July 27, 2015

Honorable Marla O. Anderson
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
240 Church Street
Salinas, CA 93901


To The Honorable Marla O. Anderson, Presiding Judge:

The following is in response to recommendations R3 and R4 of the Monterey County Civil Grand Jury Final Report No. 14 – “Integrity of Land Records In Monterey County”. The Recorder agrees with the findings and, while the recommendations have not yet been fully implemented, they will be implemented in the future once the District Attorney’s Real Fraud Division and the Recorder’s Office have worked together to establish procedures and guidelines.

R3. Monterey County District Attorney’s Office, in cooperation with the Monterey County Recorder’s Office, immediately create/obtain a current list of known robo-signers.

The Monterey County Recorder’s Office will continue to work with the District Attorney’s Real Estate Fraud Division to attempt to identify “robo-signers” of documents. Once identified and verified, a compilation of such entities will be maintained and updated as appropriate.
R4. The Monterey County Recorder’s Office and the Monterey County District Attorney’s Office work together to identify means by which fraudulent robo-signed documents can be identified early by the County and reported to the District Attorney.

The Monterey County Recorder’s Office will continue to work with the District Attorney’s Real Estate Fraud Division to monitor recordings and attempt to identify fraudulent robo-signed documents so that they can be reported to the District Attorney.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Stephen L. Vagnini
Assessor-County Clerk/Recorder
Monterey County Recorder’s Office

cc: Grand Jury
    Lew Bauman, CAO
    Manuel T. Gonzalez, Asst. CAO
    Dean Flippo, District Attorney
    Simon Salinas, Chair and Members of the Mo. Co. Board of Supervisors
    Charles J. McKee, County Counsel