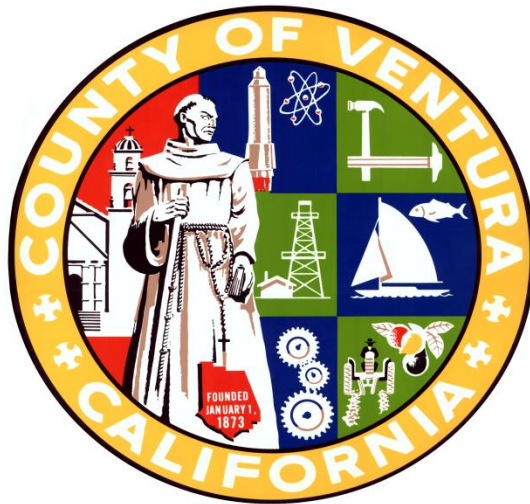


Ventura County Grand Jury 2013 - 2014



Final Report

Detention Facilities Inspections

June 16, 2014

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Detention Facilities Inspections

Summary

Following a mandate of the California State Penal Code, the Ventura County Grand Jury inspects each facility in Ventura County (County) where persons are placed into custody.

Although these facilities undergo various required formal investigations by other governmental oversight bodies, the Grand Jury brings a fresh perspective to its reviews, seeing them from outside the public safety/criminal justice systems.

To fulfill its mandate, the 2013-2014 Ventura County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) followed a well-established methodology of touring facilities, taking notes based on visual inspections, asking questions of facilities personnel, conducting a debriefing discussion after each visit, and documenting the process in this written report.

The Grand Jury found that all places of incarceration appeared to be satisfactorily managed and maintained. The Grand Jury found that the people who staff the County's jails and holding cells, as well as the State of California (State) youth facility within the County, are generally knowledgeable and perform extremely challenging jobs.

The Grand Jury found that the State's Public Safety Realignment Act of 2011 (Realignment) has added considerably to the workloads and stress of public safety workers. Realignment is also putting extra stress on inmates in some facilities, especially the County Main Jail, due mainly to overcrowding and a change in the type of offenders.

The Grand Jury encourages the current emphasis on preparing inmates for reentry into useful societal roles; it believes emotional skills and attitude-training programs to be crucial to that effort. The Grand Jury was impressed with the emphasis on mutual respect expressed by facility staff at many locations.



The Juvenile Justice Facility in Oxnard offers many training programs, including jobs skills such as computer repair and landscaping services, as well as emotional skills such as "Thinking for a Change" and tolerance education. (All photos from Grand Jury archives)

The Grand Jury paid special attention to the treatment of juveniles by law-enforcement officers and jail staff. Officers are trained to help parents/guardians deal effectively with troubled juveniles. These officers are working to avoid having to arrest the same juveniles later as adults.

The Grand Jury found that all but three of its site-specific recommendations from the previous year had been implemented.

The Grand Jury's detention facilities inspections resulted in the following overall recommendations:

- That the County, Cities, Sheriff, and Probation Department strive to operate detention and incarceration facilities at current or higher performance levels;
- That the Sheriff's Office, Probation Department, and Cities continue to expand their focus on mutual respect, rehabilitation, and societal reentry; in particular, that they expand their evidence-based skills, attitudes, and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) training programs, sharing best programs and practices among all detention facilities where such programs are practical;
- That the Sheriff's Office, Probation Department, and Cities expand their staff training to include more training that specifically addresses realignment challenges, e.g., more emphasis on how to cope with a greater probability of physical and verbal attacks by inmates and with increased workloads, perhaps offering more frequent refreshers of current relevant training programs such as stress reduction, anger management, and Crisis Intervention Training;
- That detention facilities, wherever feasible, expand their efforts toward sustainable ecologies, e.g., capturing solar energy; recycling bottles, cans, and cartons; and composting and/or recycling food waste; and
- That the County's detention and incarceration facilities continue to expand their use of technology, reducing their dependence on paper files.

Recommendations for specific facilities may be found below.

Background

California State Penal Code Section 919(b) mandates that "The grand jury shall inquire into the condition and management of the public prisons within the county." Penal Code section 921 states, "The grand jury is entitled to free access, at all reasonable times, to the public prisons [in this context, a generic term for all detention facilities], and to the examination, without charge, of all public records within the county." [Ref-01, Ref-02]

There are 15 places of detention in Ventura County, including nine holding cell facilities (Camarillo, Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Santa Paula,



The Todd Road Jail, a pre- and post-sentencing facility near Santa Paula

Simi Valley, and Ventura); one facility that acts as both a holding facility and a post-sentencing jail (East Valley/Thousand Oaks [TO]); two pre- and post-sentencing jails (Main Jail, Todd Road); one County Juvenile Justice Facility; one work furlough/work-release facility; and one State juvenile prison, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Division of Juvenile Justice, Ventura Youth Correctional Facility (VYCF), formerly the California Youth Authority (CYA).

All these facilities are experiencing major impacts from the US Supreme Court's order in the fall of 2011 to reduce overcrowding in California's prisons to 137.5% of their original design capacity. That order has resulted in a lengthy and radical State-ordered change known as "Realignment," which relocates prisoners convicted of lesser felonies—the so-called "non-non-nons" (nonserious, nonviolent, nonsexual)—from State prisons to facilities in their counties of origin, among numerous other stipulations. Newly convicted lesser felons normally remain in their counties after sentencing. [Ref-04, Ref-12]

The direct costs of realignment have been subsidized by the State since its inception, with \$18.3 million to the County for Fiscal Year 2013-2014. The indirect costs, including workload repercussions, have been and continue to be hugely significant for all branches of the public safety system. [Ref-04]

The local facility hardest hit by realignment is the Ventura County Main Jail. Before realignment began in October 2011, County jails housed inmates who received relatively short sentences. Today, the County's Main Jail houses felons whose sentences may be many years long—a function the facility was not built to handle. Managing the increase in number of inmates has meant overcrowding to the point of using dayrooms for sleeping quarters. [Ref-04]

Realignment has added to the workload of the Probation Department by reducing sentences, putting more convicted persons on probation, and expanding the use of GPS-enabled electronic surveillance (ankle bracelets) instead of jail time, among other impacts. [Ref-04]

Methodology

The Grand Jury performed the following actions to fulfill its mandate of inspecting detention facilities:

- Created an internal subcommittee to coordinate activities related to touring/inspecting detention facilities.
- Developed a one-page guide listing key areas to observe during tours. (Att-01)
- Reviewed the Public Safety Realignment Update Report presented to the County Board of Supervisors on September 17, 2013 [Ref-04], as well as reports from September 2011 and 2012. [Ref-09, Ref-10]
- Made advance appointments to visit all 15 facilities where persons are detained, including temporary holding cells in police stations.
 - Jails visited were County Main Jail, Todd Road Jail, Juvenile Justice Facility, Work Furlough Facility, and East Valley/TO Jail.
 - Holding cells visited were located in police department headquarters in the cities of Camarillo, Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Santa Paula, Simi Valley, and Ventura.
 - State prison visited was the VYCF.

While at the above detention facilities, the Grand Jury:

- Received pretour briefings and printed information (e.g., reports, pamphlets, brochures) from facility or station heads on the mission, responsibilities, and values of the facility.
- During tours, took notes on its observations and asked candid questions of tour leaders and other officers.
- Checked logs for Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) to verify that the devices are monitored regularly.
- Requested and obtained Policy and Procedures (P&Ps) documents.
- Flushed toilets and used faucets to check their functioning.

The Grand Jury looked carefully at procedures for handling detained juveniles, which must meet special criteria, by examining the following areas: segregation from adult arrestees; appropriate use of restraints; the presence and proper maintenance of a juvenile booking log; number of hours held; interview techniques used; whether officers/staff made phone calls to parents/guardians; whether juveniles were released to parents/guardians; what special programs, if any, were available to juveniles and/or their parents to help prevent future incidents. Grand Jurors also made a second visit to the VYCF to inspect the central kitchen and all aspects of food preparation/service, and to inspect the medical clinic and its P&Ps for aspects of medical care.

The Grand Jury heard informal presentations from and had discussions with detainees in the Work Furlough and the VYCF.



***The Work Furlough Facility** in Camarillo offers numerous programs to facilitate the transition back into society.*

The Grand Jury also:

- Gathered additional information by telephone and email when questions arose after certain detention facility visits.
- Reviewed past Grand Jury reports on detention facilities. [Ref-05, Ref-06, Ref-07, Ref-08]
- Researched pertinent news stories describing issues facing California jails in general (e.g., Realignment) and Ventura County jails in particular. [Ref-12, Ref-13, Ref-14, Ref-15, Ref-16, Ref-17, Ref-18, Ref-19, Ref-20, Ref-21, Ref-22, Ref-23, Ref-24, Ref-25, Ref-26, Ref-27]

Facts

FA-01. The table below summarizes the results of this fiscal year's inspections of detention facilities in the County. The first column in the table identifies topics to observe selected by the Grand Jury. The following legend identifies the rating system used by the Grand Jury.

E – Excellent

S – Satisfactory

N – Needs improvement

NA – Not Applicable

R – Received documentation

Detention Facilities Inspection Summary

Topic	Jails						Holding Cells								
	Main Jail	Todd Road Jail	Juvenile Justice Facility	Work Furlough Facility	East Valley Facility/TO	Youth Correctional Facility	Camarillo	Fillmore	Moorpark	Ojai	Oxnard	Port Hueneme	Santa Paula	Simi Valley	Ventura
Policy & Procedure Manuals	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Training for Natural Disasters	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Medical Incidents	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Physical Facility Observations															
Capacity	810	900	420	85	20	800	4	7	10	2	75	4	14	25	6
Average Length of Stay (Hours)	NA	NA	NA	1 yr.	8	NA	6	3	2	2	6	6	7.5	6	2
Cell Cleanliness	S	E	S	S	E	S	E	S	E	E	S	E	S	E	S
Arrestee/Inmate Clothing/Personal Hygiene	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	E	S
Bedding/Linens	S	S	S	S	S	S	NA	NA	S	S	S	S	NA	E	NA
Toilet Accessibility	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Bodily Fluids Cleansers/Drainage	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Showers	S	S	S	S	S	S	NA	NA	S	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	NA
Safety & Maintenance	S	S	S	S	E	S	S	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Phone Accessibility	S	S	S	S	S	S	NA	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Water Accessibility	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Food/Snacks	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
First Aid/Medical Necessities and AED Accessibility	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N	E	S	S	S	S	S	N
Classification/Segregation by Male/Female	S	S	S	S	NA	S	NA	S	S	NA	S	S	S	S	S
Classification/Segregation by Charge/Violence	S	S	S	NA	NA	S	NA	S	S	NA	NA	NA	S	NA	NA
Appropriate Use of Restraints	S	S	S	S	S	NA	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
English/Spanish Translators	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	E	S	S	S	E	S
Special Accommodations for Juveniles															
Appropriate Use of Restraints	S	S	S	S	NA	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Segregation from Adults	S	S	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Shouting Distance to Staff	S	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Phone Call to Parents	S	NA	S	NA	NA	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Interview before Transfer to Juvenile Hall	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Log	S	NA	S	NA	NA	NA	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Longest Time a Juvenile Held (Hours)	2	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	6	2	3	2	6	2	4	6	4

FA-02. Maximum design capacity for the Main Jail, Todd Road Jail, and East Valley totals 1,609 detainees. This can be increased to a maximum of 1,850 in overflow conditions. [Ref-11]

FA-03. Realignment has heavily impacted all branches of the public safety system: the Sheriff's Office, Probation Agency, Behavioral Health, District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, local law enforcement, and numerous community-based organizations (CBOs). [Ref-04]

These impacts include:

- County facilities now house a more "challenging & active population – high risk/high need" [Ref-10], e.g., felony offenders who are more likely to have gang affiliations and who may feel deprived of the amenities they enjoyed in State prisons, such as better outdoor exercising and socializing opportunities and televisions in their cells instead of only in dayrooms. [Ref-04, Ref-11, Ref-26, Ref-27]
- Supervision of felony offenders already on parole has shifted from the State Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to the County Probation Department, which must provide Post-Release Community Supervision, including "direct treatment and court services to each offender." The County expects to receive approximately 1,100 individuals released from prison to probation supervision at full implementation of Realignment. [Ref-04, Ref-13, Ref-15]
- The amount of jail time an inmate may serve has been significantly reduced. The good behavior/work time credits an inmate can now accrue means that low-level offenders can serve as little as 45% of their sentences. This in turn puts added pressure on the Probation Department and CBOs who cope with inmates who are released early. [Ref-04, Ref-13, Ref-15, Ref-23]
- A new form of supervision has been created—Mandatory Supervision (MS)—to help lower reoffense rates. MS requires that probationers spend a court-ordered period of time in the community under the supervision of the County Probation Department, which must connect the probationers to community services and/or programs and use assessment tools to hold them accountable. [Ref 04]
- The Sheriff's Office, Probation Agency, Behavioral Health, District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, local law enforcement, and relevant CBOs must now collaborate on Realignment implementation plans and updates. This, along with other new documentation requirements, takes significant additional effort and time. [Ref-04, Ref-09, Ref-10]

FA-04. In September 2013 the Ventura County Sheriff's Office reported to the BOS that "Currently the average daily jail population in the Ventura County Jail system routinely exceeds 1,650 inmates. At this population level, approximately 300 inmates will be assigned bunks in common

areas, better known as dayrooms, within a housing section.” [Ref-04, Ref-11, Ref-12, Ref-14, Ref-25]

- FA-05.** All of the Police Departments (PDs) and County holding facilities are aware of and conform to the policies and procedures for processing juvenile detainees.
- FA-06.** Facilities are heading toward putting all documentation online. Santa Paula reports being at “99%—almost paperless.”



The Main Jail at the Government Center has been greatly impacted by Realignment.

- FA-07.** Main Jail inmates not on disciplinary status spend about half their days in dayrooms, which permits them to shower, move around freely, watch television, and interact with other inmates.
- FA-08.** At the time of this inspection, 70% of Todd Road Jail detainees are unsentenced, although this jail was originally intended to house post-sentencing inmates.
- FA-09.** Todd Road Jail is extremely clean and well maintained.
- FA-10.** Todd Road Jail has a solar-panel farm system, which provides 45% of its electrical energy needs. It recycles food containers, composts food and plant waste, and recycles kitchen food waste.
- FA-11.** The Juvenile Justice Facility includes Providence High School, which is fully accredited by the County Superintendent of Education. However, the school displayed an outdated accreditation certificate.
- FA-12.** The Juvenile Justice Facility has staff that are trained in and facilitate Aggression Replacement Training (ART).
- FA-13.** Work Furlough provides low-risk offenders the opportunity to work, attend school, and/or receive job training while serving a jail sentence. At the time of this inspection, 70 inmates were in the Work Furlough Program.

- FA-14.** There has been a countywide emphasis on programs that help prepare inmates for reentry into useful societal roles, especially on programs that include training in emotional skills and constructive attitudes. Examples: Thinking for a Change (teaches how to monitor self-talk and use cognitive behavioral therapy [CBT] to manage emotions); ART; Jobs & Opportunity = Better Success (JOBS); Specialized Training and Employment Project for Success (STEPS); and the Integrated Behavior Treatment Model (IBTM). A new program, Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT®), has recently been approved, mainly to help treat drug abuse. [Ref-04]
- FA-15.** Work Furlough's JOBS training is an active and aggressive training effort with an extensive curriculum designed to improve inmates' chances of success after leaving the program.
- FA-16.** The VYCF has a capacity of housing over 800 wards. At the time of this visit, there were 239 wards in residence: 216 males and 23 females. Several buildings on the grounds appeared to be empty. The annual cost to incarcerate a ward is \$239,000.
- FA-17.** The VYCF has implemented IBTM for all wards. This program employs individualized behavior modification and positive reinforcement/rewards to teach the wards attitudes, behaviors, and skills that will help them to reenter society upon release and reduce their chance of recidivism.
- FA-18.** The VYCF provides vocational instruction, including construction skills, dog grooming, and computer skills, as well as online training in various trade areas.
- FA-19.** East Valley, which serves Thousand Oaks and Simi Valley, is a unique facility. It houses both transient arrestees prior to delivery to the Main Jail and male post-sentenced trustees. East Valley does not house women, juveniles, or those with psychiatric or serious physical health issues. Due to its small size, East Valley has the right to refuse arrestees. Its P&Ps state that, at the discretion of the deputy, an arrestee may be taken to the Main Jail, hospital, JJF, or to any other appropriate place.



The East Valley Facility in Thousand Oaks houses post-sentenced male trustees as well as arrestees who will be transferred to other locations.

- FA-20.** The Moorpark Jail is clean and well maintained.
- FA-21.** The Moorpark Jail has an outstanding playroom for children of detainees.
- FA-22.** The following material deficiencies were noted in the Fillmore Jail: a fire extinguisher was left in an unsecured location in an open closet just inside the booking area, near the exit door; the toilet-tank top in the restroom is not secured and could be easily removed and used as a weapon; and the floor mat in the entrance could cause tripping.
- FA-23.** The Ojai Jail is clean and well maintained.
- FA-24.** Juveniles detained in all holding facilities are being released to parents/guardians if the offense doesn't require transfer to the JJF. Proper juvenile-detention logs were observed in all jails.
- FA-25.** Holding cells in the Oxnard Jail have no seats or mattress pads, although chairs and pads are available if requested or needed for health reasons.
- FA-26.** Port Hueneme Jail has two holding cells with a total capacity of seven detainees; one cell has four beds.
- FA-27.** Port Hueneme station is clean and well maintained.
- FA-28.** Snacks are available in the Port Hueneme Jail; meals, when needed, are purchased at local fast-food restaurants.
- FA-29.** Santa Paula Jail uses County inmates to perform cleaning, which is done well.
- FA-30.** Detainees at the Simi Valley Jail are provided with fast-food sandwiches but are not allowed "luxury" items such as fries or shakes.
- FA-31.** The Simi Valley Jail did not have an AED log.
- FA-32.** The Ventura PD Jail does not have holding cells but only small rooms used for interviews and prebooking. Most arrestees are transported directly to the Main Jail. Medical treatment, if necessary, is provided by the Ventura County Medical Center.
- FA-33.** There was no AED in the holding area of the Ventura Jail.
- FA-34.** All but three of the Grand Jury's site-specific recommendations from the previous year have been implemented. [Ref-05] The ones that weren't implemented have been modified and rerecommended below as R-06, R-07, and R-08.
- FA-35.** State-to-local transferees are known in the justice community as "AB-109 clients." [Ref-04] Several incarceration units have adopted the more respectful term "clients" to refer to their detainees.

Findings

- FI-01.** All jails and holding cells in the County were satisfactory or better for the areas reviewed. (FA-01)

- FI-02.** Realignment has put more demands and stress on public safety workers due to heavier workloads, more difficult detainees, and greater potential for physical and verbal abuse. (FA-03, FA-04)
- FI-03.** Mandated collaborative implementation plans among all parties responsible for Realignment, as well as other new documentation requirements, take significant time and effort away from public safety employees' important other duties. (FA-03, FA-04)
- FI-04.** All but three recommendations from the 2012-2013 Grand Jury report on detention facilities have been implemented. (FA-34)
- FI-05.** Juvenile detainees are being managed as required by the State. (FA-01, FA-05)
- FI-06.** The County's detention and incarceration facilities are using technology to reduce their dependence on paper files. (FA-06)
- FI-07.** Facilities are prepared for inmate incidents, medical emergencies, and natural disasters, although Fillmore has not held natural disaster training recently. (FA-01)
- FI-08.** All holding facilities except Oxnard are equipped with chairs, mattresses, bunks, or other off-the-ground seating for arrestees. Oxnard will provide a chair or mattress pad on request. (FA-25)
- FI-09.** There were three conditions at the Fillmore Jail that could lead to injury to officers or detainees: an unsecured fire extinguisher, an unsecured toilet-tank top, and a door mat that could cause tripping. (FA-22)
- FI-10.** The following facilities excelled in overall cleanliness: Todd Road, East Valley/TO, Camarillo, Ojai, Port Hueneme, Moorpark, and Simi Valley. (FA-01, FA-09, FA-20, FA-23)
- FI-11.** All facilities have adequate first aid supplies available except Ventura, which lacked an AED in its holding area. Simi Valley does not have a log book or signage for its AED. (FA-01, FA-31, FA-33)
- FI-12.** All holding cells/areas had snacks and water available. For meals, fast-food runs were made at the Port Hueneme and Simi Valley facilities, which could take time away from officers on patrol or other assigned duties. (FA-01, FA-28, FA-30)
- FI-13.** County jails, the VYCF, and Work Furlough offer progressive education and vocational training programs to counteract recidivism and help releasees adapt once they return to society. (FA-11, FA-12, FA-13, FA-14, FA-15, FA-17, FA-18)
- FI-14.** Several facilities have implemented laudable "green" initiatives in the areas of solar power-generation, composting, bottle and container recycling, and food-waste recycling. Todd Road is particularly progressive in this regard, with its solar farm providing 45% of its electrical energy. (FA-10)

- FI-15.** Providence High School at the Juvenile Justice Facility had an outdated accreditation certificate on the wall, which could put visitors in doubt about whether its accreditation is current. (FA-11)

Recommendations

General

- R-01.** The Grand Jury recommends that the County, Cities, Sheriff, and Probation Department strive to operate detention and incarceration facilities at current or higher performance levels. (FI-01)
- R-02.** The Grand Jury recommends that the Sheriff's Office, Probation Department, and Cities continue to expand their focus on mutual respect, rehabilitation, and societal reentry; in particular, that they expand their evidence-based skills, attitudes, and CBT training programs, sharing best programs and practices among all detention facilities where such programs are practical. (FI-13)
- R-03.** The Grand Jury recommends that the Sheriff's Office, Probation Department, and Cities expand their staff training to include more training that specifically addresses realignment challenges, e.g., more emphasis on how to cope with the greater probability of physical and verbal attacks by inmates and increased workloads, perhaps offering more frequent refreshers of current relevant training programs such as stress reduction, anger management, and Crisis Intervention Training. (FI-02, FI-03)
- R-04.** The Grand Jury recommends that detention facilities, wherever feasible, expand their efforts toward sustainable ecologies, e.g., capturing solar energy; recycling bottles, cans, and cartons; and composting and/or recycling yard and food waste. (FI-14)
- R-05.** The Grand Jury recommends that the County's detention and incarceration facilities continue to expand their use of technology, reducing their dependence on paper files. (FI-06)

Site-Specific

- R-06.** The Grand Jury recommends that the City of Ventura Police Department install an AED in its holding area. (FI-11)
- R-07.** The Grand Jury recommends that the City of Oxnard provide raised seating or mattress pads in their cells, to insulate arrestees from the concrete cell floors. (FI-08)
- R-08.** The Grand Jury recommends that the City of Fillmore correct three safety hazards that could lead to injuries to officers or detainees: (1) secure the fire extinguisher inside the booking area, near the exit door, so that it cannot be picked up by a detainee; (2) strap the toilet-tank top in the restroom to the tank itself with metal bands or another secure method; and (3) secure the door mat in the entrance or replace it with a no-slip version. (FI-09)

- R-09.** The Grand Jury recommends that the cities of Port Hueneme and Simi Valley keep microwavable meals on hand so that fast-food runs for arrestees are not necessary. (FI-12)
- R-10.** The Grand Jury recommends that the Juvenile Justice Facility replace the outdated accreditation certificate at its Providence High School with proof of current accreditation. (FI-15)
- R-11.** The Grand Jury recommends that the Simi Valley Jail obtain and maintain an AED logbook. (FI-11)

Responses

Responses required from:

Ventura County Sheriff (FI-01, FI-02, FI-03, FI-10, FI-13, FI-14) (R-01, R-02, R-03, R-04, R-05)

City Council, City of Fillmore (FI-01, FI-02, FI-03, FI-09) (R-01, R-02, R-03, R-04, R-05, R-08)

City Council, City of Oxnard (FI-01, FI-02, FI-03, FI-08) (R-01, R-02, R-03, R-04, R-05, R-07)

City Council, City of Port Hueneme (FI-01, FI-02, FI-03, FI-12) (R-01, R-02, R-03, R-04, R-05, R-09)

City Council, City of Simi Valley (FI-01, FI-02, FI-03, FI-10, FI-11, FI-12) (R-01, R-02, R-03, R-09, R-11)

City Council, City of Ventura (FI-01, FI-02, FI-03, FI-11) (R-01, R-02, R-03, R-04, R-05, R-06)

Responses requested from:

Ventura County Probation Department (FI-02, FI-03, FI-15) (R-01, R-02, R-03, R-10)

Provided for information only:

City Council, City of Camarillo (FI-01, FI-02, FI-03) (R-01, R-02, R-03, R-04, R-05)

City Council, City of Moorpark (FI-01, FI-02, FI-03, FI-10) (R-01, R-02, R-03, R-04, R-05)

City Council, City of Ojai (FI-01, FI-02, FI-03, FI-10) (R-01, R-02, R-03, R-04, R-05)

City Council, City of Santa Paula (FI-01, FI-02, FI-03, FI-06) (R-01, R-02, R-03, R-04, R-05)

City Council, City of Thousand Oaks (FI-01, FI-02, FI-03) (R-01, R-02, R-03, R-04, R-05)

Supervisor, Ventura Youth Correctional Authority (FI-01, FI-05, FI-07, FI-13, R-04, R-05)

References

- Ref-01.** State of California. *Penal Code section 919(b)*
<http://law.onecle.com/california/penal/919.html> (accessed May 16, 2014)

- Ref-02.** State of California. *Penal Code section 921*
<http://law.onecle.com/california/penal/921.html> (accessed April 16, 2014)
- Ref-03.** California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation. *Corrections Standards Authority, Title 15 and Title 24, CCR.*
<http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/CSA/FSO/Regulations.html> (accessed October 2012)
- Ref-04.** Ventura County Probation Agency. *FY 2013-14 Public Safety Realignment Update Report* (includes updates from the Sheriff's Office, Probation Agency, Behavioral Health, District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, local law enforcement and community-based organizations) presented to the County BOS on September 17, 2013
<http://www.ventura.org/county-news/public-safety-realignment-update-report> (accessed May 15, 2014)
- Ref-05.** 2012-2013 Ventura County Grand Jury. *Annual Reports*, "Detention Facilities Inspections."
http://vcportal.ventura.org/GDJ/docs/reports/2012-13/Jail_Inspection-Final.pdf (accessed October 10, 2013)
- Ref-06.** 2011-2012 Ventura County Grand Jury. *Annual Reports*, "Mandatory Detention Facilities Inspections."
http://vcportal.ventura.org/GDJ/docs/reports/2011-12/Mandatory_Detention_Facilities_Inspections-Report.pdf (accessed October 10, 2013)
- Ref-07.** 2008-2009 Ventura County Grand Jury. *Annual Reports*, "Detention Facilities Condition and Management."
<http://vcportal.ventura.org/GDJ/docs/reports/2008-09/11DetentionFacilitiesConditionandManagement.pdf> (accessed September 24, 2013)
- Ref-08.** 2007-2008 Ventura County Grand Jury. *Annual Reports*, "Detention Facilities Condition and Management."
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Attachments

Att-01. Jails/Holding Cells Observation and Comment Sheet

Disclaimer

This report is issued by the 2013-2014 Ventura County Grand Jury. Due to a potential conflict of interest, a member of this Grand Jury was excused from participating in one inspection.

Glossary

TERM

DEFINITION

AED	Automated External Defibrillator: "a portable electronic device that diagnoses the life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias of ventricular fibrillation and ventricular tachycardia in a patient, and is able to treat them through defibrillation, the application of electrical therapy which stops the arrhythmia, allowing the heart to reestablish an effective rhythm. With simple audio-visual commands, AEDs are designed to be simple to use for the layperson." (Wikipedia)
ART	Aggression Replacement Training
BOS	Board of Supervisors of Ventura County
CBO	Community-Based Organization; CBOs, which include faith-based and secular organizations, are in partnership with Public Safety entities to help provide required services for parolees and currently receive funds to help with the greater number of probationers under Realignment (Ref-04)
CBT	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy: "a common type of mental health counseling...[that] helps you become aware of inaccurate or negative thinking, so you can view challenging situations more clearly and respond to them in a more effective way...It can be an effective tool to help anyone learn

	how to better manage stressful life situations.” (Mayo Clinic staff)
County	Ventura County
CSA	Corrections Standards Authority: a State regulatory agency that established and promotes standards for the construction, operation, and administration of local detention facilities. The standards can be found in Titles 15 & 24 of the State’s Code of Regulations. http://www.bdcorr.ca.gov/regulations/regulations.htm
Detainee	A person being detained by law-enforcement officers and/or in a detention facility
East Valley Facility	A unique facility serving as Thousand Oaks’ holding facility and a post-sentencing jail for the County
Evidence based	Backed up by measured, statistically meaningful data
Grand Jury	2013-2014 Ventura County Grand Jury
Inmate	An incarcerated person
JJF	Juvenile Justice Facility in El Rio
Main Jail	Ventura County Main Jail in the Victoria Avenue Government Center complex; serves as a pre- and post-trial facility
MRT	“Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT®) is a cognitive-behavioral program that leads to enhanced moral reasoning, better decision making, and appropriate behaviors...The word reconciliation comes from the psychological term conative, which refer to the process of making conscious decisions...Studies show MRT-treated offenders have re-arrest and re-incarceration rates 25% to 75% lower than expected.” http://www.melangehs.com/cms.php?cms_id=67
MS	Mandatory Supervision: a new, Realignment-created form of court-ordered probation requiring a period of time in the community under the supervision of the County Probation Department

P&Ps	Policies and Procedures
PD	Police Department
Realignment	"[California] Assembly Bill 109, which went into effect on October 1, 2011, changed the definition of a felony offense, shifted lower level offenders from state prisons to local jails, transferred the supervision of designated parolees from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to county probation agencies as post-release community supervision offenders and created a new form of sentence requiring a new form of supervision known as mandatory supervision." [Ref-04]
Trustee	An inmate trusted to work outside of his/her cell with little or no staff supervision
VYCF	Ventura Youth Correctional Facility, the popular name for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Division of Juvenile Justice Ventura Youth Correctional Facility (formerly CYA/California Youth Authority)

Attachment 01

Jails/Holding Cells Observation and Comment Sheet

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Juror's name: _____

Name of facility: _____ **Date:** _____

JAILS/HOLDING CELLS OBSERVATION AND COMMENT SHEET

In general, please observe:

- a. Processes (procedures)
- b. Equipment and furniture
- c. Compliance/noncompliance with codes you're aware of
- d. Areas that could be improved

Also, any comments on the following will be appreciated.

- Reasonable (or not) amount of space for each detainee
- Number of police staff observed on duty
- Observation(s) of anything improper
- Any offensive sights, sounds, smells
- Detainee classification system, if any
- Services (food, medical, counseling, etc.)
- Management of juveniles
- Personal hygiene and sanitation
- Safety issues (AED handy, etc.)
- Programs such as job training, "Thinking for a Change" (cognitive behavioral training/CBT), etc.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS MAY BE WRITTEN ON THE REVERSE SIDE.