



Ventura County
Behavioral Health Department

Alcohol & Drug Programs
Mental Health Services

Linda Shulman, M.F.T.
Acting Behavioral Health Director

Michael Ferguson, M.D.
Behavioral Health Medical Director

A Division of the Ventura County Health Care Agency

July 15, 2002

Honorable Bruce A. Clark
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
Ventura County Hall of Justice
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

The Behavioral Health Department's Response to the Grand Jury Report, *The Public Administrator and Public Guardian as Conservator* is as follows:

Findings:

- F1:** Unable to comment.
- F1(a):** Unable to comment
- F1(b):** Concur
- F1(c):** Unable to comment
- F1(d):** Unable to comment
- F2:** Unable to comment
- F3(a - j):** Unable to comment.
- F4(a - h):** Unable to comment
- F5(a - c):** Unable to comment
- F6(a - p):** Unable to comment.

The Department is unable to comment on these findings not because they are not accurate or because the Department does not agree, but rather because they cover areas of fact finding unrelated to the Behavioral Health Department's own scope of fact verification.

Recommendations:

R12: The Public Guardian should prepare and implement a monthly schedule of visits to all facilities for face-to-face meetings with conservatee patients to ensure that the patients are being treated appropriately and are in a healthy environment.

The Behavioral Health Department does conduct monthly and sometimes when appropriate bi-monthly visits to all enrolled clients. The Public Guardian is certainly most welcome to join in these visits or to access the information obtained by our staff during these visits.

If you require any additional information from myself, please contact me at (805) 652-6737.

Sincerely,


Linda Shulman, MFT
Acting Director, Ventura County Behavioral Health