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June 6, 2022

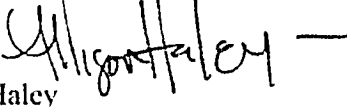
Re: Grand Jury Investigative Report – Operations of the Napa County Public Defender's Office Report Date: May 31, 2022

Dear Michael Stone and members of the Napa County Grand Jury 2021-2022:

I am in receipt of a copy of the 2021-2022 Napa County Grand Jury's report on the operations of the Napa County Public Defender's Office. Pursuant to PC 933.05, please find my responses:

- F1 Agree
- F2 Agree in part. A guilty plea by a non-United States citizen misdemeanor defendant can have additional serious consequences including deportation or removal on the charges and/or deportation or removal on future charges. I know of no procedure, policy or set of circumstances that would result in an *immediate* departure.
- F3 Agree
- F4 Agree
- F5 Agree in part. I would agree that if pleas are going to be taken by the court at arraignment, the presence of a Public Defender would increase the likelihood that criminal defendants understand the consequences of their plea. If the court decides that no pleas will be taken by unrepresented misdemeanor defendants at arraignment, the presence of the Public Defender at the arraignment would be irrelevant.
- F6 I cannot agree or disagree. I have no independent knowledge of the budgetary and/or staffing issues faced by the Public Defender's Office.
- F7 Agree. Napa County is extremely well-served by the professionalism, scholarship and commitment of our Public Defender's Office
- R1 Agree in part. This issue is easily remedied by asking the court not to take pleas of unrepresented misdemeanor defendants. If the court is unamenable to a collaborative approach to these important issues and the Public Defender is in need of extra staffing, I would join in the recommendation.

Thank you for your work on this and surely many other important matters in this County.

Warmly, 

Allison Haley
District Attorney, Napa County of Napa

6.6.22
Date

Cc: Hon. Victoria Wood, Superior Court of Napa County 825 Brown Street, Napa CA
Foreperson, Napa County Grand Jury, 1754 Second Street, Suite D, Napa, CA 94558