VENTURA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

• BOB BROOKS
SHERIFF

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July 5, 2005

Honorable John Smiley
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
Ventura County Hall of Justice
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, California 93009

Re: Response to the 2004-2005 Ventura County Grand Jury Report entitled *Ventura County Proposition 36: Administrative Reforms Examined*

In accordance with California Penal Code Section 933 (c), this report is a response to the findings and recommendations of the 2004-2005 Grand Jury report entitled, *Ventura County Proposition 36: Administrative Reforms Examined.* The following are my responses:

Recommendations

R-01. Immediate [sic] remove BHD/ADP as Lead Agency of Prop 36. Contact the State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs to coordinate an emergency halt to the submitted County Plan.

Response to R-01: I concur with the Grand Jury's findings.

R-02. Immediately designate Probation as the Lead Agency for Prop 36.

Response to R-02: I concur with the Grand Jury's findings.

R-03. Immediately disband the Prop 36 Oversight Committee and establish guidelines for the Operations Committee to operate in an organized fashion and make decisions, with provision to obtain approvals from department heads when necessary.

Response to R-03: I concur with the Grand Jury's findings.

R-04. Immediately initiate action to close the BHD/ADP Prop 36 CAC and free the funding and other resources for more direct treatment use.

Response to R-04: I concur with the Grand Jury's findings.

R-05. Formally request through the courts that all Prop 36 offenders be placed on formal probation.

Response to R-05: I concur with the Grand Jury's findings.

R-06. Allow Probation, as Lead Agency, to make arrangement for assessment and treatment referral at a location of their choosing, immediately after Court sentencing.

Response to R-06: I concur with the Grand Jury's findings.

R-07. As the Lead Agency, allow Probation and treatment providers to determine, with input from the Operations Committee, the best delivery model for treatment services and required communications.

Response to R-07: I concur with the Grand Jury's findings.

R-08. Move the addiction specialists from the CAC to the county-operated treatment centers and establish additional DMC reimbursed treatment capacity.

Response to R-08: I concur with the Grand Jury's findings.

R-09. Under Probation leadership, provide financial accountability and oversight of all Prop 36 funds. Bring funding allocation decisions back to the Operations Committee.

Response to R-09: I concur with the Grand Jury's findings.

R-10. Encourage the Operations Committee to abandon the pursuit of the perfect protocol and leave treatment decisions to treatment providers with Lead Agency oversight. Instead, focus Operations Committee efforts on obtaining actionable metrics so that recommendations can be made based on reality instead of perception and spin.

Response to R-10: I concur with the Grand Jury's findings.

R-11. Evaluate the contracts of the treatment providers to ensure that the county is not taking advantage of treatment partners. Consider using hoarded BHD/ADP Prop

36 funds to reimburse the accounts receivable that these providers have accrued by being from ordered to treat Prop 36 clients on a pro-bono basis.

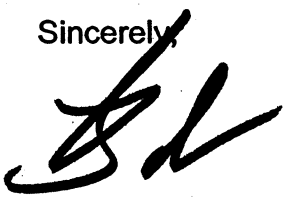
Response to R-11: I concur with the Grand Jury's findings.

R-12. In the interest of cost, efficiency, and treatment delivery, BHD/ADP should not be encouraged or even allowed to participate in leadership of any future court-ordered treatment programs.

Response to R-12: I concur with the Grand Jury's findings.

Thank you again for allowing me to respond to your recommendations.

Sincerely,



BOB BROOKS
Ventura County Sheriff