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RESPONSE TO DAICHENDT'S FALSE ALLEGATIONS

Rancho Santa Margarita, CA – Contrary to allegations made on mass electronic and social media outlets, no City official requested Mr. Joe Daichendt of Theory R Properties to leave the State of the City Address, held at Dove Canyon Country Club, on September 4, 2014. Moreover, law enforcement did not escort Mr. Daichendt from the premises as he has alleged.

Mayor Carol Gamble stated, "It is unfortunate that an individual interested in the affairs of the City was not able to attend the event. It is my intention and desire that all those interested have the ability to hear the State of the City regardless of seating capacity or financial ability to purchase a ticket, which is why we annually post the video online afterwards at no charge to the public. I am disappointed that the circumstances surrounding this incident unfairly disparage the City's commitment to open and transparent government."

The City has learned from the RSM Chamber that Mr. Daichendt was informed upon his arrival that he could not purchase a ticket because the event was sold out. The Mayor did not speak to Mr. Daichendt at the event and did not request that he be denied access. Mayor Carol Gamble said, "I never saw Mr. Daichendt, and I did not speak with him. I am deeply troubled by his false allegation that I requested the police to have him removed."

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Sheriff's Department Spokesperson Lt. Jeff Hallock confirmed, "Sheriff's Department personnel did not speak to this individual at the event and did not escort him out of the venue or off of the premises. He left on his own accord and at the request of the Chamber and Country Club representatives."

The annual State of the City Address is an event sponsored by the RSM Chamber of Commerce, a community-based non-profit business club. The Mayor of the City is a guest speaker invited to give an update on City activities and programs to the paid attendees of the event. All attendee reservations are handled and processed through the RSM Chamber of Commerce.

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