

EXECUTIVE ORDER ESTABLISHING
THE CONEJO VALLEY VICTIMS FUND
AT THE VENTURA COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

WHEREAS, on November 7, 2018, a mass shooting occurred in the City of Thousand Oaks when a shooter attacked patrons and employees of the Borderline Bar and Grill in Thousand Oaks, California (the “**Borderline Bar & Grill Tragedy**”); and

WHEREAS, the shooter killed twelve people, including Ventura County Sheriff Sergeant, Ron Helus, and caused physical injuries and trauma to the hundreds of persons present and the Thousand Oaks community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the need for increased public safety personnel, first responders, public health professionals, neighborhood development and other officials to work long hours both in direct response to the shooting, in investigating the crime scene and in dealing with the aftermath further stressed City resources; and

WHEREAS, individuals, including residents of Thousand Oaks, residents of California, people throughout the country and around the world, as well as numerous businesses, exhibited extraordinary generosity in seeking to help those who were most impacted by the Borderline Bar & Grill Tragedy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Thousand Oaks recognizes the burdens imposed on it to field inquiries for community support, collect gifts and monetary donations and ensure appropriate distribution, assist the victims in receiving both financial and other restitution, and provide a vehicle to centralize the community’s efforts to assist those affected by the Borderline Bar & Grill Tragedy; and

WHEREAS, the Conejo Valley Victims Fund at the Ventura County Community Foundation (the “**Conejo Valley Victims Fund**”), was established the morning after the incident at the request of the City of Thousand Oaks, and has received approximately \$2,092,292 in contributions to date and, after covering emergency needs of impacted individuals and families who lost loved ones, holds approximately \$1,767,760; and

WHEREAS, the City of Thousand Oaks has entrusted the Conejo Valley Victims Fund to lessen those governmental burdens by creating a centralized vehicle for receiving and distributing those contributions, fielding inquiries for community support, assisting victims in receiving both financial and other restitution, and providing a vehicle to centralize the community’s efforts to assist those affected by the Borderline Bar & Grill Tragedy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Thousand Oaks anticipates that all of the funds collected and pledged to date will be distributed to those individuals and families most affected by the Borderline Bar & Grill Tragedy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Thousand Oaks anticipates that the Conejo Valley Victims Fund will receive a continuing stream of contributions thereafter to continue to provide support for those affected by the Borderline Bar & Grill Tragedy; and

WHEREAS, to decrease the likelihood of people and organizations inadvertently donating funds to fraudulent charities, it was deemed prudent to direct the Ventura County Community Foundation to operate the Conejo Valley Victims Fund as the single vehicle where donations could be channeled that would address the loss suffered by victims and thereby lessen the governmental burdens; and

WHEREAS, the Conejo Valley Victims Fund will be used to address these concerns;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANDREW P. POWERS, City Manager of the City of Thousand Oaks, do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Conejo Valley Victims Fund be operated by the Ventura County Community Foundation, the purpose of which shall be to lessen the governmental burdens generally caused by the Borderline Bar & Grill Tragedy by alleviating the suffering of those directly harmed by that event.
2. The City of Thousand Oaks hereby designates the Conejo Valley Victims Fund to (i) provide a single vehicle to receive contributions which immediately began pouring in from the public in the wake of the Borderline Bar & Grill Tragedy, and thereby avoid the misdirection of donations to fraudulent organizations; (ii) provide the infrastructure to coordinate the collection, administration and distribution of these funds in a manner consistent with the City's interest in assisting the victims of the attacks with financial and other restitution; (iii) act as a central resource to allow those affected by the Borderline Bar & Grill Tragedy to find appropriate and reputable services; and (iv) maintain the infrastructure in coordination with the City of Thousand Oaks that would allow it to respond immediately to city needs in the event of a similar tragedy, in order to lessen the burdens of government.
3. The City of Thousand Oaks hereby agrees to the establishment of the Oversight Committee of Conejo Valley Victims Fund, consisting of the following community leaders:

Geoff Dean, Sheriff Retired
Kathy Long, County Supervisor Retired
Scott Hansen, Ventura County Community Foundation Board Chair
Tim Gallagher, Ventura County Community Foundation Board Member
Anita Busch, Victim Advocate
Albert Grimmie, Christina Grimmie Foundation
Marcus Grimmie, Christina Grimmie Foundation

and the appointment of Dr. Richard R. Rush, Immediate Past President of California State University, Channel Islands, as Fund Administrator, to develop a protocol for the distribution of financial assistance to those most seriously affected by the Borderline Bar & Grill Tragedy.

4. No officer or employee of the City shall directly or indirectly solicit funds from the Conejo Valley Victims Fund.
5. Under no circumstance shall the contribution of any individual or corporation having business before the City or any agency thereof influence the decision of city officials in acting on such business.
6. Should any officer or employee of the City have reason to believe that such contribution is in fact improperly influencing city officials, the reasons for such belief shall be immediately communicated to the City Manager or any other appropriate investigatory office, officer or body.
7. This Executive Order shall remain in effect until terminated by the City Manager.

SIGNED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20__.

ANDREW P. POWERS
City Manager

ATTEST:

Cynthia M. Rodriguez, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Office of the City Attorney

Tracy M. Noonan, City Attorney