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Ventura County  
Grand Jury



City of Ojai  
401 S. Ventura Street  
Ojai, CA 93023  
Telephone (805) 646-5581  
www.ojaicity.org

June 28, 2018

To: Presiding Judge Patricia Murphy  
Superior Court of California, County of Ventura  
Hall of Justice  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura CA 93009

**Re: Response to Grand Jury Report: Annual Detention Report**

Dear Judge Murphy,

At its June 26, 2018 regular meeting, the Ojai City Council approved the enclosed response to the Grand Jury Report, "Annual Detention Report." I, City Manager Steve McClary, do hereby submit the aforementioned responses on behalf of the Council.

The City of Ojai concurred with the findings numbered C-18 and R-07 and disagreed with Finding C-17. The City's response to each of these findings is attached to the enclosed response form.

If you have any further questions do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve McClary".

Steve McClary, City Manager  
City of Ojai  
401 S. Ventura St., Ojai, CA 93023  
(805) 646-5581

Cc: County of Ventura Grand Jury  
John F. Johnston, Mayor  
Gail Davis, Deputy City Clerk  
Carol Henry, Court Program Supervisor, Superior Court Jury Services



**Grand Jury**  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009  
(805)477-1600  
Fax: (805)658-4523  
grandjury.countyofventura.org

### Response to Grand Jury Report Form

Report Title: Annual Detention Report

Date: June 26, 2018

Response by: John F. Johnston Title: Mayor - City of Ojai

#### FINDINGS / CONCLUSIONS

- I (we) agree with the findings/ conclusions numbered: C-18 R-07
- I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the Findings/ Conclusions numbered: C-17

(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the Findings/ Conclusions that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons.)

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered C-18 R-07 have been implemented.  
(Attach a summary describing the implemented actions and date completed.)
- Recommendations number \_\_\_\_\_ have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.  
(Attach a time frame for the implementation.)
- Recommendations numbered \_\_\_\_\_ require further analysis.
- Recommendations numbered C-17 will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.

Date: June 28, 2018

Signed: Steve McLaughlin  
CITY MANAGER

Number of pages attached: 82

**GRAND JURY REPORT FINDINGS (in italics)  
AND CITY OF OJAI CITY COUNCIL RESPONSES**

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**GRAND JURY FINDING C-18:**

The Grand Jury concluded that it was unsatisfactory for safety and liability purposes that seven out of 10 holding facilities did not have current fire life safety certifications available for inspection. (FA-50)

**CITY COUNCIL RESPONSE TO FINDING C-18**

The Ventura County Sheriff's Office (VCSO) is the contract law enforcement agency for the City of Ojai. The California Fire Marshall, administered through Cal-Fire, has completed the Fire-Life Safety inspection Pursuant to Health and Safety Code 13146.1 and has added Ojai to the list of stations needing the biennial certification/inspection. After meeting with the Grand Jury, a Fire-Life Safety Inspection was scheduled and completed on 03/28/2018 at VCSO / Ojai PD. VCSO / Ojai PD passed the Fire-Safety Inspection and record of this is on file at VCSO / Ojai PD. The Fire Marshall noted the exterior door to the holding area was missing the required seal as well as the need to be equipped with a self-closing mechanism, as well as the device that automatically closes the door in the event of a fire. The Fire Marshall also noted that the fire sprinkler system service tag was expired. The Fire Marshal tested the system and it passed the test and will receive a five year service tag. The requested additions have been made through the General Services Agency with the County of Ventura and will be installed when the parts arrive. A copy of the Fire-Safety certificate is attached.

**GRAND JURY FINDING R-07:**

The Grand Jury recommends that all adult jails and holding facilities incorporate biennial Fire-Life safety inspections into maintenance schedules. (C-18)

**CITY COUNCIL RESPONSE TO FINDING R-07**

The Ventura County Sheriff's Office (VCSO) is the contract law enforcement agency for the City of Ojai. VCSO / Ojai PD has agreed to incorporate biennial Fire-Life Safety Inspections into our maintenance schedules. The next inspection will occur in March of 2020 and the next fire sprinkler system check will be in March 2023.

**GRAND JURY FINDING C-17:**

The Grand Jury concluded the absence of PREA standards in the 10 city police departments' policy and procedure manuals exposes the cities to potential liability. (FA-51)

**CITY COUNCIL RESPONSE TO FINDING C-17:**

Although the report did not ask Ojai for a response on C-17 in the bottom of the report, it was clear from the narrative it was intended to be, and as such our response is below.

The Ventura County Sheriff's Office (VCSO) is the contract law enforcement agency for the City of Ojai. The Ventura County Sheriff's Office understands the seriousness of sexual assaults and sexual harassment in our detention facilities. It is important to note that there is a substantial difference between a holding area where an inmate may spend several hours, and the jails which the Sheriff's Office operates. The majority of arrestees are held separately while in the Ojai Police holding area; we immediately initiate and conduct a thorough investigation into any reported offense. Although we are not currently required to fully implement PREA, the Sheriff's Office Detention Services Division has a PREA policy that provides direction and serves as a resource for the entire agency should an incident occur in a holding area within its jurisdiction.