

August 24, 2009

J. Matthew Carroll
Assistant County Executive Officer

Paul Dorse
Chief Financial Officer

John K. Nicoll
Human Resources Director

Honorable Kevin J. McGee
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
Superior Court of California, Ventura County
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Subject: **Board of Supervisors' Responses to 2008-09 Grand Jury Reports**

Dear Judge McGee:

In accordance with State requirements, the responses from the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to four 2008-09 Grand Jury reports, "Detention Facilities: Condition and Management", "Ventura County Pensions: An Uncontrollable Cost", "Mentally Ill Housed in Ventura County Jails" and "Land Use Permitting Process: Get to Excellence Plan" are hereby submitted. The Board approved the responses, which pertain to county government under its authority, on August 11, 2009 as *modified*.

The first of two modifications was that the following statement be added to this transmittal letter, "The Board's approval of the response to the Pension Report does not imply a change to established policy or commit or limit future actions by the Board in these areas."

The second modification was regarding its response to the "Mentally Ill in Ventura County Jails" report to the effect that the County is working to implement measures to keep the mentally ill out of jail and to establish alternative housing for mentally ill inmates. The Board's response to Recommendation 2 of the subject report has been revised to reflect this modification


The response to the remaining report under the Board's authority, "Is Your Favorite Restaurant Clean?" is being finalized and will be submitted for Board approval in September, after which it will be forwarded to you.

A copy of the response to the report "Inmate Grievance Procedure", previously submitted directly to the Grand Jury by the Sheriff, is included here for informational purposes only, as the approval of the Board is not required for responses from elected officials.

The County Clerk and Recorder has advised this office that although his response to the report, "Did Your Vote Count?" does not require Board approval, he plans to place it on the Board's agenda in September, at which time the County Clerk and Recorder will provide a copy to the Court.

Should you have any questions, please call Matt Carroll at 654-2864 or Kathleen Van Norman at 654-2566.

Respectfully submitted,


MARTY ROBINSON
County Executive Officer

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SEP 1 2009

VENTURA COUNTY
GRAND JURY

Enclosures – BoS Response to four 2008-09 Grand Jury Reports

cc: County Clerk, James Becker
Superior Court Jury Services (3 copies as listed for distribution)

- For Jury Services, Richard Goldner, Court Program Supervisor
- For transmittal to State Archives
- For transmittal to Grand Jury

Hall of Administration L # 1940
800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009 • (805) 654-3656 • FAX (805) 654-5106

BOARD MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF VENTURA, STATE OF
CALIFORNIA

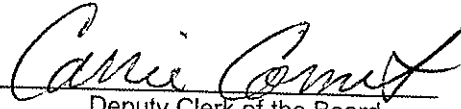
SUPERVISORS STEVE BENNETT, LINDA PARKS,
KATHY I. LONG, PETER C. FOY AND JOHN C. ZARAGOZA
August 11, 2009 8:30 a.m.

228.3

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE – Approval of Responses to Four 2008-09 Ventura County Grand Jury Final Reports Entitled "Detention Facilities: Condition and Management", "Ventura County Pension: An Uncontrollable Cost", "Mentally Ill Housed in Ventura County Jails" and "Land Use Permitting Process Get to Excellence Plan" for Submittal to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court.

- (X) All board members are present.
- (X) The following persons are heard: Matt Carroll, Marty Robinson, and Meloney Roy.
- (X) Upon motion of Supervisor Long, seconded by Supervisor Zaragoza, and duly carried, the Board hereby Approves as Modified with Direction to staff that statements be added to the transmittal letter, that the Board's approval of the response to the Pension Report does not imply a change to existing County policies or the approval of any new policy positions; and regarding its response to the Mentally Ill in Ventura County Jails Report the County is working to implement measures to keep the mentally ill out of jail and to establish alternative housing for mentally ill inmates.

By:


Deputy Clerk of the Board

CLERK'S CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the annexed instrument
is a true and correct copy of the document
which is on file in this office.
MARTY ROBINSON, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors,
County of Ventura, State of California.

Dated: _____

By: _____
Deputy Clerk of the Board

Item # 42
08/11/09

county of ventura

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE
MARTY ROBINSON
County Executive Officer

J. Matthew Carroll
Assistant County Executive Officer

Paul Derse
Chief Financial Officer

John K. Nicoll
Human Resources Director

August 11, 2009

County of Ventura
Board of Supervisors
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Subject: Approval of Responses to Four 2008-09 Ventura County Grand Jury Final Reports Entitled "Detention Facilities: Condition and Management", "Ventura County Pension: An Uncontrollable Cost", "Mentally Ill Housed in Ventura County Jails" and "Land Use Permitting Process Get to Excellence Plan" for Submittal to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court

Recommendation:

That your Board approves the responses to the four subject Grand Jury reports pertaining to County government under your authority for submittal to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court in accordance with State statute.

Discussion:

Penal Code §933.05 requires that your Board comment on the findings and recommendations of the Grand Jury pertaining to county government under your authority. The 2008-09 Ventura County Grand Jury issued 11 individual reports, seven of which pertain to County government.

Responses from appointed agency and department heads to four of the seven County government reports are addressed in this letter. These responses have been coordinated through the County Executive Office and are submitted for your approval.

For your reference, the report titles and respondents listed in the Grand Jury Final Report are summarized in the table below.



County Executive Office
MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 11, 2009

SUBJECT: Response to 2008-2009 Grand Jury Report "Detention Facilities: Conditions and Management" from the Ventura County Board of Supervisors and County Executive Officer

RECOMMENDATION

R-01: The VCSD, BOS and CEO should continue discussions regarding the overcrowding in the jails and develop alternative solutions to alleviate this problem.

RESPONSE: Concur.

We agree with the recommendation. The fiscal challenges facing Ventura County and other local governments limit our ability to expand jail capacity for the foreseeable future and therefore the development of alternative solutions to traditional incarceration is imperative. The Board of Supervisors held a study sessions on September 23, 2008 on potential alternatives to incarceration. As a follow-up to the study session, the Probation Agency has developed some proposals for three pilot programs. The CEO will bring this item to the Board for discussion in August of this year.

Also, with the anticipated release of state prisoners back to the counties, all partners in the Ventura County criminal justice system from the Courts, Sheriff, District Attorney, Public Defender, and Probation have recently exhibited a higher level of collaboration in developing jail alternatives and providing feedback on program proposals.

cc: Paul Derse
Kathleen Van Norman

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August 11, 2009

EXHIBIT 2

RESPONSE TO 2008-09 GRAND JURY REPORT

“Detention Facilities: Condition and Management”

FROM

Sheriff*

**Board of Supervisors
County Executive Officer**

*Sheriff response is included for information only, Board approval is not required.

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VENTURA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

- BOB BROOKS
SHERIFF
- MARK BALL
UNDERSHERIFF

800 SOUTH VICTORIA AVENUE, VENTURA, CA 93009 PHONE (805) 654-2380 FAX (805) 645-1391

July 2, 2009

Ventura County Grand Jury
800 So. Victoria Ave., L#3751
Ventura, CA 93009

Dear Mr. Foreman and Members:

This response is written in accordance with Penal Code §933(c) to the Ventura County 2008-2009 Grand Jury report titled "Detention Facilities: Condition and Management." Alleviating the overcrowding of the jails is one of the highest priorities of the Ventura County Sheriff's Department.

R-01 The Ventura County Sheriff's Department, The Board of Supervisors, and the County Executive Officer should continue discussion regarding the overcrowding in the jails and develop alternate solutions to alleviate this problem.

Discussions are ongoing with the Board of Supervisors and the County Executive Officer in developing alternatives to the overcrowded conditions of our jails. These discussions have included: expansion of the Todd Road Jail when funding sources can be identified, the possible establishment of a secure reentry facility within the County, and expansion of alternatives to incarceration programs.

The Sheriff's Department has developed an Inmate Population Management Program that is designed to manage the pace of the inmate population growth. The program, once implemented, offers a strategy that provides temporary relief from overcrowding by increasing the numbers of pre-trial inmates released on bail or their own recognizance. This approach will be phased in, as jail space is needed. The most dangerous inmates would not be eligible for this program, which will require the cooperation of

SPECIAL SERVICES
6401 Telephone Road, Suite 200
Ventura, CA 93003
(805) 477-7011 FAX (805) 477-7010

PATROL SERVICES
2101 East Olsen Road
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362
(805) 494-8261 FAX (805) 494-8295

DETENTION SERVICES
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009
(805) 654-2305 FAX (805) 654-3500

SUPPORT SERVICES
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009
(805) 654-3926 FAX (805) 654-2109

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"Citrus Capital of the World"

Santa Paula Police Department

214 S. 10th St. • Santa Paula, California • 93060 • Phone: (805) 525-4474 • Fax: (805) 525-0678

Grand Jury resp.
2007-2008

June 30, 2009

Ronald J. Zenone, Foreman
Ventura County Grand Jury
800 S. Victoria Avenue, L#3751
Ventura, California 93009

**RE: Response to Grand Jury Report -
"Detention Facilities: Condition and Management"**

Foreman Zenone:

Following our review of the Grand Jury Final Report entitled "Detention Facilities: Condition and Management" we identified one recommendation that had to do with the City of Santa Paula:

"R-03-The City of Santa Paula should immediately procure and install an AED device near the holding cells and train the appropriate personnel in its operation."

Your cover letter to this report asked for a response as to whether we "concur, concur in part, or disagree with the Grand Jury's finding". Following a thorough review and considerable research into this recommendation we would respectfully disagree with your finding. Our research was recently provided to our City Council. They agreed with our conclusions and authorized this letter of response to be submitted.

Our conclusions followed extensive research. For example, The National Center for Early Defibrillation provides guidelines as to when an AED should be placed at a site. Those guidelines include:

- EMS has a greater than five minute response time
- A sudden cardiac arrest has occurred within five years at this site
- 10,000 or more persons regularly gather at this site
- The site has a concentration of persons over 50 years old
- A detailed formula was provided to determine if there is a high probability of a sudden cardiac arrest at this site

Similar guidelines were also found with the American Heart Association and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Federal Occupational Health Administration). Based on all of those guidelines, the Holding Facility at the Santa Paula

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VENTURA COUNTY
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Police Department did not meet any of the criteria for locating an AED in its holding facility.

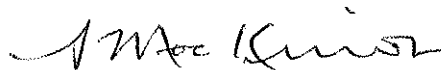
Further research was found from the National Commission on Correctional Health Care. While AED units were recommended for *correctional facilities* (those facilities where persons were actually serving sentences) they did not recommend an AED in a Holding Facility unless the above guidelines were met. The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) has no requirements for placing an AED in holding facilities within a police department.

Based on this research, we concluded that we would not be implementing the finding for Recommendation R-03 based on:

- a) Persons in custody are typically in our Holding Facility significantly less than two hours. Training and policy directs that persons with any signs of medical distress will be transported to the hospital immediately.
- b) All sworn personnel are already trained in CPR with EMS (Santa Paula Fire Department) having a response time of significantly less than 5 minutes.
- c) Persons in custody are monitored at all times.
- d) We do not meet any of the current national guidelines and standards for the placement of an AED within our facility.

I hope I have adequately explained the City's position on this recommendation. I am available to discuss your recommendation and our decision not to implement it if need be. Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this Grand Jury report.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen MacKinnon
Chief of Police

