



MICHAEL BERKOW, Director of Public Safety
Public Safety – Irvine Police Department – (949) 724-7000

www.irvinepd.org

City of Irvine, One Civic Center Plaza, P.O. Box 19575, Irvine, California 92623-9575 (949) 724-6000
"In Partnership with the Community"

January 14, 2002

✱
Michael and Elena Laham
164 Streamwood
Irvine, CA 92620-1965

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Laham:

I have received your letter requesting a copy of Irvine Police Department case #00-7755. I understand that you previously requested a copy of this report through our Records Bureau and that they have advised you that the report cannot be released.

I believe that some of your confusion over this matter is based at least in part by notations made on an internal form that should not have been mailed to you. It is not that the form should not have been mailed to you due to the information contained on the form, but rather that the form does not clearly provide the information that you are seeking. Let me try to explain.

The report that you are seeking a copy of is a crime report. It is a report of a vandalism that occurred in your neighborhood. That case is still under investigation and California State law allows police departments to withhold police reports from the public while the crimes are being investigated. The notes at the bottom of the form that you received indicate that there are no named suspects. This is correct – no one is named as a suspect in the case. There is a reference in the report to your apartment number. That reference was not about the current investigation, but about prior incidents between you and your neighbors. The notation "no criminal activity" was inserted on the form to indicate that the reference to your apartment did not amount to a criminal act of any kind and that neither of you were considered "suspects" in this investigation.

I apologize that you were not given a better explanation after your first request for a copy of this report. I hope that this letter will alleviate any concerns that you may have that you were listed as a "suspect" in this crime report – you were not. I cannot, however, release a copy of the report to either of you as it is still under investigation.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL BERKOW
Chief of Police

MB:JN:jn



FAX 949-724-7114
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X
February 12, 2002

Michael and Elana Laham
164 Streamwood
Irvine, CA 92620-1965

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Laham:

I have received your letter dated January 24, 2002, where you are again requesting copies of two Irvine Police Department crime reports (DR#00-7755 and #01-2842). As I explained in my last letter to you regarding this matter, you are not entitled to copies of these reports.

I want to assure you that I have read both of these reports and neither of you are listed as a "suspect" in either report. I would refer you to Government Code § 6254(f), which lists the types of reports that must be released to the public. I appreciate your concern in this matter, but I cannot release these reports to you.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL BERKOW
Chief of Police

MB:JN:jn