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July 10, 2013

Mr. Rick Clark  
855 N. Brea Blvd., Unit 133  
Brea, CA 92821

Re: Brea City Council Japan/Korea Sister Cities Trip

Dear Mr. Clark:

We have reviewed the Brea City Council issues called to our attention by your most recent e-mails. We have determined that there is no evidence of any criminal wrongdoing on the part of the Brea City Council and/or city staff in connection with their trip to Brea's sister cities in Japan and South Korea last year. While the political expedience of the trip may be arguable, the cost of the trip was within the council's approved travel budget, and based on the documents we reviewed which apparently precipitated the trip, and the reports that followed, it appears that the trip was definitely an "official" visit, without any evidence of criminal intent on the part of anyone involved to misuse public funds.

This also appears to be an issue that the city council could adequately address. Had it believed the trip was unnecessary and/or improper in some way, it could have taken remedial action. But based on our review of the minutes of the council meetings both before and after the trip, a majority of the council members do not believe that to be the case or, at least, have not acted on their beliefs.

Accordingly, the Orange County District Attorney's Office is closing its inquiry into this matter and no further action will be taken.

Very truly yours,

/s/

Raymond S. Armstrong  
Senior Deputy District Attorney  
Special Prosecutions Unit

cc: James Markman, Esq.

REPLY TO: ORANGE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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