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COUNTY OF ORANGE & ORANGE COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD TO RECEIVE \$12 MILLION FOR EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICES

(Santa Ana, CA) – The County of Orange Board of Supervisors today approved a State Agreement that will provide over \$12 million for employment and training services in Orange County.

The annual agreement allows the County to receive Federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds to provide services to unemployed and laid off individuals through the County's One-Stop Centers located in Westminster, Buena Park and Irvine. "These funds provide crucial services to individuals looking for work and will help retrain individuals for jobs that are needed now in Orange County," said Board of Supervisors Chairman Bill Campbell.

Despite an overall 10%+ reduction at the National and State level, Orange County is expected to experience a 1% increase in the WIA base allocation. The formula used for local allocations is based on unemployment rates and the number of lay-offs occurring in the area.

Information about services and the One-Stop Centers can be found at www.oconestop.com. The WIA funds will also provide services to youth ages 16 to 21 through eight different locations throughout the County. The County's One-Stop Center System and Youth Services are overseen by the Board of Supervisors' appointed Orange County Workforce Investment Board (OCWIB). The OCWIB is led by business and community leaders. Information about Youth Services can be found at www.ocwib.org.