the Superior Court Solano County Superior Court 600 Union Avenue Fairfield, CA 94533

Response to the Annual Report of the 2010-2011 Grand Jury titled "Solano County Assessor's Office and Declining Property Values"

Dear Honorable Presiding Judge Daniels:

<u>Finding 1</u>: Property values will increase again. When that happens, the Assessor's Office will require adequate staffing and technology to handle the projected increase in Assessment Review Requests and Assessment Appeals.

Response to Finding 1: The Assessor's Office agrees with the finding.

<u>Recommendation 1</u>: When property values begin to rise, employ adequate staffing and technology in the Assessor's Office to handle the increase in Assessment Review Requests and Assessment Appeals.

<u>Response to Recommendation 1</u>: The Assessor's Office will continue to work with the County Administrator's Office and the Board of Supervisors to deploy the staffing and technology needed to adequately address the increase in Assessment Review Requests and Assessment Appeals.

<u>Comments</u>: The use of computer software by the Assessor's Office to monitor property values in the County has saved the taxpayers an estimated \$1 million annually, based on the estimated need for 10 additional appraisers at an estimated cost of \$100,000 each. The Solano County Grand Jury commends the Assessor's Office for its utilization of technology.

<u>Response to Comments</u>: The Assessor's Office is most appreciative of the commendation by the Grand Jury for this office's utilization of technology.

Respectfully submitted,

MARC C. TØNNESEN Assessor/Recorder

Cc: Board of Supervisors

County Administrator's Office