



Andrew Ludlum, Foreperson
2017-2018 Ventura County Grand Jury
County of Ventura
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Re: Annual Detention Report

Dear Mr. Ludlum:

The City of Ventura received the 2017-2018 Grand Jury report, "Annual Detention Report". In accordance with Penal Code section 933.05, we submit this response to the Grand Jury findings and recommendations.

The City Council appreciates and welcomes the efforts of the Grand Jury in annually inspecting facilities of incarceration in the County.

The Grand Jury requires a response to findings C-17, C-18, recommendations R-03, and R-07.

Findings

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.*

Response to C-17: The City disagrees wholly with the findings. Policy 904 - Prison Rape Elimination (PREA) has been published in the Ventura Police Department policy manual for many years. The Ventura Police Department contacted the Grand Jury Foreperson after receiving this report in order to verify the claim that the PREA Policy was requested. The Grand Jury Foreperson was unable to provide the name of the VPD representative from whom the policy was requested, or any other details relating to the request.

C-18: *The Grand Jury concluded that it was unsatisfactory for safety and liability purposes that seven out of the 10 holding facilities did not have current fire-life safety certifications available for inspection.*

Response to C-18: The City disagrees wholly with the findings. The Inspection report and accompanying documents were on file at the Police/Fire Headquarters at the time of the Grand Jury visit. The Ventura Police Department contacted the Grand Jury Foreperson after receiving this report in order to verify the claim that the fire-life safety certificate was requested. The Grand Jury Foreperson was unable to provide the name of the VPD representative from whom the certificate was requested, or any other details relating to the request.

Recommendations

R-03: *The Grand Jury recommends that PHPD, SPPD, OPD, SVPD and VPD consider incorporating PREA standards into their policy and procedure manuals.*

Response to R-03: This recommendation has been implemented. The PREA standards have been published in Ventura Police Departmental policy for many years.

R-07: *The Grand Jury recommends that all adult jails and holding facilities incorporate biennial-fire safety inspections into maintenance schedules.*

Response to R-07: This recommendation has been implemented. The Ventura Police Department was in compliance at the time of the Grand Jury visit. The most recent inspection was conducted by the Office of the State Fire Marshal on 9/20/17.

On August 6, 2018 the Ventura City Council approved this Grand Jury report response and authorized the City Manager to make this reply. We appreciate the Grand Jury's efforts in looking into this important matter.

Sincerely,



Neal Andrews
Mayor

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AUG 21 2018



Ventura County
Grand Jury

Grand Jury
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Ventura, CA 93009
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grandjury.countyofventura.org

Response to Grand Jury Report Form

Report Title: Annual Detention Report

Report Date: May 16, 2018

Response by: Rick Murray Title: Commander

FINDINGS / CONCLUSIONS

- I (we) agree with the findings / conclusions numbered: --
- I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the Findings / Conclusions numbered:
C17, C18
(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the Findings / Conclusions that are
disputed; include an explanation of the reasons.)

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered R03, R07 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 -- will not be implemented because they are
not warranted or are not reasonable.

Date: 7-30-18

Signed: 

Number of pages attached: 2