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Citizen's Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As an attorney and a resident of Ventura County for over 50 years, who has served in government and in charitable and professional organizations, I felt that my experience may be helpful to you. I hope that you will maintain Ventura County as a community which should be kept together and not separated into different districts. The gerrymandering of the past which split Ventura County into separate districts is totally inconsistent with the manner in which Ventura County functions.

In the provision of Governmental services, charitable services, and service organizations, Ventura County traditionally functions as a unit. Governmental services are typically provided by the County but also by independent Districts which operate on a countywide basis such as the Fire Protection District, the Library District, the Ventura County Community College District and the Watershed Protection District. Charitable organizations providing services to those in need are organized on a Countywide basis. These include such groups as the United Way, the Red Cross, the Lung Association, the Arts Council, and Associated Historical Societies and Museums of Ventura County. Similarly, service organizations are organized on a County level. These include the Ventura County Economic Development Association, the Bar Association, the Medical Association, the Agriculture Association, the County Dental Society, the Farm Bureau, and 4H Program.

Ventura County thinks of itself as an entity. Even when services are divided between different governmental agencies those agencies cooperate closely with each other. An illustration of this is the cooperation between the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District (Simi Valley), the Conejo Recreation and Park District (Thousand Oaks), and the Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District (Camarillo).

We hope that you will recognize Ventura County as a community which serves interests in which the residents have traditionally worked together as a unit to provide for their governmental, charitable, and business interests.

Very truly yours,

Gordon R. Lindeen

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