



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Board of Supervisors

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Alfredo Pedroza
Supervisor, District 4

March 24, 2015

The Honorable Rodney Stone
Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, County of Napa
825 Brown Street
Napa, CA 94559

FILED

APR - 2 2015

Clerk of the Napa Superior Court
By: C. Baenina
Deputy

Dear Judge Stone:

As required by Penal Code Section 933(c), enclosed is the response to the 2014-2015 Final Report on the Napa County Juvenile Hall. Grand Jury activity takes place over the course of a number of months. As such, their findings and recommendations often address issues which county departments have already identified as problems and to which solutions are in the process of being developed.

The Board acknowledges the members of the 2014-2015 Grand Jury for the time they have devoted in preparing their report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "AP", written over a horizontal line.

Alfredo Pedroza, Vice Chair
Napa County Board of Supervisors

Enclosure

cc: Foreman, 2014-2015 Grand Jury

RECEIVED

MAR 30 2015

Napa Superior Court

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NAPA COUNTY
RESPONSE TO THE GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT ON
THE NAPA COUNTY JUVENILE HALL ANNUAL REVIEW
JANUARY 2015

The Grand Jury requested responses from the Napa County Juvenile Hall (NCJH) Director. Pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code section 852, the management and control of the Juvenile Hall is the responsibility of the Chief Probation Officer. No responses from the Board of Supervisors were required for the recommendations, but the responses of the Chief Probation Officer are included below.

Finding 1. The video/camera system at NCJH is still in need of the technical upgrading that would better identify the individuals on monitoring screens in the Control Center.

Chief Probation Officer Response: The Chief Probation Officer agrees with this finding.

Board of Supervisors Response: The Board of Supervisors incorporates by reference the response of the Chief Probation Officer.

Finding 2. Extra surveillance cameras are still needed in the exercise yard area to help eliminate blind spots within the yard and on the perimeter of the facility.

Chief Probation Officer Response: The Chief Probation Officer agrees with this finding.

Board of Supervisors Response: The Board of Supervisors incorporates by reference the response of the Chief Probation Officer.

Finding 3. Some juveniles at NCJH are unaware of the procedures to arrange for visits by their younger siblings.

Chief Probation Officer Response: The Chief Probation Officer disagrees partially with this finding. The Department makes arrangements for juveniles being sent out of county to a camp or group home placement to have contact with younger siblings. However, there are no provisions for juveniles housed at NCJH to have visits from siblings.

Board of Supervisors Response: The Board of Supervisors incorporates by reference the response of the Chief Probation Officer.

Recommendation No. 1: The Grand Jury recommends that the Chief Probation Officer expedite by the end of FY 2015, the process of purchasing and installing upgraded video equipment in the Control Center consistent with current state-of-the-art equipment.

Chief Probation Officer Response: The recommendation will be implemented. Staff from Juvenile Hall, Public Works and ITS began evaluating the upgrades in 2014. However workload resulting from Earthquake damages to facilities throughout the County has required that the video system upgrade be delayed. The Department will resume this effort during the final

quarter of FY 2014-2015 and plans to have new equipment installed in the Control Center within the next year.

Recommendation No. 2: The Grand Jury recommends that the Chief Probation Officer expedite by the end of FY 2015, the process of adding extra cameras in the exercise yard to ensure that there are no blind spots within the yard or along the perimeter of the yard.

Chief Probation Officer Response: The recommendation will be implemented. Staff from Juvenile Hall, Public Works and ITS began evaluating the upgrades in 2014. However workload resulting from Earthquake damages to facilities throughout the County has required that the video system upgrade be delayed. The Department will resume this effort during the final quarter of FY 2014-2015 and plans to have cameras installed to cover blind spots within the facility and along the perimeter of the yard within the next year.

Recommendation No. 3: The Grand Jury recommends that the Chief Probation Officer provide both the parents and the juveniles with a written copy of the guidelines governing the visitation rights of younger siblings and post the guidelines in the visitation area.

Chief Probation Officer Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. There are no procedures allowing for regular visits of younger siblings to juveniles housed in NCJH. The Department believes it would be detrimental for visiting minors to routinely visit the facility and undergo the security screening required of all visitors into the facility, including "wandering" and potentially pat-down searches. Additionally, regularly allowing minors into the facility would limit access to the visiting area and potentially result in some juveniles not receiving allotted visit hours. On the rare occasions when a juvenile is being sent to an out of county camp or home placement, staff will work with the juvenile and their family to arrange for such a visit.