

# 2025-2026 Napa County Civil Grand Jury Response Requirements and Compliance Report

Prepared in accordance with California Penal Code §933 and 933.05.

## I. Introduction

This report offers a comprehensive overview of the statutory requirements pertaining to responses to Civil Grand Jury reports. It further presents a summary of compliance with responses submitted by designated Napa County agencies and governing bodies. The intent of this document is to promote transparency, demonstrate accountability, and ensure adherence to the timelines mandated under California Penal Code §§933 and 933.05.

## II. Statutory Framework

### A. Penal Code §933 – Response Requirements

Under California Penal Code §933, public agencies, governing bodies, and elected county officials are required to formally respond to findings and recommendations issued by the Civil Grand Jury. The statute specifies that these responses must be submitted within established timeframes, and that each response must address all findings and recommendations for which a reply is requested. Responses are posted on the Court's website at <https://www.napa.courts.ca.gov/general-information/grand-jury/grand-jury-reports-responses>.

## B. Penal Code §933.05 Format and Content

### Responses

Penal Code §933.05 outlines the format and permissible content of responses to Civil Grand Jury reports. Each required respondent has complied with Penal Code §933 as their responses to each finding stated whether they agreed or disagreed wholly or partially with the necessary explanation. In response to each recommendation, agencies must indicate one of the following:

- The recommendation has been implemented.
- The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented, with a projected timeline provided.
- The recommendation requires further analysis, accompanied by an explanation and a completion date that does not exceed six months from the report's issuance.
- The recommendation will not be implemented, with the reasons for this decision clearly stated.

These statutory requirements are designed to ensure that official responses are uniform, clear, and complete.

### III. Response Deadlines

The deadlines for submitting responses to the Civil Grand Jury are strictly defined by statute:

- Within 60 days: Responses from elected county officers and agency heads are required within sixty days of the Grand Jury's final report issuance.
- Within 90 days: Responses from the governing bodies of public agencies, such as boards, councils, and commissions, must be submitted within ninety days.

These deadlines are calculated from the date on which the Civil Grand Jury issues its final report. Each required respondent has complied with Penal Code §933.05 as their responses to each recommendation stated whether they agreed or disagreed with the necessary explanation within the statutory deadlines.

#### IV. Accountability and Public Disclosure

In accordance with Penal Code §§933 and 933.05, all required responses become part of the public record. This process serves to enhance government transparency, enabling the public, the Board of Supervisors, and the Civil Grand Jury to review the responsiveness and performance of county agencies and elected officials. Compliance with these statutes reflects the county's commitment to accountable and responsible governance.

## V. Compliance Summary

### **NVUSD**

The report was issued on March 21, 2025, and a response was submitted on June 6, 2025. A total of 77 days elapsed between issuance and submission. This response fell within the 90-day statutory requirement, with 13 days remaining prior to the deadline. Accordingly, the submission is compliant.

Recommendation: R1 has been implemented.

Recommendation: R2 has not yet been implemented.

### **Pope Valley**

The report was issued on April 23, 2025, and a response was submitted on June 23, 2025, resulting in a 61-day lapse. This response was submitted within the applicable 90-day requirement, leaving 29 days remaining. The submission is compliant.

Recommendation: R1, R2, R5, and R6 are being implemented.

Recommendation: R3 and R4 have been implemented.

### **Elections**

The report was issued on April 23, 2025, with a response submitted on June 23, 2025, totaling 61 days elapsed, considered compliant as not materially exceeding the deadline.

Recommendation: R1 has been implemented.

Recommendation: R2 and R4 have partially been implemented.

Recommendation: R3, not implemented, not warranted or reasonable.

## **Use Permits**

The report was issued on May 29, 2025, and a response was submitted on August 20, 2025. A total of 83 days elapsed between issuance and response, within the applicable 90-day requirement. The submission is compliant.

Recommendation: R1 has not been implemented, not warranted or reasonable.

Recommendation: R2 has been implemented.

Recommendation: R3 and R4 require further analysis

Recommendation: R5 was partially implemented.

## **Detentions**

The report was issued on May 29, 2025. No response was required for this matter; therefore, compliance status is not applicable.

## **IV. Additional Notes**

- The detention facilities are not required to provide a response during this reporting cycle, as specified by Civil Grand Jury directives.
- All other agencies reviewed have complied with their mandated response timelines under Penal Code §§933 and 933.05.

## VII. Conclusion

This compliance report confirms that the majority of responding agencies met statutory deadlines for Civil Grand Jury report responses. Continued adherence to Penal Code §§933 and 933.05 remains essential for maintaining transparency, public trust, and effective oversight of county operations. Agencies are strongly encouraged to ensure timely submissions and consistent application of the statutory response formats, thereby supporting both legal compliance and best practices in public administration.