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Napa Superior Court
NAPA COUNTY OFFICE OF SHERIFF-CORONER

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CPB
MAY 20 2009

Douglas E. Koford
Sheriff - Coroner

Court Executive Office

FILED

The Honorable Raymond A. Guadagni
Presiding Judge
Superior Court of the State of California
County of Napa
825 Brown Street
Napa, CA 94559

MAY 26 2009

May 15th, 2009

Clerk of the Napa Superior Court
By: *C Brennan*
Deputy

Re: **Napa County Sheriff's Response to "Recommendation #4, Napa County Grand Jury 2008-2009 Final Report on Howell Mountain Elementary School District.**

Dear Judge Guadagni,

The Napa County Sheriff's Office has been requested to respond to **Recommendation #4** of the Napa County Grand Jury 2008-2009 Final Report on the Howell Mountain Elementary School; which reads:

"The Napa County Sheriff's Department improve response time to situations involving the safety of the student population in emergency situations."

Response #4 of the Napa County Sheriff is that this recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable. This response is based on the information listed below.

In review of the report it appears that the Grand Jury based this recommendation on "Finding #6"; which reads:

"Response time by the Napa County Sheriff's Department to HMES is between fifteen minutes and two hours".

In our review of the report's methodology there is no mention of conversations or discussions between the Napa County Grand Jurors and Napa County Sheriff's Department staff that address "response times". Additionally, we were unable to find any documentation listed in the report that was reviewed by the Napa County Grand Jurors that discusses Napa County Sheriff's Department "response times".

Respectfully, the Napa County Sheriff disagrees with the finding addressing "response times", as not based on fact. Response times, by any Napa County Sheriff's personnel, to any geographic location in the County of Napa, vary depending on the current location of the responding personnel, availability of personnel, and the type of call for assistance (also referred to as "call priority"). In essence, if the responding personnel are already in the area, the response time may be a matter of seconds.

Law enforcement agencies throughout the United States have spent a significant amount of time discussing, training and coordinating response protocols to school campuses in situations where

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the student population is at risk. The Napa County Sheriff's Department continually works with allied agencies (CHP, St. Helena Police, Calistoga Police, Napa Police and Napa Valley College Police), the various school districts, Napa Central Dispatch, and its own personnel to address school safety and call response. In an emergency situation, it is estimated that it would take no longer than twenty minutes for law enforcement to be on scene.

There are two additional ways to reduce response times to HMES:

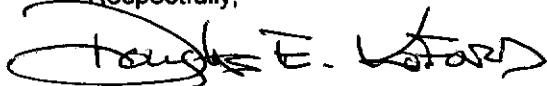
1. The district may wish to employ a uniformed School Resource Officer from the Napa County Sheriff's Department, at the cost of \$95,000 per nine month school year.
2. Continue to remain involved in the Angwin Eco-village project and request assigned Napa County Sheriff's Department personnel and a Sheriff's Substation for the project and the Angwin/Howell Mountain community.

The Napa County Sheriff feels that his department offers the appropriate level and type of policing for the Howell Mountain Elementary School at this time.

The diagram below lists the year, number of calls for service, type and number of reports.

	7/1/2006-6/30/2007	7/1/2007-6/30/2008
Calls for Service	51	17
Reports	4	2
Types of Reports	(2) Burglaries (2) Vandalisms	(2) Vandalisms
Facility Alarm Calls	23	2

Respectfully,



Douglas E. Koford
Sheriff - Coroner